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## 6 Inch vs 4 Inch Decking... An Aesthetic Decision

## Technical Bulletin



6" WIDE DECK BOARDS



4" WIDE DECK BOARDS

The decision between 6" wide (net 5.5") and 4" wide boards in a deck design is primarily an aesthetic decision.

6" is the traditional deck width throughout most markets and certainly the stand width for all composite decks. That being said, 4" decking is very popular in the North East U.S. and particularly on Long Island NY.

The Atlantic City and Disney Boardwalks utilize 4" wide boards while most other boardwalks typically utilize 6" widths.

The primary advantage to the 6" width is that less fasteners are required, lowering the cost associated with the fasteners but also the labor cost to install.

4" decking offers an aesthetic that is similar to flooring and in fact porch floors are typically 4" in width.

On wood decks 4" also offers some additional dimensional stability. With all wood, an increase in thickness combined with a decrease in width always offers more dimensional stability.

In the end it is mostly an aesthetic consideration and only natural wood decking offers both options.