



### - What type of metal is used in the TC fastener?

- **TC-2** fasteners are made from .060 304 stainless steel. A black oxide coating reduces shine so fasteners hide between decking boards.
- **TC-4** fasteners are made from .034 420 annealed stainless steel. TC-4 fasteners are post hardened and tempered with a Dacrokote 105 coating (magnetic). This black coating reduces shine so fasteners hide between decking boards.
- **TC-P** and **TC-3** fasteners are made from .060 304 ¼ roll hardened stainless steel. A black oxide coating reduces shine so fasteners hide between decking boards.

### - Can the screw split the decking board?

No, the screw cannot split the decking board. With the **TC-3**, **TC-4**, and **TC-P**, the screw goes directly into the joist without penetrating the decking board. With the **TC-2**, the screw penetrates the bottom corner of the decking board. Any minor splitting caused by the screw will not jeopardize the hold the fastener has on the board.

### - What is the life expectancy of the TC fastener?

Tiger Claw fasteners are premium high nickel stainless steel and will typically out last the decking. Tiger Claw offers a 25 Year Warranty on all products.

### - What size and type of sledge hammer do I need?

An **8-12 lb long handled sledge hammer** is recommended. The hammer **should not be less than 8 lbs.**

### - How do TC fasteners compare to nails and screws as fasteners?

Compared to nails and screws, Tiger Claw Hidden Deck Fasteners have the following advantages:

- Virtually invisible.
- Reduced potential for wood rot which typically begins around the screws and nails installed on the top surface of the deck.
- Eliminates splits on the ends of decking board which are caused by screws and nails.
- Reduced cupping because Tiger Claw fasteners secure the edge of decking boards to the joist.
- No damage is caused to the decking surface during installation.
- More surface area holding the decking down vs. screw or nail installation.
- Nail free surface is easier to maintain.
- The deck surface will not be stained by corrosion that may occur with nails or screws.
- Long term ownership costs are lower because of longer deck life.
- Professional appearance shows off the beauty of your decking material.
- Elimination of nail or screw pops means your deck is safer.

### - Are the fasteners visible?

All Tiger Claw Hidden Deck Fasteners have a black coating that reduces shine so fasteners hide between decking boards, making them virtually invisible.

# TC-G FAQ's

## - How do you attach the first board?

Position the decking board against the house, and install a screw every 16" through decking and into solid support. (This board must be solidly secured and without movement in upcoming steps.)

## - What are fasteners made of?

The TC-G fastener are made from .060 304 stainless steel. A black oxide coating is applied to reduce the shine; this helps hide the fastener in the shadow of the joists.

## - What type of screw do you use?

Every pack of TC-G hidden fasteners includes the screws needed for installation.

## - How many do I need?

To find the approximate number of fasteners needed for your deck use our Coverage Estimator -- or --, simply multiply the number of decking boards times the number of supports. Divide by 90 to get boxes then round up to the next even pack.

## - How do you install around post?

Railing posts inside the frame: must be installed as the decking installation progresses. Decking board must be notched and installed, and then the post can be placed into the notch and secured. Then the next notched decking board can be installed to finish.

Railing posts outside the frame: All the decking can be completed, then position the post in desired location and mark the two sides. Between the marks, cut and remove decking over-hang so that it is flush to the framing. Insert the post into the notch and flat to the frame. Once the post is level, secure it to the frame.

## - 45\* angle installation?

Where deck is in the walled corner of the house: always start with small triangular piece of decking in that corner and work your way out. When installing TC-G Fasteners, offset the center 1/2" towards the long point of joist, so screw will not exit side of joist when driven.

## - How to do a butt seam?

First, install a small framing board (10 – 12 inches) along side the joist in which the seam is going to land. Line your first board up in the center of the joist and the small framing board. Install fasteners and screws at each joist of the first board including the joist at the seam. Then install your second board in the same fashion, and place a second fastener at the seam attaching it to the small framing block.

## - How to replace a board?

- Make two parallel cuts down the center of the board to be replaced, and remove the center piece.
- Remove the remaining pieces of decking from the tabs.
- Using a reciprocating saw, remove the tabs on the side of the board with the screw heads showing.
- Position new board into place, and carefully slide onto remaining tabs.
- Once board is set into position, secure the lead edge with finish nail, finish screw, or counter drill, screw and plug.

## **- How fast is installation compared to nails and screws?**

Normally the installation will require about the same time required to install using a quality composite screw. Techniques can be adapted to decrease installation time which can result in a shorter install time than screws.

## **- Are fasteners visible?**

TC-G Hidden Deck Fasteners have a black oxide coating. This black coating helps the fastener hide in the shadow of the joists, and makes the fastener virtually invisible.

## **- How do you attach the last board?**

To finish, we recommend using either finishing nails or trim screws to secure the last board along its edge or under a rail. Also, you can install a screw through the deck frame and into the bottom of the deck board.

## **- How do the fasteners work?**

TC-G Hidden Deck Fastener is used to attach decking boards to framing in such a way that no fastener is visible. This is in contrast to the common practice of using screws or nails fastening through the top of decking boards. TC-G fastener design securely attaches decking boards by holding the edge of the decking board. The fastener is then attached to the support with a decking screw provided in each box. This design makes TC-G fasteners easy and quick to install when compared to other hidden fastener systems.

## **- What tools are required?**

No special tools are required when using Grooved Edge deck boards, just a drill with screw driver tip and a standard framing hammer. When using decking without the grooved edge, a biscuit router will be needed to create a groove at each joist. Instruction sheets included in every box have groove detention details.

## **- What size gap between the boards?**

The TC-G will automatically create a 3/16" space between each decking board.

## **- How do fasteners perform in harsh conditions?**

TC-G's extremely strong holding power has been tested for years in New England's harsh winters. Snow removal is made easier with the absence of emerging fasteners on the surface. The tabs, of the fastener that hold the decking boards down have more than twice the horizontal surface area than decking screws. Excellent hold down strength is one of TC-G's strongest attributes.

## **- Will TC-G fasteners rust?**

No – All Tiger Claw fasteners are constructed of Stainless Steel. This material will ensure a long life even in harsh environments.