

Placement Instructions elephant Decking

Status: 13/01/2022 | Technical alterations and errors excepted*

CoBAM®
Classico Smart
basicDeck
strongWood

Deck Boards

Note:

Intended use: The elephant® decking and the joists are developed only for exterior use. The intended uses are for covering terraces, balconies, roof gardens or sidewalks. Near to wet areas (e.g. pool/pond/jetty) elephant decking boards are improper except of „strongwood (XL) solid db“. If installed correctly, this decking offers a good protection against moisture, water spots and chlorine spots thanks to coextrusion. Any other use is deemed to be non-intended and may lead to material damage or could cause personal injury. The profiles are not approved by the building authorities and cannot be used for cantilevered, constructive purposes. Please check whether the elephant® decking is suitable for your intended use before installing. If necessary, please consult an authorized structure engineer. elephant® terrace decking can be installed exclusively with the accessories available in the elephant® system. For the intended use it also includes the observance of all information in this installation instruction, in particular also the observance of the safety instructions and the local building regulations.

STEP 1

The underground must be prepared in such a way that moisture can drain off in order to prevent wetness due to dammed-up water. We recommend a layer of sand with gravel and a root-resistant fleece on top of it (image 1.1). Concrete slabs or pavestones are not only stable support surfaces that guarantee optimal load distribution, but also provide additional protection against wetness due to dammed-up water. Wetness due to dammed-up water can cause the forming of fungi on the underside of the deck board. During planning and installation, please comply with all locally applicable building codes and regulations, such as the "Regulations 02 BDZ" [Association of German Carpentry Masters] and „Application recommendations for balcony and terrace flooring GD Holz“ [German Timber Trade Federation]. Surfaces with static loads must have support constructions underneath them. When deviating from the specifications in the installation instructions and regulations, the construction must be coordinated with the manufacturer, otherwise the guaranty will be rendered void. Please make sure to maintain a sufficient distance (at least 20 mm) to lawn kerbs and buildings to ensure air circulation and reduce moisture. A drainage at the lowest point of the gradient directly routes water away from the terrace (image 1.1). The decking shall not be installed directly on the ground without individual consent of the manufacturer, as this would prohibit air circulation and lead to fungi. Excessive heat from external sources e.g. fire or reflection of sunlight from energy efficient windows can potentially harm basicDeck and strongWood decking in the long term. Due to its specific construction, energy efficient windows can cause unusual heat building on exterior surfaces. This extreme elevation of surface temperatures, which exceeds that of normal exposure, can cause the decking to melt, sag, warp, discolor, expand, contract, and accelerate weathering. In case of concern, please contact the manufacturer of the energy efficient windows. Please check the joists and the deck boards before installation, as visible defect claims afterwards cannot be accepted anymore.

STEP 2

Start with laying the joists. Allow for a slight gradient (2 %) in the direction of the deck boards, so that rainwater can easily flow off (does not apply for strongWood solid). The substructure is aligned with a parallel UK spacing. Which UK spacing is relevant for the respective TD, please refer to our current price list under „Dimensions“ and there under UKA! The maximum distance between the support surfaces is 400 mm. The CoBAM joists have a tongue and groove connection. Simply push the joists into each other at the T+G connection. For WPC joists, please insert 2 aluminum connection sticks into the hollow space of the joists in order to stabilize its joints (image 1.2). Alternatively, you can let the joists overlap 200 mm. Attach the substructure additionally to a thin punched metal sheet to avoid „dishing out“ of the area by climate conditions, so that a flat area effect is to be ensured (image 1.3). We recommend at least three securing points per joist. Cantilever roof terraces are an exception and a suitable structure must be created. In order to prevent electrostatic charging of decking containing plastic composite such as basicDeck and strongWood in case of balconies and other circumstances without direct earth contact, we recommend to put a strip of metal that contacts all decking boards, for example clamping band, between underlay and decking and to ground this metal strip.

Note: For attaching / boring holes, the torque of the cordless screwdriver must be set properly in order to prevent tearing of the stainless steel screw and damage to the stainless steel clips. Every cordless screwdriver is specific for a task. First, try it out on a test piece.

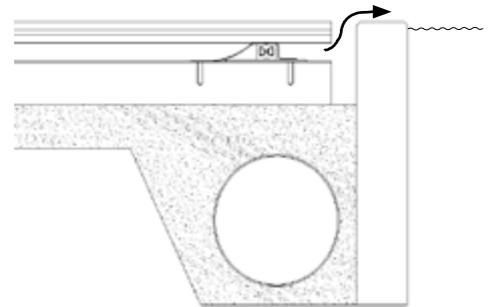


Image 1.1
Drain

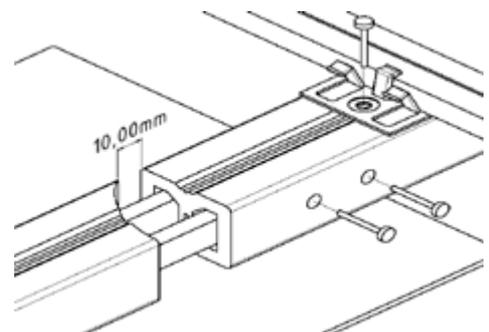


Image 1.2
Stainless steel clip / H-profile

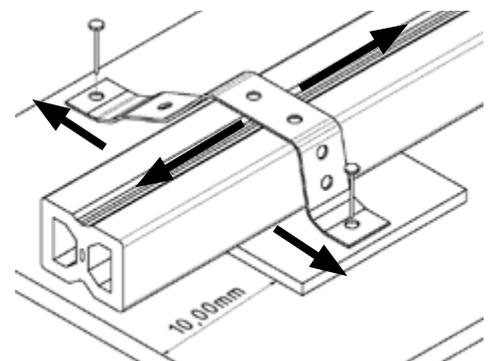


Image 1.3
Attachment substructure

* Please check before placement the availability of a newer version of this placement instructions under www.elephant.de (Service / Download)

At improper use and defective installation, when not observing the installation instructions, any warranty claim with lapse.

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STEP 3

Please pre-drill the joists with a HSS drill bit (3 mm diameter). Afterwards use the starting/end clips to fix the first row of deck boards to the outer longitudinal side above every joist. The CoBAM® deck boards have a tongue and groove connection at the front. Simply push the CoBAM® deck boards into each other at the impact sides when adding them. The tongue and groove (T+G) seams should not be placed directly on the joist but placed between two joists at the point where the T+G seams are at maximum 5 cm away from both joists. For the Classico Smart, basicDeck and strongWood boards please ensure to have a 10 mm wide joint at the front.



STEP 4

Insert the stainless steel clip on each joist and push it up against the side of the lower groove of the deck board (image 1.2). TIPP: Due to climate conditions (heat, coldness, humidity...), the decking may expand or slip. In order to avoid slipping in unwanted directions, please attach fixing clips at necessary positions (e.g. to avoid slipping in the direction of the house wall, attach the fixing clip on the decking at the area near the house wall).

Note: Material may swell up to 1%. Ensure sufficient expansion joints!

Image 2.1
Attachment edge area

STEP 5

Place the next deck board on the joist. Slide the deck board at a slight angle lengthways, and if needed, by using a commercially available rubber hammer, push it up against the stainless steel clip. Repeat this process for every other board. Please pay attention not to use too much force, as you could accidentally compress the clips of the preceding row.

Hint: If applicable, the gap distance can be secured with a tool that will be removed afterwards.

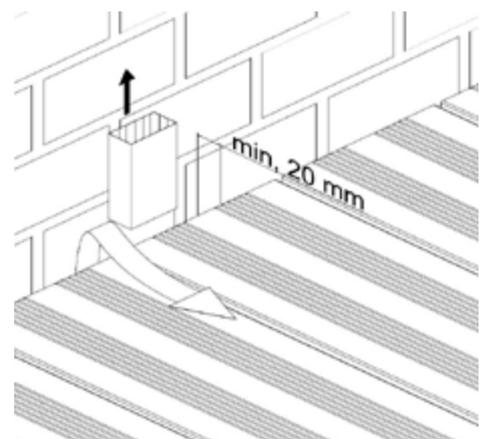


Image 2.2
Distance edge venting

STEP 6

Repeat the steps above until the last row of boards has been installed. Slide the last row of boards at a slight angle lengthways, and if needed, by using a commercially available rubber hammer, push it up against the stainless steel clip. Then use a hardwood reamer and a special HSS drill bit (Ø 3 mm) to drill screw holes. Now, screw the deck boards to the joist, through the prepared screw holes. After using the hardwood reamer, the screw should sit about 2 mm deep in the surface of the board. Alternatively, after the last row of deck boards has been placed, insert the starting/end clips on the groove of the decking and screw it to the front of the joist (especially for hollow decking).

When installing hollow decking, care must be taken not to close the hollow chambers. If necessary (e.g. when installing an end board) the hollow chambers in the edge area must be provided with generous drainage holes on the underside.

STEP 7 (for CoBAM® and Classico Smart deck boards only)

CoBAM® and Classico Smart deck boards have been oil-impregnated at the factory and must, four weeks after installing them, be treated with our special bamboo conditioning oil. The special bamboo conditioning oil enhances the feel and look of the surface of the deck board and, if used on a regular basis, reduces the risk of withering, namely cracking, splintering and natural discoloring.

CoBAM® and Classico Smartdecking should be cleaned and oiled with our special bamboo conditioning oil at regular intervals according to strains.

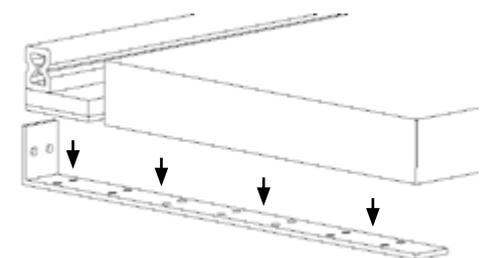


Image 2.3
Installation with angle support

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MOUNTING VERSIONS

General

- 2% gradient towards the deck board (not for strongWood solid)
- Substructure: please refer to our current price list under the heading „Dimensions“ and there under UKA. There you can see the axial dimension which must be adhered to for the respective board
- Loosely fasten the edge of the substructure to each support point with punched tape and an on-site dowel and stainless steel screws
- Rubber pads on-site (approx. 60 x 60 x 5 mm) below all support points
- Loosely apply substructure
- Deck board seams should be placed max. 50 mm to next substructure
- Only place substructure seams offset in the area when installing without connection adapters (approx. 200 mm offset)

Installation on concrete slabs

- Structurally load-carrying underground of compacted gravel
- Substructure support: concrete slabs at distances of max. 400 mm

(Image 3.1)

Installation on concrete areas

- Place substructure directly on the concrete area
- Rubber pads at distances of approx. 400 mm

(Image 3.2)

Mounting with low attachment height

- Mounting with low attachment height on the area on areas with a top sealing level (e.g. roof terraces)
- Substructure support: concrete slabs at a distance of max. 400 mm
- Install metal angle under each support point

(Image 3.3)

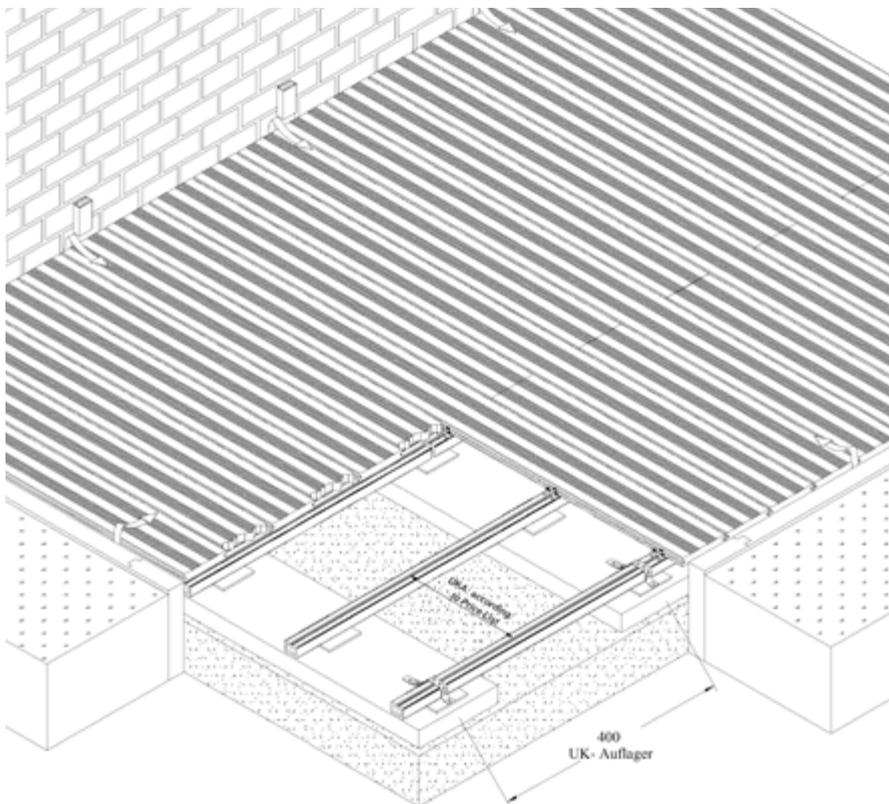


Image 3.4
 Overview mounting areas

Deck Boards

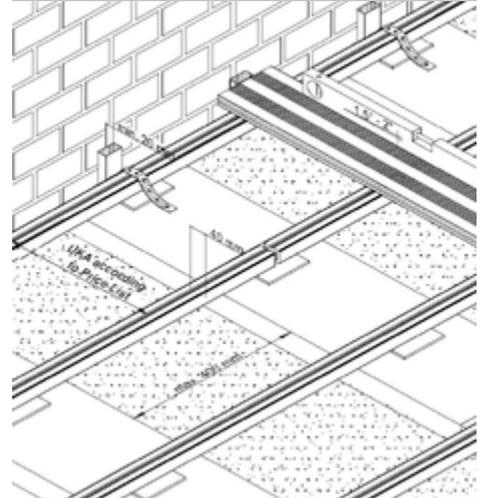


Image 3.1
 Installation on concrete area

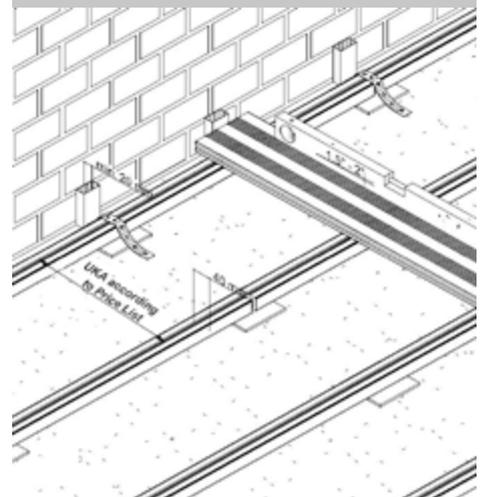


Image 3.2
 Installation with low attachment height

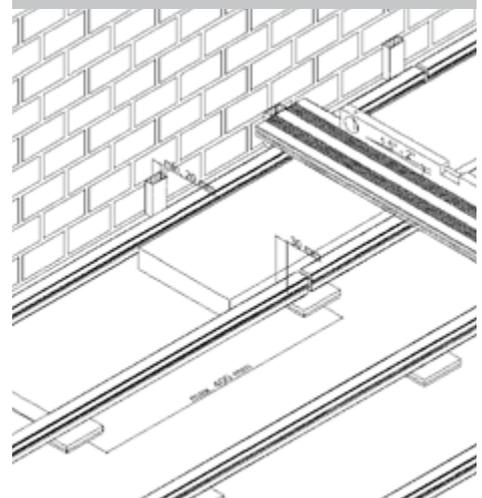


Image 3.3
 Installation on concrete slabs