

DECK CONSTRUCTION AND PRELIMINARY PREPARATION

Your GacoDeck Kit will only be successful if you follow construction and deck surface instructions below.

Plywood

Grades: Plywood should carry the trademark of the American Plywood Association. Grades "Exterior/APA A/C Group 1" and "Exterior/APA B/C Group 1" are suitable, as well as "Marine" grade plywood. Unsuitable grades are interior grade plywood with or without exterior glue, and underlayment grade plywood, such as "C/C Exterior," OSB, Waferboard and Exposure 1 markings. Do not use unsuitable grades. GacoDeck Kit is NOT recommended for Teak, Cedar or Redwood.

Installation

All panel edges, including tongue and groove plywood, should be supported on blocking or primary framing. Plywood should be continuous across supports with all edges in moderate contact. Ideally, joints and cracks should be 1/16" - 1/8" wide.

Thickness of plywood and spans should meet the following minimums:

- 1/2" for plank or other solid substrates only
- 5/8" for supports 16" OC
- 3/4" for supports 24" OC
- 1-1/8" for supports 48" OC

Stagger joints when installing plywood over sheated or dimensional (planked) decks.

Repairs to Plywood

Plastic wood patch materials may be used to repair damaged plywood. Sanding before taping, especially at the joints, will improve the final appearance of the deck.

The deck should be sloped in order to freely drain, preferably to a drain or gutter (see Figure 4). One-quarter inch slope per foot is recommended. Slope is a function of structural design, and the GacoDeck Kit cannot be used to provide such a slope where it does not already exist. A deck that lacks adequate slope may experience leaks at low thresholds, standing puddles, or surface stains from ponded water and debris. Avoid soiling the fascia by incorporating a gutter or drain into your design. Insert drain flush with plywood. Install a positive drip so that drainage is outside the fascia.

Ventilation

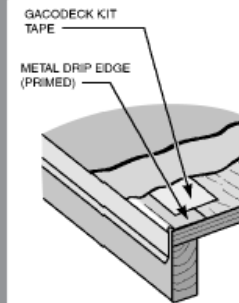
Good design requires that adequate ventilation be provided for the deck structure. Allow a minimum of 1" air space between the bottom of the deck and any thermal insulation.

Nailing

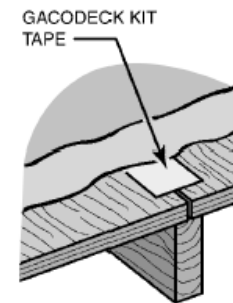
Use non-rusting screws, non-rusting ring shank nails, or hot-dipped galvanized box nails only. The nails should be 6D for 3/4" or less plywood, 8D for 7/8" or more, and 10D for 1-1/8" plywood. Space fasteners 6" on center, along panel edges, and 12" on center in all directions in the field. Drive nails flush without indenting plywood.

For additional information go to gaco.com and check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page.

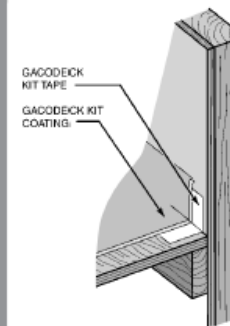
**FIG. 1:
Perimeter Detail**



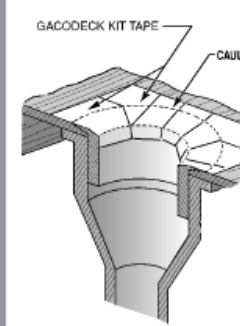
**FIG. 2:
Joint Detail**



**FIG. 3: Change
of Plane Detail**



**FIG. 4: Plywood
Drain Detail**



GacoFlex[®]
by Gaco Western[®]

GACO.COM
866 422 6489

