



Fixing ModWood with nail guns

Note: - this information should be used in conjunction with standard ModWood Fixing Instructions with regards to all ventilation, spacing and fixing requirements.

Only ModWood 23mm solid section decking boards, and ModWood 17mm “mini boards” are suitable for use with a nail gun.

ModWood only recommends dome-head nails, designed for the head to sit primarily at the surface of the board, rather than under it. Other types of nails will void your ModWood warranty.

It is essential to pre-drill when fixing within 50mm of the end of the board. You will need to hand nail these fasteners.

Test-case:

Whilst there are a number of brands that will probably do a good job, ModWood has done specific testing with the Paslode KD – 665A coil-nail gun, using the 52mm ring shank nails for fixing into softwood joists, and screw shank nails for fixing into hardwood joists. Tests were done only with stainless steel nails.

Results:

Whilst all guns, compressors and regulators may differ, we found that an air pressure of approximately 100 psig (700 kPag) was required for good results. Even at this pressure, there was some variation in depth of penetration, especially when going into hardwood, between different joists and different parts of the joists. This was believed to be due to the different densities in the timber joists, and also possibly some inexperience by the operator. Fixing was done approx. 20mm in from the side of the board.

Overall:

The result was good, however it should be noted that using a nail gun on ModWood will not give as neat a finish as when fixing by hand. Also, we must say that due to the very high density of ModWood, it will be more difficult to get every nail sitting perfectly at the surface of the board when using a nail gun as you would expect when “shooting” a softwood deck.

Please note that ModWood takes no responsibility for how well other suppliers’ equipment works with respect to fixing by nail gun. It is the responsibility of the operator/builder to determine suitability of their nail gun on the job, with respect to penetration, consistency, finish, and holding power. We therefore strongly recommend that the builder trial their nail gun with ModWood prior to installation to ensure they are satisfied that it will do the job adequately.

Samples of ModWood are available from your timber retailer.

February 2012