

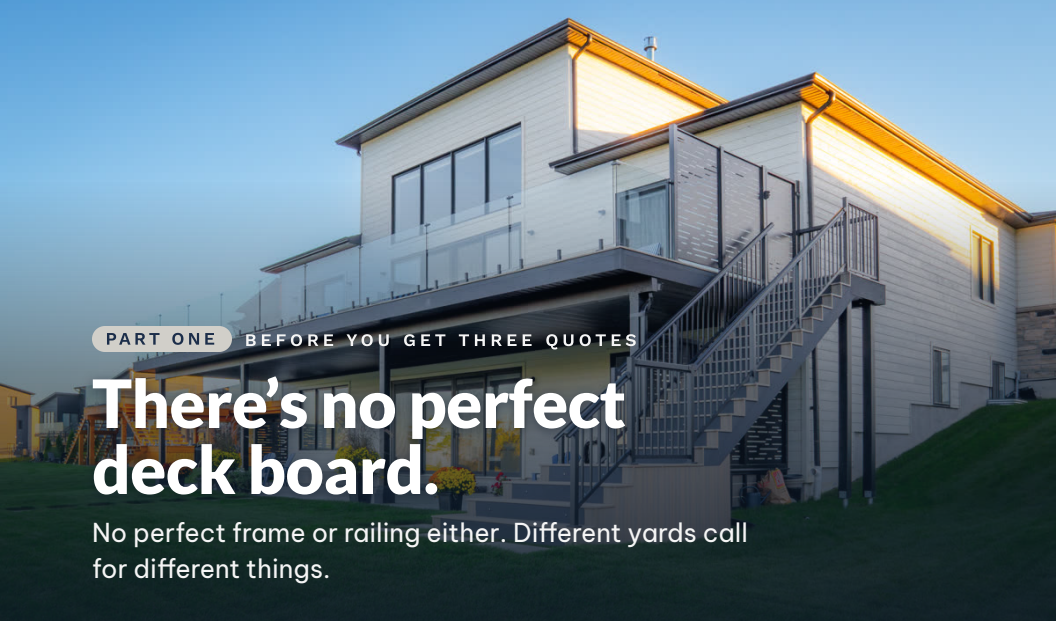
SIMCOE DECKS EDUCATION SERIES

Low-maintenance decking, explained

A THREE-PART GUIDE

There's no perfect deck board, and no perfect frame. Different yards call for different things. Three short parts for homeowners starting a deck, so you can talk to any builder with a leg to stand on.

- 1 Before you get three quotes
- 2 No perfect deck board
- 3 Eight questions to ask



PART ONE BEFORE YOU GET THREE QUOTES

There's no perfect deck board.

No perfect frame or railing either. Different yards call for different things.

THREE QUOTES, ONE SPEC

Kettle Lake Decks

- ✓ Composite decking
- ✓ Railing
- ✓ Stairs

PRICE

\$38,400

Ironbark Outdoor

- ✓ Composite decking
- ✓ Railing
- ✓ Stairs

PRICE

\$42,750

Harbourline Builders

- ✓ Composite decking
- ✓ Railing
- ✓ Stairs

PRICE

\$46,200

Same guess. Three prices.

THE QUESTION THAT SORTS BUILDERS

Why this product, here?

A good builder brings their experience to your yard and chooses to educate you first.

“Different jobs call for different things. Know a little, and ask the right questions.”

MIKE • SIMCOE DECKS

Ask “which” on every line.

Every line on a quote names a category. Every category hides a choice.

ON THE QUOTE: DECKING

Which board?

Maker, line and colour.

PAGES 4–5

ON THE QUOTE: RAILING

Which railing?

Picket, framed or frameless glass.

QUESTION 6

ON THE QUOTE: FRAME

Which frame?

Pressure-treated or steel, and what size joists.

PAGE 6

ON THE QUOTE: FOOTINGS

Which footing?

Helical pile or concrete, and how deep.

PAGE 6



Same answer, same reason
from two builders? You’ve learned about your yard.



No answer? You’ve learned about the builder.

“Composite” isn’t one product.

On a quote, “composite decking” can mean three different boards.



CAPPED COMPOSITE

A core with a cap



CUT END: A COMPOSITE CORE, CAPPED ON THREE SIDES

- 💰 Good value, the most common
- 🛡️ The hard cap does the work
- 🌿 Wood fibre in the core

WATCH FOR
How far the cap wraps



MINERAL-BASED

No wood in it



CUT END: ONE EVEN MINERAL CORE

- 💧 Doesn't take on water
- ☀️ Stays cooler underfoot
- ✍️ Light for its stiffness

WATCH FOR
A water and ground-contact warranty

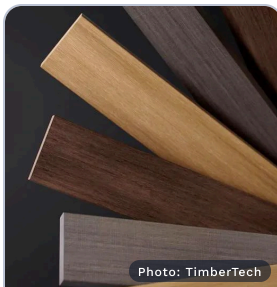
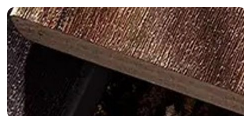


Photo: TimberTech

PVC

All plastic



CUT END: PLASTIC ALL THE WAY THROUGH

- 💧 Resists moisture all through
- 🔥 Class A flame spread, the makers say
- ↔️ Moves 2½x as much with heat

WATCH FOR
Joist spacing on the quote

READ A SAMPLE BOARD



Look at the end

A shell over a core is capped. One even material is mineral.



Lift it

Mineral and PVC are noticeably lighter.



Wet it

Then ask to see a cut end.

Five lines. We install three.

5 DECKORATORS LINES
WE INSTALL 3

10 TIMBERTECH LINES

6 TREX LINES

Quoting the one you asked for is easy. Our job is to narrow it down and recommend one, with reasons.

GOOD



Venture
Capped composite



- ⊕ Best value of the three
- ⊖ Wood in the core

BETTER



Summit
Mineral-based



- ⊕ No wood, cooler underfoot
- ⊖ Costs more than Venture

BEST



Voyage
Mineral-based

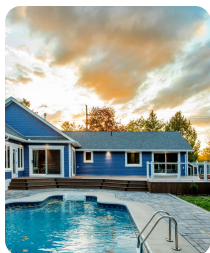


- ⊕ Warranted in water and ground contact
- ⊖ Highest price of the three

WHICH ONE FOR YOUR YARD



FULL SUN
Summit or Voyage,
in a lighter colour



POOL, HOT TUB, DOCK
Voyage first



SHADE AND DAMP
Summit or Voyage



BUDGET FIRST
Venture

Why we lean to Summit and Voyage: the strength of a composite with no organic material in it. Line counts are each maker's 2026 range; swatches and badges are Deckorators' own.

What's under the boards.

If your old deck lasted thirty years on pressure-treated wood, rebuilding it the same way feels natural. Today's wood isn't the same.



PRESSURE-TREATED WOOD

- 💰 The lower price
- 🌱 Fast-growth lumber, grown to be harvested again
- ⤵️ Can twist and shrink as it dries



FORTRESS STEEL

- 🛡️ Can't rot, twist or shrink
- 🏡 Spans further, so fewer posts
- 🕒 25-year warranty on the frame

We match the frame to the board.



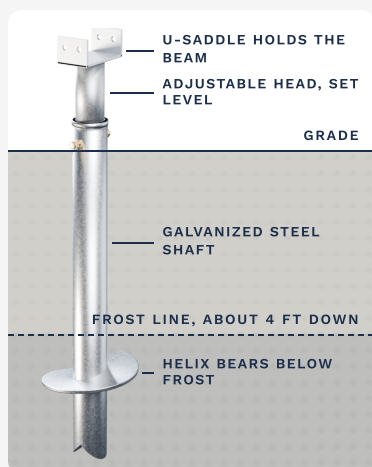
UNDER VENTURE
Pressure-treated



UNDER SUMMIT
Steel, worth a look



UNDER VOYAGE
Steel, definitely



UNDER BOTH

Helical piles

Steel piles turned in to bear below the frost line. No digging, no concrete to cure, no heaving in spring.



GOING IN



SET LEVEL AT GRADE

Eight questions to ask about the deck itself.

1 Which board, exactly? Which maker, which line, which colour?

OUR ANSWER Every proposal names the maker, the line and the colour. We install three of Deckorators' five: Venture, Summit and Voyage.

2 Why that line for my yard?

OUR ANSWER We walk the yard before we pick a board. For sun or water, that means a Surestone board, Summit or Voyage. If budget is the biggest concern, we look at Venture.

3 Where is it made, and who stands behind the warranty?

OUR ANSWER Made in the USA and North America, with the maker's warranty in writing. We're a Deckorators Certified Elite builder, so a claim goes through us.

4 What will it look like in ten years?

OUR ANSWER Venture has a scratch-resistant cap. Summit and Voyage won't splinter, sag, chalk or crack.

5 What's under the boards, and why?

OUR ANSWER Pressure-treated or Fortress steel, on helical piles below the frost line. We match the frame to the board.

6 Which railing, and why that one?

OUR ANSWER Aluminum picket, framed glass or frameless glass, picked for the view, the wind and who's using the deck.

7 What does each option really add?

OUR ANSWER At your Planning Session the design is in 3D, and the installed price updates as we add or remove things.

8 What would you change about my plan, and why?

OUR ANSWER We'll tell you, with a reason. You decide, but you'll decide knowing why.

Write the answers down. The builder who guides you will have an answer with a reason every time.

CONTACT US

Ask us all eight.

SIMCOE
DECKS

Book a Planning Session: we walk your yard, look at real samples, and design your deck together in 3D with the installed price in front of you.



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