

6 DECK PATTERNS THAT SAVE YOU MONEY

CREATIVE DESIGNS, FRAMING LAYOUTS, AND EXPERT TIPS FOR DESIGNING A ONE-OF-A-KIND DECK.



TIMBERTOWN

GO BEYOND THE STRAIGHT LINE



A deck can be more than rows of boards running from one end to the other. Changing board direction, incorporating transitions, or combining multiple patterns can transform an ordinary deck into a custom outdoor space.

But how can you save on cost?

The short answer: shorts. Most decks are built with 16' and 20' boards, but those popular lengths come at a premium price. Using shorter length boards such as 8'-14' can save you money!

Patterned decking can also be a practical way to incorporate shorter board lengths into a project, giving you more flexibility when working around different deck dimensions and layouts.

We've put together six patterns ranging from simple layouts to advanced designs to help you find inspiration for your next project.

THE SIX DECK PATTERNS

- Transition Board
- Picture Frame
- Patchwork
- Herringbone
- Chevron with Transition Board
- ATX Pattern

PLAN THE PATTERN BEFORE YOU BUILD

MEASURE YOUR DECKING

Board widths can vary between products and species. Measure the actual decking you'll be installing before laying out your framing.

LAYOUT YOUR FRAMING

Your decking pattern can affect joist spacing, blocking, and where additional support is needed.

CONSIDER BOARD DIRECTION

Diagonal patterns require different framing considerations than traditional straight-laid decking.

PLAN YOUR CUTS

Patterned layouts typically require more cuts and careful measurement. Plan your material and layout before installation.

FOLLOW PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS

Always follow the installation requirements for the specific decking product or species you're using.



TRANSITION BOARD PATTERN



TRANSITION BOARD PATTERN

A transition board puts a subtle twist on a traditional decking layout. Running one or more boards perpendicular to the surrounding decking breaks up long expanses of straight boards and can create natural separation between different areas of the deck.

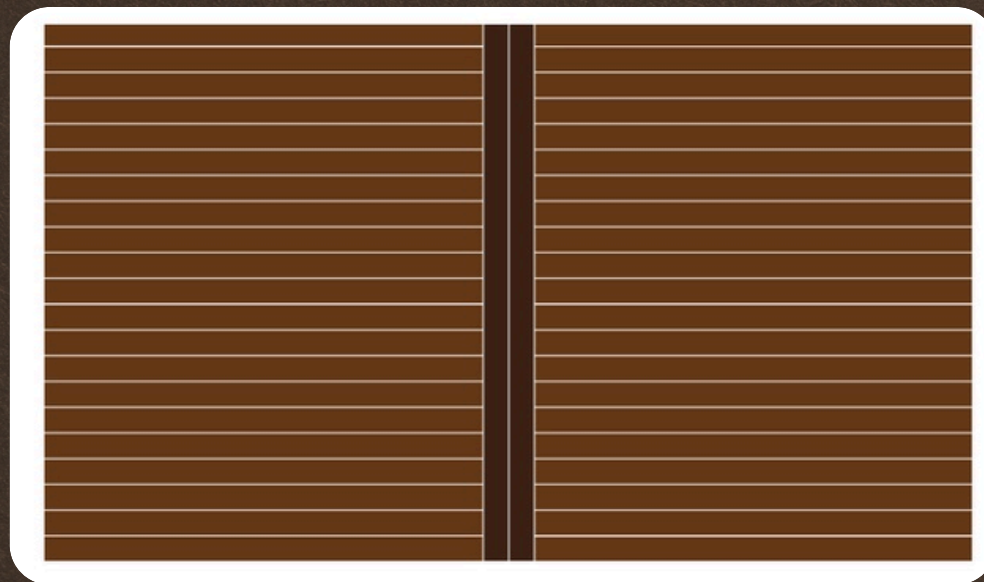
A contrasting species, color, or stain can make the transition even more noticeable.

DESIGN TIP

Use two transition boards to create a more defined visual break.

FRAMING CONSIDERATION

When using 16" on-center framing, two transition boards can allow you to maintain the framing span through the transition area.



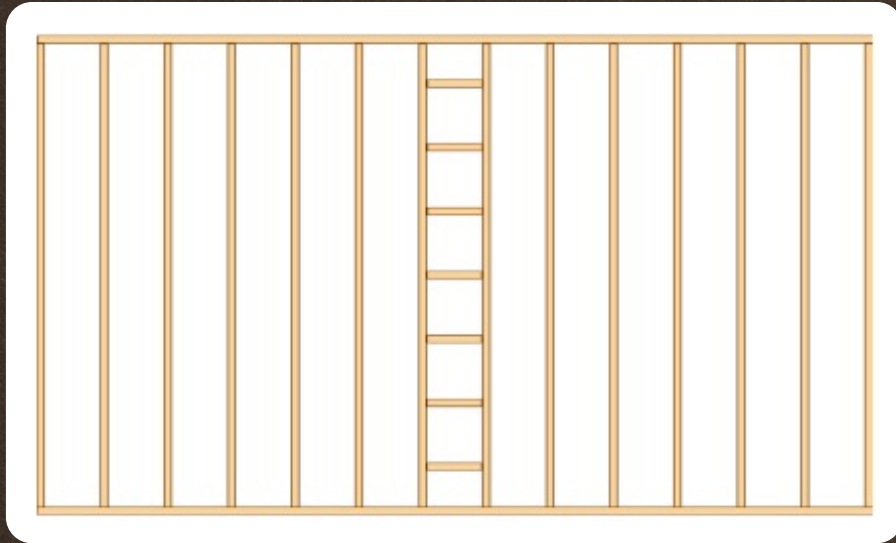
PATTERN EXAMPLE

16x10 Foot Deck

PATTERN TIP

Use a different color product or stain for the transition boards to get a unique look.

TRANSITION BOARD PATTERN



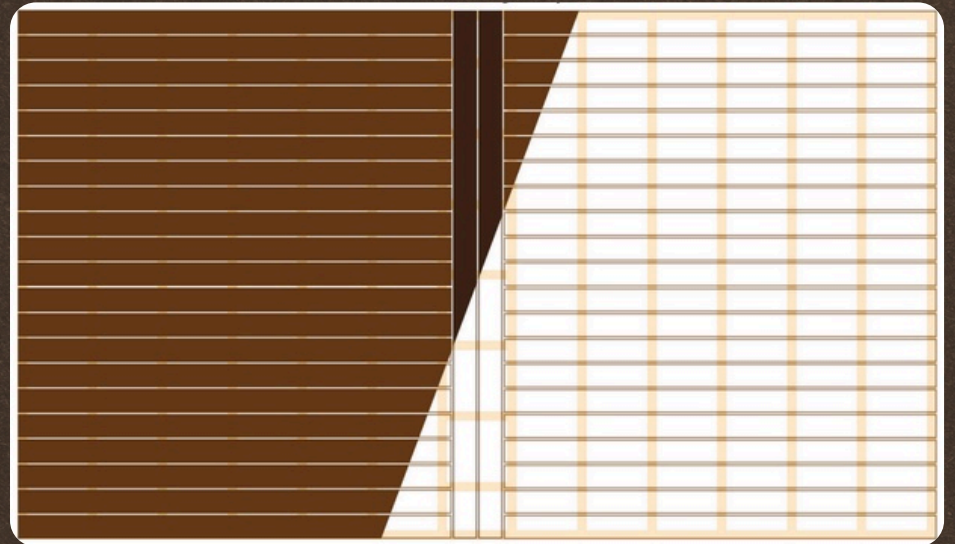
FRAMING EXAMPLE

SPAN = 16" ON CENTER

FRAMING TIP

When using a framing span of 16" on center, use two transition boards and you won't have to change the span in the middle.

PATTERN & FRAMING OVERLAP



PICTURE FRAME PATTERN



PICTURE FRAME PATTERN

Take the transition board concept a step further by adding a picture-frame border around the perimeter of the deck.

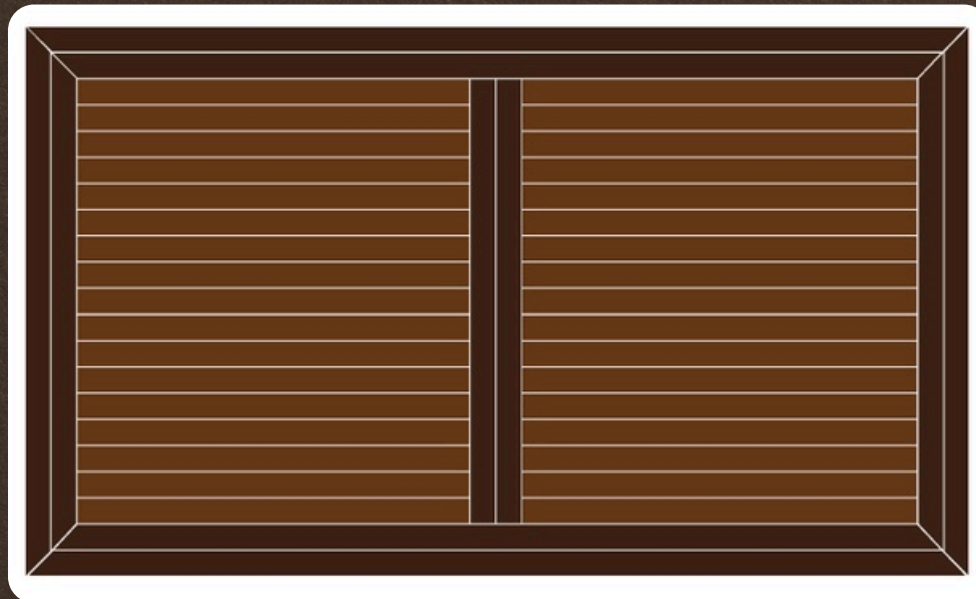
The result is a clean, finished edge that adds visual definition while creating another opportunity to introduce a contrasting species, color, or stain.

DESIGN TIP

Two transition boards paired with two picture-frame boards create a more substantial border.

FRAMING CONSIDERATION

Additional framing is needed beneath the perpendicular picture-frame boards and at the corners.



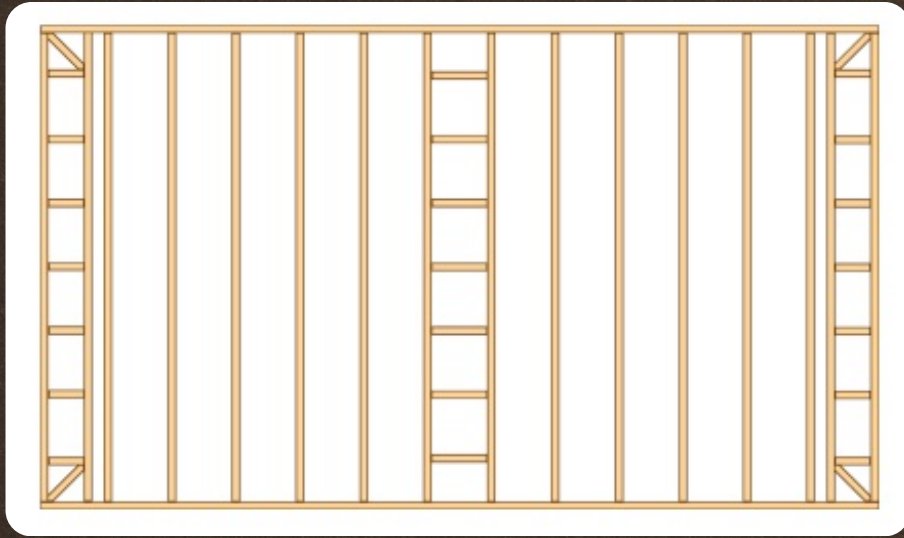
PATTERN EXAMPLE

16x10 Foot Deck

PATTERN TIP

Use two transition boards with two picture frame boards for an eye-catching outdoor space.

PICTURE FRAME PATTERN

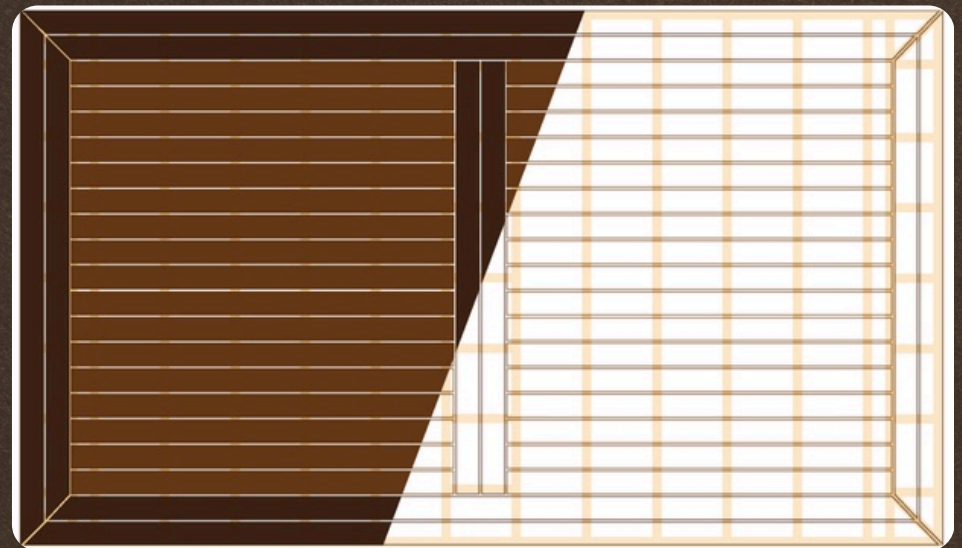


FRAMING EXAMPLE
SPAN = 16" ON CENTER

FRAMING TIP

You only need extra framing on the right and left side of the deck to cover the perpendicular picture frame boards.

**PATTERN & FRAMING
OVERLAP**



PATCHWORK PATTERN



PATCHWORK PATTERN

An expanded take on classic parquet flooring, the Patchwork pattern divides the deck into repeating sections.

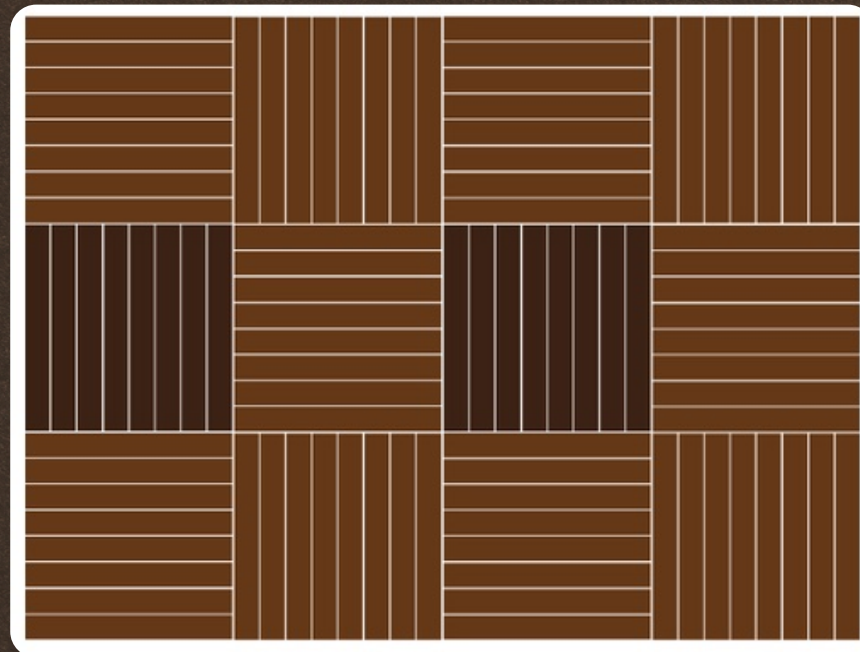
It's particularly effective on larger surfaces and gives you plenty of opportunities to mix board direction, colors, or species.

DESIGN TIP

Use contrasting decking in individual squares to create a more graphic pattern.

FRAMING CONSIDERATION

Board widths vary between products and species, so measure your decking before building the framing for each section.



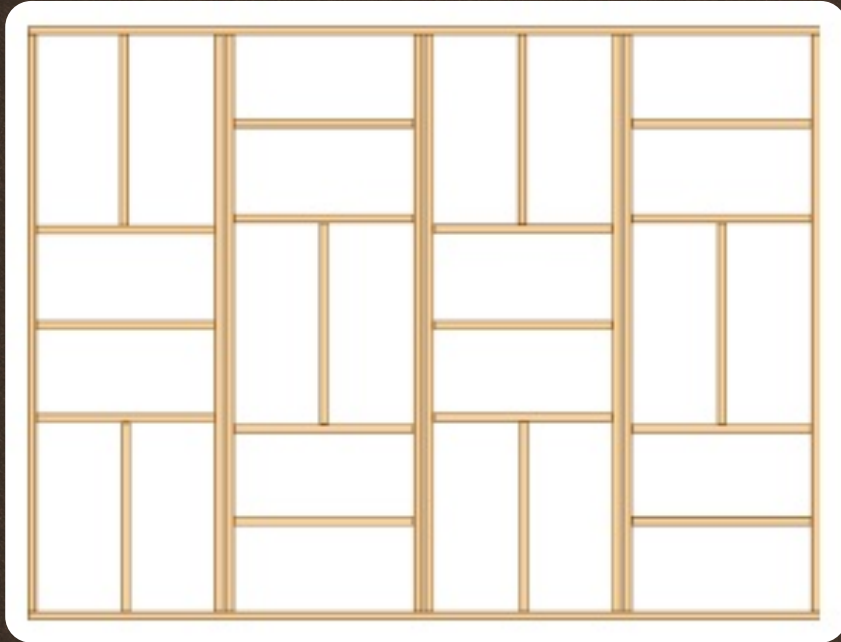
PATTERN EXAMPLE

16x12 Foot Deck (4x4
squares)

PATTERN TIP

Try using different color squares
to create a custom and unique
look.

PATCHWORK PATTERN

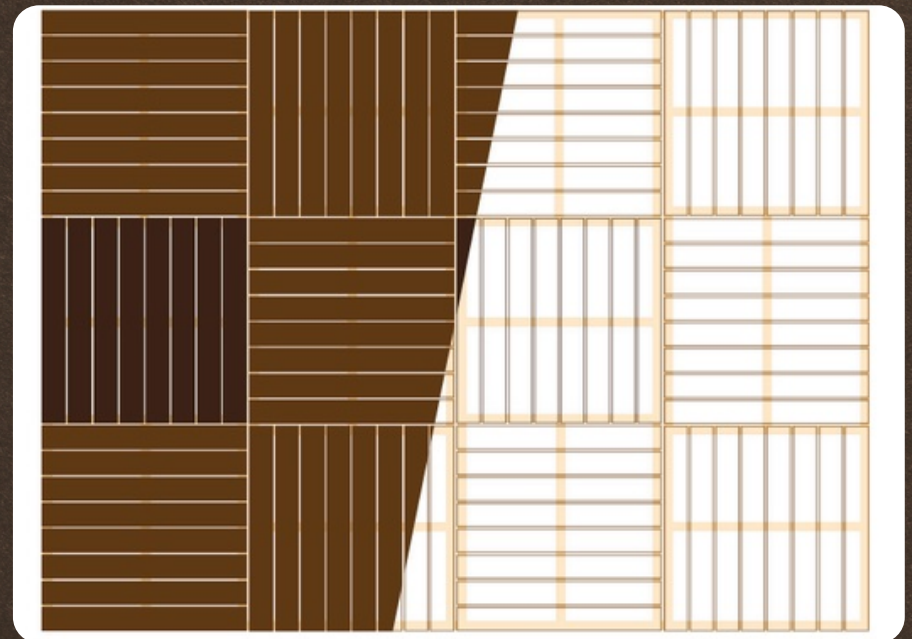


FRAMING EXAMPLE
SPAN = 24" ON CENTER

FRAMING TIP

Make sure you offset the horizontal joists so they support the proper boards (see overlap example).

**PATTERN & FRAMING
OVERLAP**



HERRINGBONE PATTERN



HERRINGBONE PATTERN

Herringbone is one of the most recognizable patterned layouts and creates a strong geometric look without requiring the same angled layout as a traditional chevron.

The pattern uses shorter boards installed at a 45° angle.

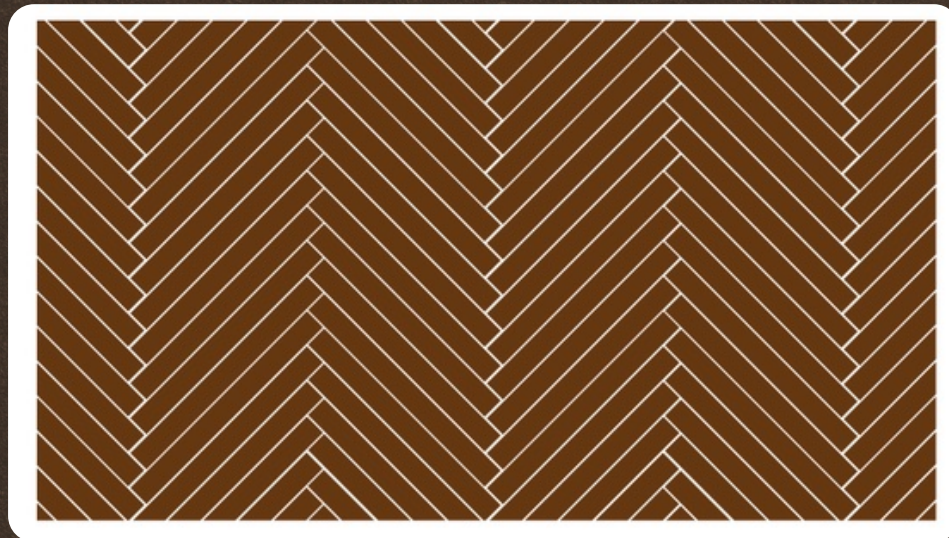
WHY WE LIKE IT

Classic, architectural, and especially effective when used as a focal area within a larger deck.

FRAMING CONSIDERATION

Because the boards are installed diagonally, the framing span needs to be shortened.

Additional joists at board joints provide more fastening options and stability.



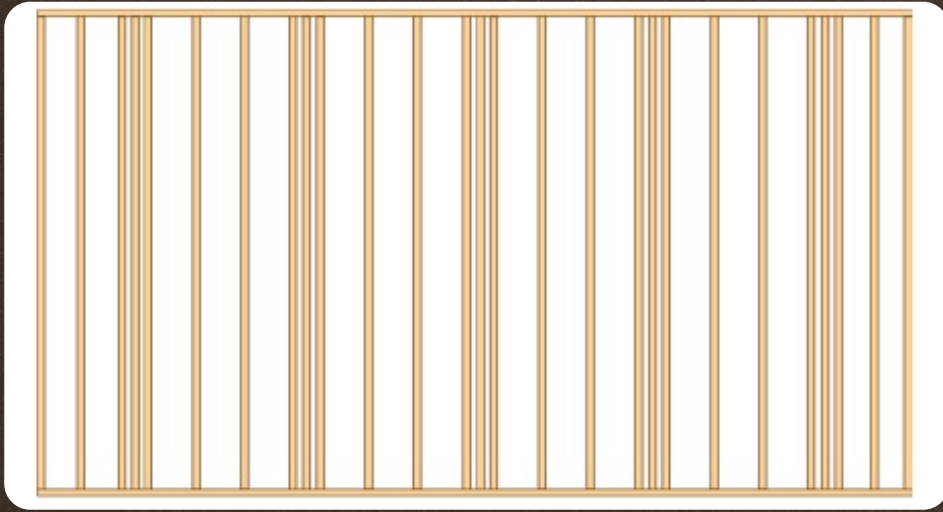
PATTERN EXAMPLE

18x10 Foot Deck

PATTERN TIP

The best way to lay this pattern is one layer at a time across the width of the deck. This will make it easier to measure and cut each board.

HERRINGBONE PATTERN

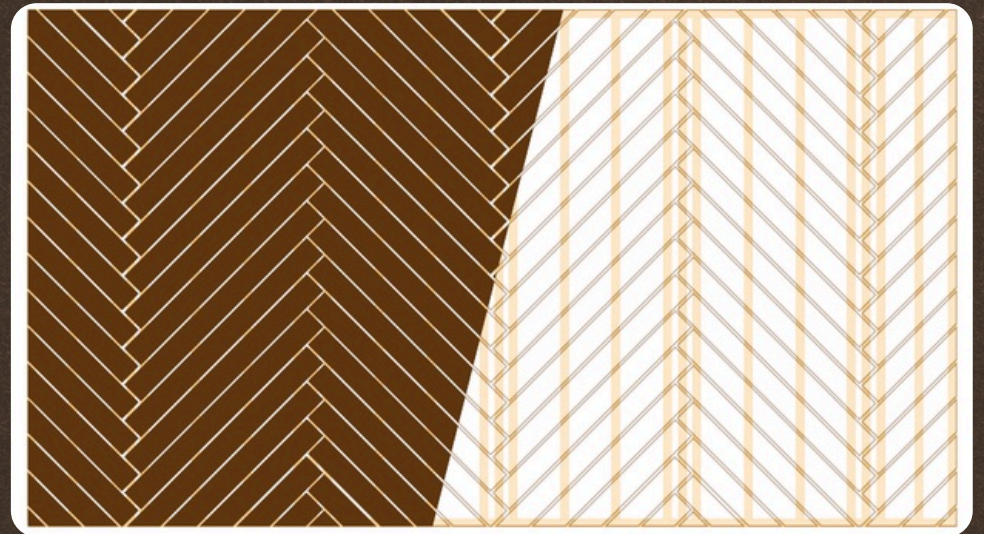


FRAMING EXAMPLE
SPAN = 12" ON CENTER

FRAMING TIP

Use 2-3 joists at the board joints so you have more options for fastening and added board stability.

**PATTERN & FRAMING
OVERLAP**





CHEVRON WITH TRANSITION PATTERN

CHEVRON WITH TRANSITION PATTERN

Chevron creates a bold, directional pattern. Adding transition boards opens up even more design possibilities.

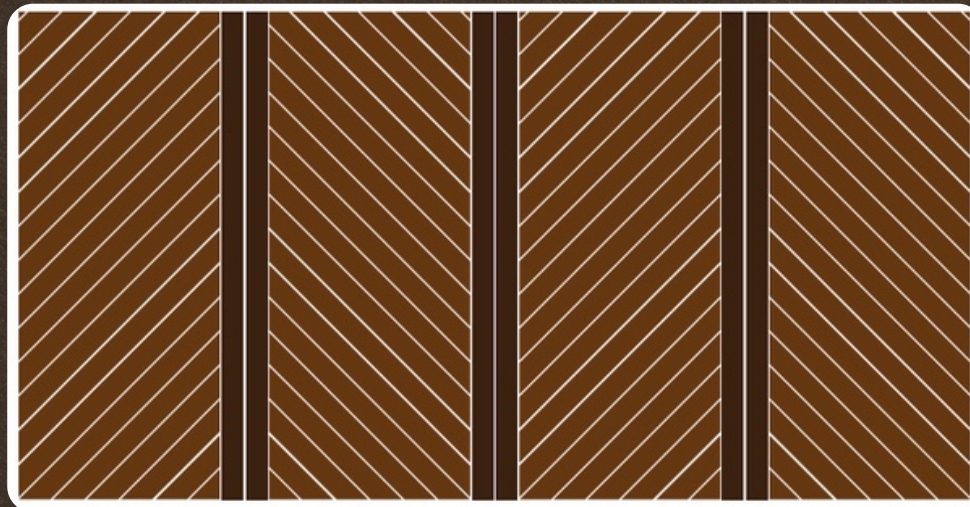
Carry the chevron across the entire deck, use straight boards in selected sections, or use transition boards to divide different areas of the space.

DESIGN TIP

Use a contrasting species, color, or stain for the transition boards.

FRAMING CONSIDERATION

Diagonal boards require shorter framing spans. Transition-board framing can be handled differently depending on the layout.



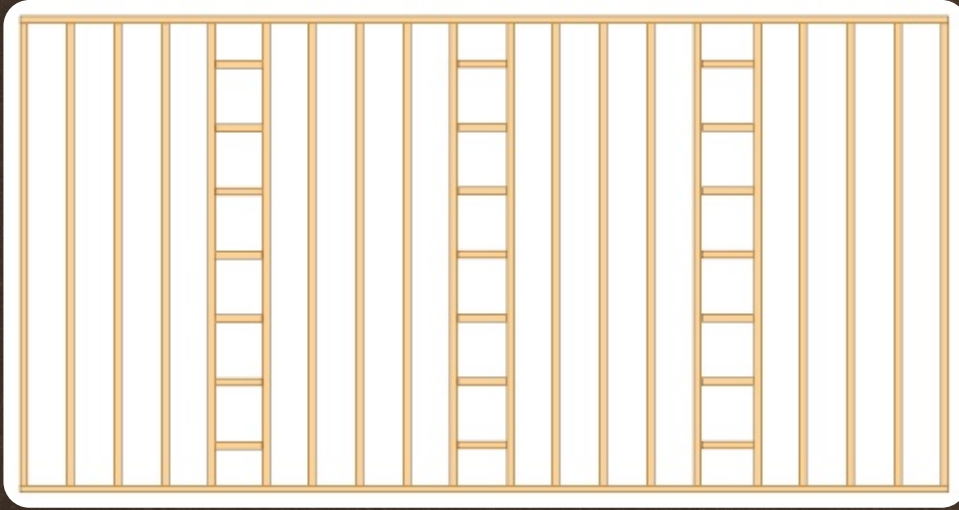
PATTERN EXAMPLE

19x10 Foot Deck

PATTERN TIP

Using a different color for the transition boards breaks up the pattern nicely.

CHEVRON WITH TRANSITION PATTERN

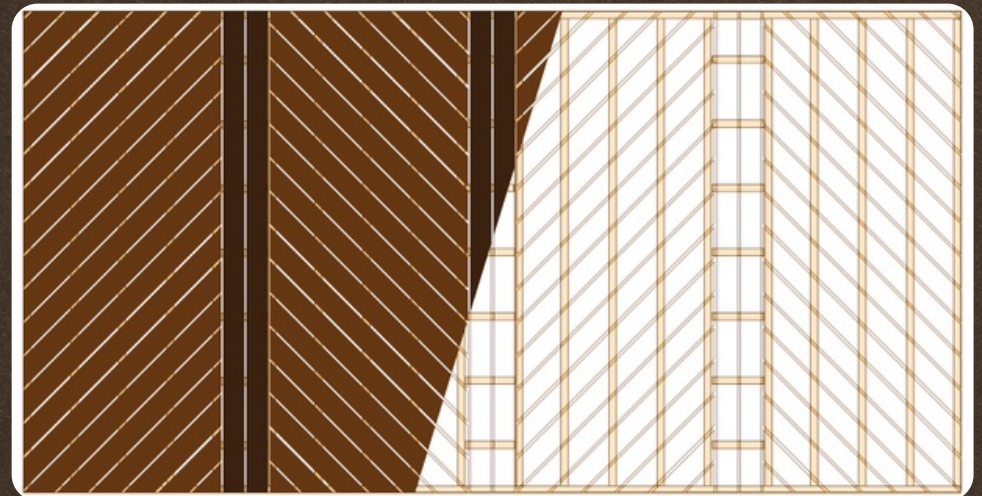


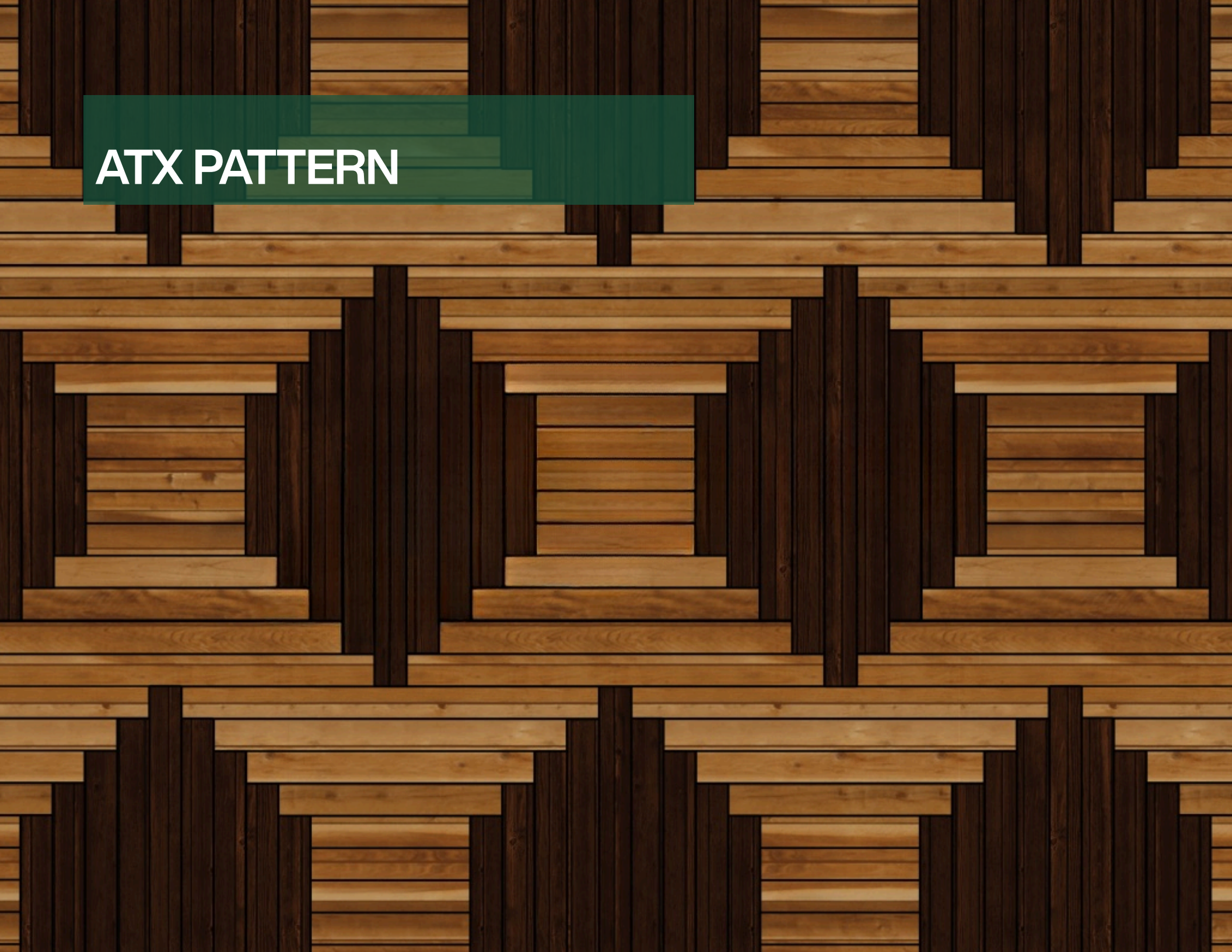
FRAMING EXAMPLE
SPAN = 12" ON CENTER

FRAMING TIP

Use a 16" On Center span for the transition board framing when using two transition boards.

**PATTERN & FRAMING
OVERLAP**



The background of the entire image is a complex, repeating geometric pattern made of horizontal and vertical wooden planks. The planks are in two shades: a light tan and a dark brown. They are arranged in a way that creates a 3D effect, with some planks appearing to be in front of others, forming a series of rectangular and square shapes that interlock. The pattern is dense and covers the entire frame.

ATX PATTERN

ATX PATTERN

Designed by the TimberTown Austin team, the ATX Pattern is a one-of-a-kind geometric layout built around shorter boards.

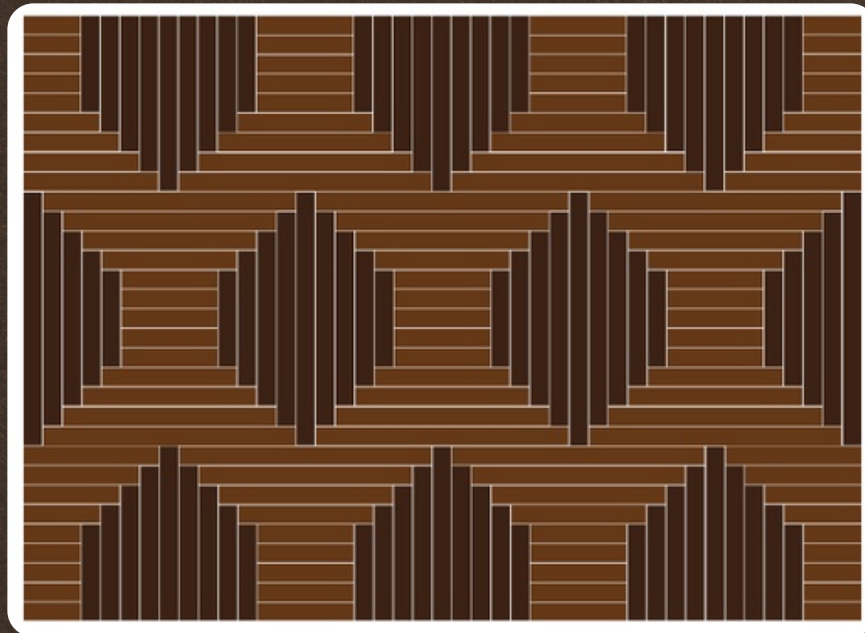
Inspired by the eclectic character of Austin, its seamless design is particularly striking across large residential and commercial outdoor spaces.

BEST FOR

Large decks • Statement spaces • Commercial projects • Experienced builders

IMPORTANT

The ATX Pattern requires careful planning. Framing dimensions depend heavily on the width of the decking boards.



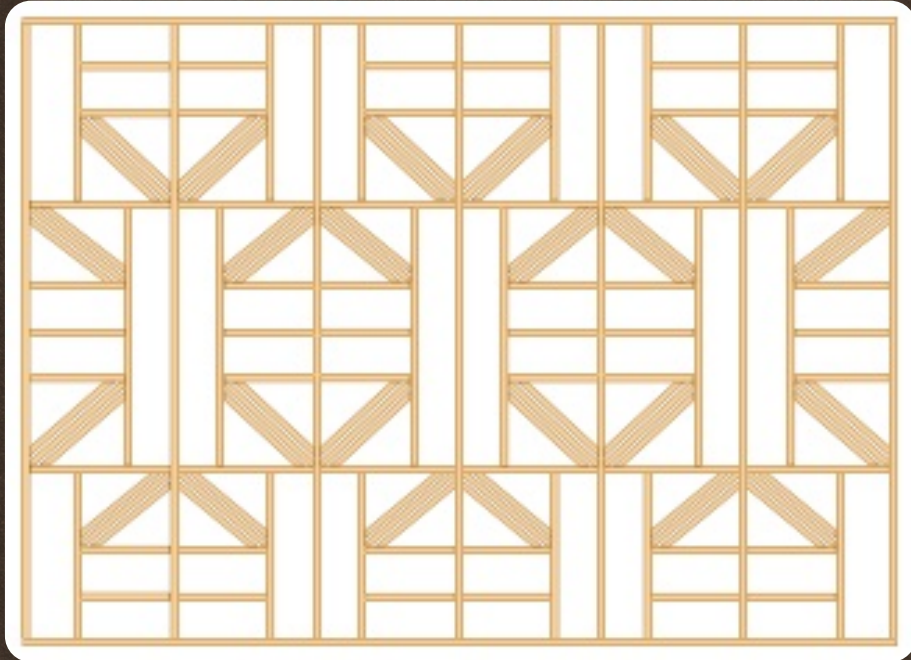
PATTERN EXAMPLE

21x15 Foot Deck

PATTERN TIP

Because of its seamless design, this pattern will look incredible on large surface area decks (larger than 500 sq ft).

ATX PATTERN

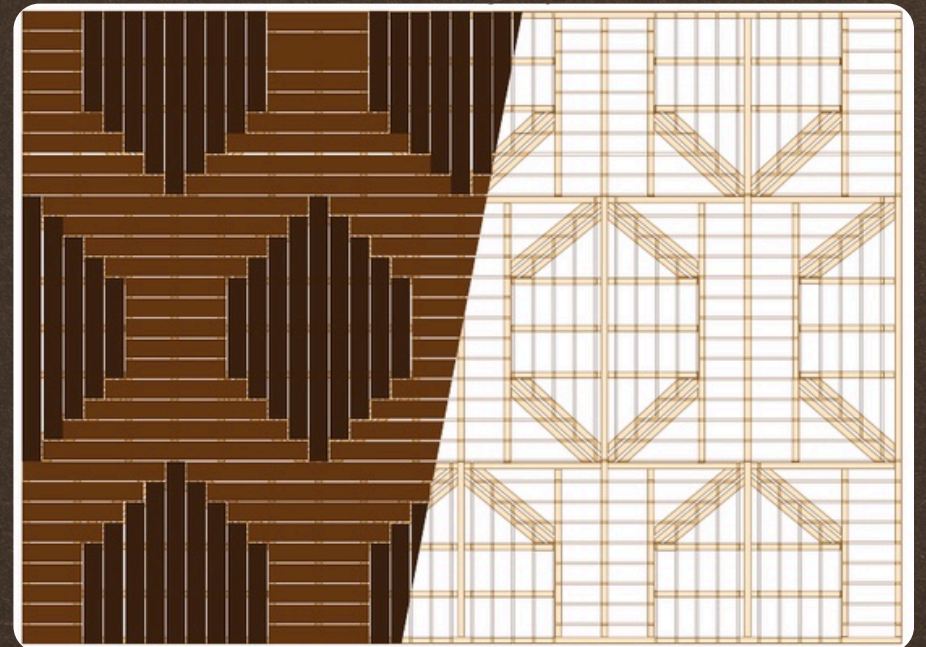


PATTERN & FRAMING
OVERLAP

FRAMING EXAMPLE
SPAN = 13" ON CENTER (ESTIMATE)

FRAMING TIP

The framing spans will vary based on your board width.
Make sure you measure your boards before you build out
the frame.



A photograph of a laptop resting on a dark-stained wooden deck. The laptop screen displays a website with a fire pit image and the text "ENJOY YOUR OUTSIDE". A white rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text "Get more great resources at TimberTown.com".

Get more great resources at
TimberTown.com



Quality Materials

We are meticulous and exacting in our selection of products. We choose to buy the best softwoods, composite decking, long-lasting hardwoods like Ipe, and an incredible selection of modified woods.

Superb Service

We put people first. Clients, vendors, and suppliers are most important to us. We pride ourselves on clear communication, responsive service, and on-time delivery.

Friendly People

Why do we enjoy coming to work with a smile on our face? Because we love helping people like you! Once you contact us or walk into our showroom, our goal is to help you find what you are looking for.