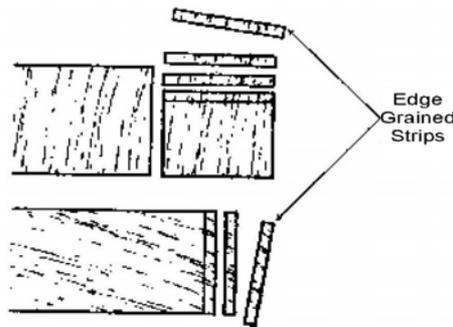




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Installing a Teak Veneer Deck, Using WEST SYSTEM Epoxy

Thin strips of teak bedded in a thick epoxy/graphite layer give the appearance of an authentic teak deck that is both durable and low in maintenance. Although strips of up to 6mm thickness may be used, the effects of dimensional change can be limited by using thinner, 3mm thick strips. A 3mm thick deck will provide years of service in high-traffic areas, and it will keep the additional weight of a new teak deck to a minimum. Strips should be between 37mm and 50mm wide, with edges planed smooth and straight. Leave the flat surfaces (top and bottom) rough sawn. The rough texture left by the saw improves the bonding characteristics of the strip. The remaining marks on the exposed surfaces will be sanded smooth after the new deck has been laid.

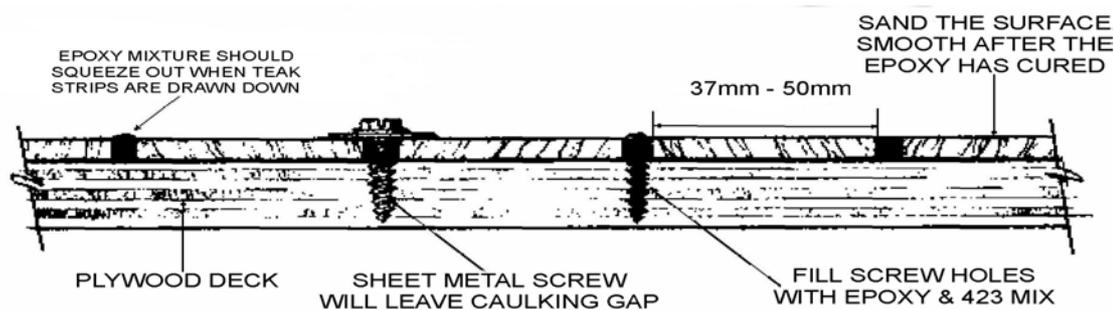


If you are planning to machine the stock yourself, select a plank width that makes the most efficient use of the raw stock. Teak is generally available in 50mm thick, rough-sawn planks; it should be possible to acquire a 44mm finished dimension from these planks. Saw the stock so that the strips will be edge-grained (See picture above). This will minimize expansion and contraction of the wood and make a more attractive, even-wearing surface than will slab-grained strips.

Install a teak deck as follows:

1. Plan the pattern for the layout of the teak strips. Place the first teak strips in the desired location and then mark reference location points on the strips and on the deck.
2. Abrade any smooth bonding surfaces with 50-grit sandpaper and remove sanding dust. Wipe the planks with paper towels saturated with an aggressive solvent such as acetone, 30 minutes before bonding.
3. Wet out the mating surface of the first few pieces of teak and the deck in the corresponding area of these strips with unthickened resin/hardener.
4. Apply a thickened epoxy blend over the wet-out deck surface. Use 406 Colloidal Silica to a mayonnaise consistency and add just enough 423 Graphite Powder to turn the mix to an opaque black colour. Apply a layer thick enough to span any gaps and to squeeze up between the planks. An 808 Plastic Squeegee with serrations cut along one edge works well to apply an even layer over the substrate.
5. Locate the reference points and set the first strips in place.
6. Clamp the plank in place with #10 sheet metal screws and large washers. Place the screws and washers between the strips, 200mm apart. Each row of screws will clamp the edges of two adjoining planks and act as spacers (See picture below). EPOXY MIXTURE SHOULD SQUEEZE OUT WHEN TEAK STRIPS ARE DRAWN DOWN

SAND THE SURFACE SMOOTH AFTER THE EPOXY HAS CURED. Coat the screws and washers with a mould release or place a small sheet of plastic under the washers to prevent bonding. Washers may also be cut from stiff plastic, thin wood lathe or similar stock with holes drilled for the screws. Tighten the screws down completely after pushing both adjoining strips tight against the screws. The epoxy mix should squeeze up between the strips. Any voids between the planks should be filled at this time with the epoxy/406/graphite blend.



7. Place the remaining strips, several at time, following the same procedure.

8. Allow the epoxy to cure between 8 and 24 hours before removing the screws and washers. If waiting any longer than this, it will become much harder to break the screws free. Tighten the screw slightly (5°) before backing it out. If it is difficult to remove a screw, heat the head with a cutting tip of a soldering gun. While the screw is still hot, try to unscrew it again. Repeat until successful.

9. Fill the screw holes with epoxy/406/graphite blend. A syringe loaded with the composition will speed the process.

10. Sand the surface with a reciprocating sander and 50-grit sandpaper to level the epoxy and teak surfaces. Sand until the saw marks are removed from the teak surface. Fine sand with 80-grit sandpaper, and then finish with 120-grit. The teak surface may be left natural or finished with a marine-grade teak oil.

Materials Check List

- ✓ Work out area of deck to be covered. **ROBBINS ELITE** Marine Plywood makes an ideal sub-deck if required
- ✓ Order *Classic Teak Decking* strips for your deck along with margin board and King plank if appropriate. (remember to add a minimum 15% waste factor to allow for cutting in, mistakes etc)
- ✓ Order WEST SYSTEM Epoxy for fixing decking down (See our epoxy coverage guide)
- ✓ Order fastenings for fixing deck down while adhesive cures.
- ✓ Order **Robbins Acetone Teak Degreaser** for cleaning timber before gluing or caulking
- ✓ Order Teak oil for finishing deck

ORDERS & ENQUIRIES

Please phone or fax our sales office anytime for advice, prices, and availability.

We are open from:

8.00am - 5.00pm weekdays

8.30am - 4.00pm Saturdays.

We are happy to help!

INFORMATION

We can machine any timber to virtually any pattern or size!

All we need is a sketch or sample.

We are general timber merchants in addition to being marine specialists, so please try us for anything timber related!

We are Importers, Distributors or Merchants for most ancillary products including:
Fastenings, Adhesives, Finishes, Plywoods & Timbers.

WEST SYSTEM Epoxy **BALCOTAN** **ROBBINS ELITE, SUPER-ELITE & TIGER-ELITE**