



REAL HARDWOOD. REAL BEAUTY. REAL VALUE.

**Abaco™ tropical hardwood decking features a contemporary European design with a traditional smooth finish on one side and an elegant moulded surface on the other.**

### Key Features and Benefits

- Tropical hardwood properties comparable to Ipe
- Reliable supply from select preapproved mills
- Kiln-dried in random length tallies
- Grooved for hidden fasteners or traditional S4S
- Two-sided surface: smooth and European moulded
- Matching post and railing components

### Characteristics

- Fine-textured, straight, tight-grained
- Very hard, strong, durable
- Termite- and rot-resistant
- Long lasting natural product

### Specifications

	Abaco	Ipe
Density	60 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup>	59 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup>
Maximum Crushing Strength	11,619 psi	9,920 psi
Shearing Strength	2,798 psi	2,396 psi
Work to Maximum Load	17 inch-lbs/in <sup>3</sup>	21 inch-lbs/in <sup>3</sup>
Janka Hardness Test*	3,190 lbs	3,680 lbs

### Strength Properties

Bending Strength (MOR)	29,200 psi	22,500 psi
Modulus of Elasticity (stiffness)	3,450,000 psi	2,920,000 psi
Recommended Joist Span	24 in o/c	24 in o/c

\*ASTM D1037-99. Standard Test Methods for Evaluating Properties of Wood-Base Fiber and Particle Panel Materials

\*ASTM D143-94(2000)e1 Standard Methods of Testing Small Clear Specimens of Timber





AbacoDecking.com

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What sizes and lengths does Abaco come in?**

Standard deck board sizes are 3/4" or 1" thick x 3-1/2" or 5-1/2" wide, in random length tallies (grooved and traditional). Railing component sizes: 2"x2", 2"x4", 2"x6", 4"x4".

### **How should I store my Abaco deck boards?**

Abaco should be stored out of direct sunlight and be allowed to acclimate and stabilize to the installation environment humidity level prior to installing.

### **What joist spans should I use for my deck/dock when using Abaco decking?**

In residential applications, Abaco can be installed on joists spaced 24" on-center when the boards are running perpendicular or diagonal to the support joists. Longer spans may be possible: Contact your supplier for additional information.

### **Cutting blade, routing blade and drill bit type?**

Because Abaco is very hard and dense, high quality carbide-tipped saw/router blades and sharp drill bits should be used.

### **Do you recommend pre-drilling and countersinking?**

Yes. Because Abaco decking is very hard, we recommend pre-drilling and countersinking all exposed fasteners.

### **What type of fastener is recommended?**

A #7x2-1/4" stainless steel trim head screw or a hidden fastener designed for tropical hardwood is recommended.

### **Does Abaco need a specific type of hidden fastener?**

Yes. Install a hidden fastener designed for tropical hardwood. Use hidden fasteners that gap each board with the proper spacing and allow for natural expansion and contraction.

### **Does Abaco decking require end sealing if cut?**

Yes. Seal all ends after cutting with an end sealer like Anchorseal® in order to help prevent checking and splitting.

### **Does Abaco decking require water sealing?**

Because of the durability of this hardwood, it does not require a water sealant; however, we do recommend that you add a high quality penetrating oil sealant as the final installation step. Left unfinished, the color will fade to a silver/gray tone.

### **How do I clean and maintain Abaco decking?**

Periodic washing with mild deck cleaning detergent and water is necessary to remove surface dirt, which accumulates on the surface and in the top grooved areas of the board. Use a soft bristle brush to clean dirt and debris from the top grooves of the board. This will also prevent the buildup of pollen and debris that can cause mold and mildew growth. Pressure washers should be used with a fan-tipped nozzle to avoid cutting into or lifting the wood surface.



Install hidden fasteners designed for tropical hardwood. Use hidden fasteners that gap each board with the proper spacing and allow for natural expansion and contraction.



moulded

smooth



**Universal Forest Products®**

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