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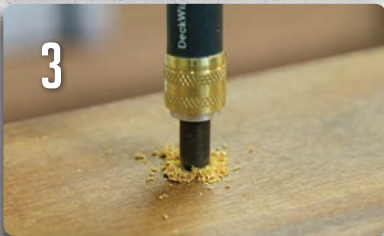
STEP 1 - Installing the First Deck Board

Apply WiseWrap® JoistTape™ or a bead of exterior adhesive to each joist approximately 3/8" in width. For adhesives, you may want to do this as you go so, that, it does not dry before completion if you have a larger area to install. While adhesive adds hold-down strength to the boards, it does not prevent wood rot. WiseWrap® JoistTape™ prevents joist wood rot as well as seals around deck screws. Even though joists may seem even, changes in weather can cause board movement. Both WiseWrap® JoistTape™ and/or adhesive will also help prevent squeaking from uneven joists in the future.



STEP 2 - Drill a 1/8" pilot hole

Use a 1/8" drill bit to pre-drill a pilot hole for the initial face-driven screws. Drill deep enough to penetrate both the deck board as well as the underlying joist material. (All Master Plug Kits come with a 3-in-1 DeckWise® Drill & Drive™, which has a 1/8" drill bit, a 3/8" countersink bit, and screw gun T15 tip that will help speed up this process.)



STEP 3 - Drill a 3/8" countersink hole approximately 3/8" deep

Use a 3/8" countersink bit to bore a hole approximately 1/4" to 3/8" deep (depending on your deck board thickness) for each screw to be hidden by a hardwood plug. Be sure your countersink bit is sharp and leaves a clean edge.



STEP 4 - Drive a deck screw through the countersunk hole

Next, securely drive a deck screw down into the countersunk hole into the joist below. Wood plugs will next be installed into the holes to hide the deck screws and create a smooth, blemish free surface.

HARDWOOD PLUGS

Smooth

3/8" (9,5mm)



EXTREME PLUGS®

Ribbed

3/8" • 10mm • 12mm





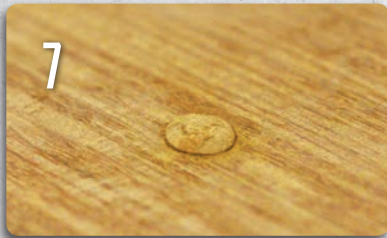
STEP 5 - Put a drop of glue into the countersunk hole (Polyurethane based recommended)

Place a dab of wood glue (Gorilla Glue® is suggested) into the countersink hole from the above steps. This will secure the wood plug from popping up in the future. Plus, it will act as a moisture barrier, sealing the countersunk hole and screw.



STEP 6 - Insert tapered wood plug into countersunk hole

Each Hardwood or Extreme® plug has a rough, uneven end and a smooth end. The smooth end is tapered to fit into the countersunk hole. Insert a Hardwood (or Extreme® Plug) plug into the hole so that the rough end faces up. Tap the plug down with a hammer so it fits snug into the hole. Wipe away any excess glue that may squeeze out.



NOTE: We always encourage finding the wood grain in the plug and aligning it with the deck board grain. This will help ensure the plug is hidden as much as possible.

STEP 7 - Flush cut any protruding wood plug material

When glue is dry, remove any excess plug material protruding above the surface of the deck board. You can accomplish this by using a flush cut pull saw, belt sander or an orbital sander with 80 grit sand paper.



STEP 8 - Sand and prep for hardwood finish

Sand smooth all areas where a plug was installed so that plug is flush with deck surface. A round, random orbit sander with 80-120 grit sand paper works best. When sanding is finished, we suggest using Ipe Oil® or WiseCoat® for a beautiful natural wood color on your entire deck.

Tools Needed

ELECTRIC SCREW GUN

Used to drill pilot holes and for installing the stainless steel screws.

CAULK GUN & EXTERIOR CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE

Used as a leveling agent for uneven joists.

WISEWRAP® JOISTTAPE™

Used to prevent joist wood rot as well as seals around deck screws.

WOOD GLUE

Polyurethane based recommended.

HAMMER

Used to tap plug into countersunk hole.

FLUSH CUT PULL SAW, BELT SANDER OR AN ORBITAL SANDER

A round, random orbit sander with 80-120 grit sand paper works best.



(We suggest using the DeckWise® Drill&Drive™ (included in Master Plug Kit), which is a 3-in-1 drill bit, countersink bit, and screwgun T15 tip that will help speed up this process.)