



# SUGGESTED TONGUE-AND-GROOVE PRODUCT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## IMPORTANT FACTS:

Many of the same suggestions for decking also apply to T&G products.

Exterior application procedures differ from interior procedures.

Our T&G Porch Flooring is intended for use in constructing fully covered porches. It is not manufactured for use as interior flooring.

All our T&G products are kiln dried. They may swell or expand slightly, if allowed to absorb moisture. These products should be properly sealed when used in exterior or interior applications.

## COVERED PORCH DESIGN & SITE PREPARATION:

Design and site preparations for porches should be similar to those for decks.

Allow for free airflow, and cross ventilation beneath a covered porch.

Engineer proper drainage beneath your porch. Standing, or accumulated water can be absorbed by exposed wood.

Porch framing should slope slightly, away from the house, to allow water to run off the porch.

Posts, Newell posts, or decorative columns should be properly vented.

Space joists to the same specifications as our decking.

## FASTENING, NAILING:

Best results are achieved by face nailing or screwing porch flooring.

Consult your lumber dealer for a correct fastener choice. Fasteners should penetrate the floor joist 1-1/2".

If you choose to "blind nail," use a ring-shanked nail that will penetrate 1-1/2" into the floor joist.

If boards are run parallel or perpendicular to the house, leave 1/2" of expansion space between the flooring and the house.

Exposed board ends should be well sealed. (You may wish to consider skirting exposed ends.)

All our T&G products are engineered with a small expansion allowance in the tongue-and-groove joint. Porch flooring should be butted tight, side to side and end to end.

Paneling and siding applied with the v-edge or edge bead facing outward should be slightly spaced, side to side, using a thin metal ruler as the spacer.

## FINISHING:

T&G products used in exterior applications should be properly SEALED. Sealing is not the same process as "staining." Deck finishes do not SEAL lumber. We suggest the following procedures for sealing porch flooring:

Seal all six surfaces with a water-repellant sealer.

When the sealer is dry, apply an oil-based prime coat to all six surfaces of the flooring.

When the primer is dry, the boards are ready to install.

After installation, apply a coat of oil-based porch paint to the top surface. You may also wish to apply an extra coat to the ends of boards – especially those that may be fully exposed.