

TECHNICAL BULLETIN 6 Inch vs 4 Inch Decking: An Aesthetic Decision

When choosing between 6" wide (net 5.5") and 4" wide boards for your deck, the decision primarily comes down to aesthetics.

The 6" width is the standard in most markets and is especially common for composite decking. However, in the North East U.S., particularly in Long Island, NY, 4" decking has a strong following.

Interestingly, 4" boards are the choice for the Atlantic City and Disney boardwalks, while 6" boards are more typical for other boardwalks.

One significant advantage of 6" wide boards is that they require fewer fasteners, which can lower both material and labor costs.

On the flip side, 4" decking mimics traditional flooring, as porch floors are generally 4" wide. In addition, 4" boards in wood decks offer superior dimensional stability; the combination of increased thickness and decreased width tends to enhance stability.

In the end, the decision between 6" and 4" boards is largely a matter of personal preference, with natural wood decking giving you the flexibility to choose either option.



6" WIDE DECK BOARDS



4" WIDE DECK BOARDS

