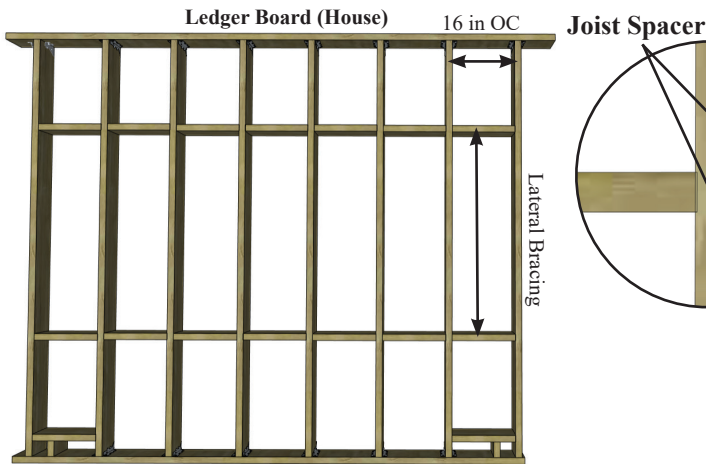


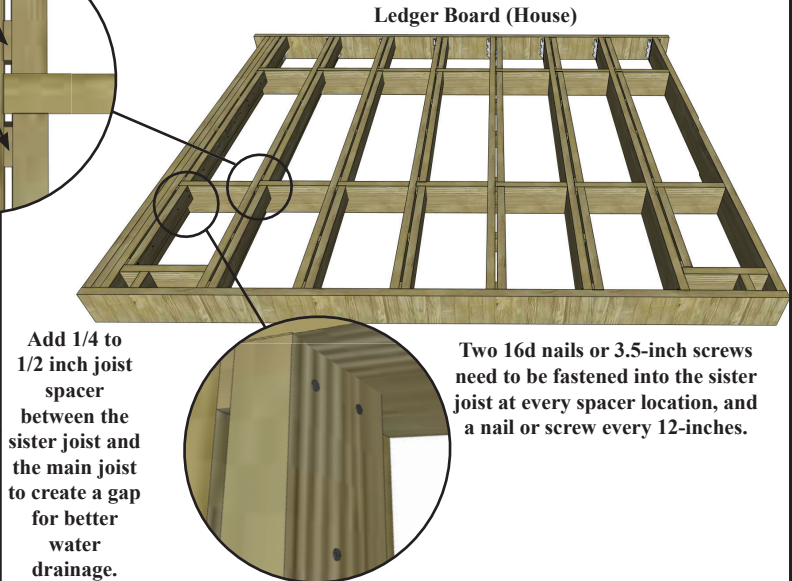
# Sister Joist Installation Guide

Visit [dektektile.com/installation](http://dektektile.com/installation) for more information and for an alternative Sleeper System Method for elevated decks.

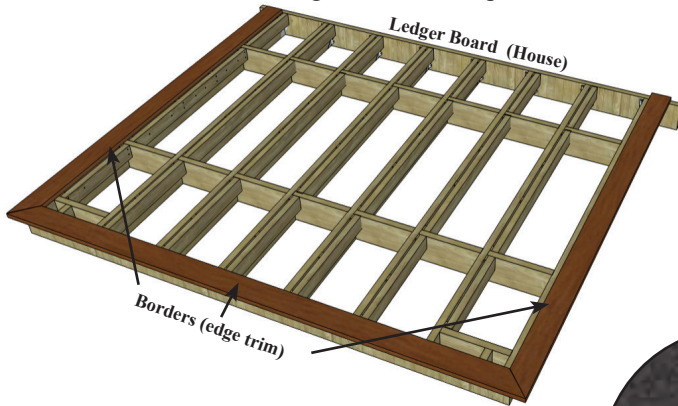
- 1** Frame joists 16-inches on-center (OC). Add lateral blocking, same width as existing joists, a maximum of 4-feet OC.



- 2** A) Add sister joist to each existing joist. If joists are capable of supporting 10.5-pounds per sq. ft. dead load, then a 2x4 sister joist is sufficient. Otherwise, a full-length joist the same size as the existing will need to be added. Either way, deck must be able to support 10.5-pounds per sq. ft. dead load.



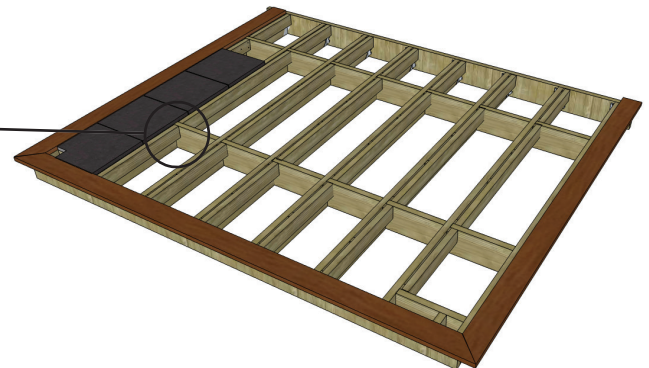
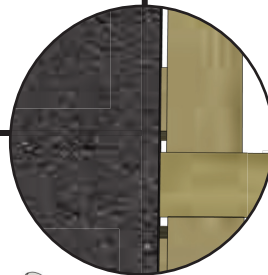
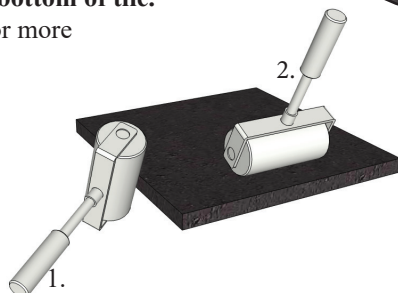
- 3** Install the edge trim. Borders must be mechanically fastened at the outside edges to lock in the tiles. The most common border options are wood, composite, anodized aluminum or galvanized steel. Border trim against house is optional.



- B) Place joist spacers no more than 24 inches apart. Use two 16d galvanized nails or 3.5-inch screws to fasten the sister joist to the spacer and into the existing joist. Add more 16d nails or 3.5-inch screws every 12 inches through the sister joist.

- 5** When you start setting the tile, be sure to choose varied colors from the order to make sure the colors are mixed nicely. **Please note: Any tile cut to 10 inches or less needs extra support running under the bottom of the tile (i.e. an added 2x4).**

- 4** DekTek Tile must be sealed with a high-quality solvent-based concrete sealer. First, apply on all four sides then the top of tile before permanently installing. **Do not seal bottom of tile.** See sealing brochure for more information.



Apply recommended adhesive to the joists as you lay your tile (see adhesive brochure). Space tile joints 1/16 to 1/8 inch apart to allow for water drainage and the expansion / contraction of the tile. The joist spacing created in step 2, should be directly below the tile joints, as shown in the close-up, for the best water drainage.