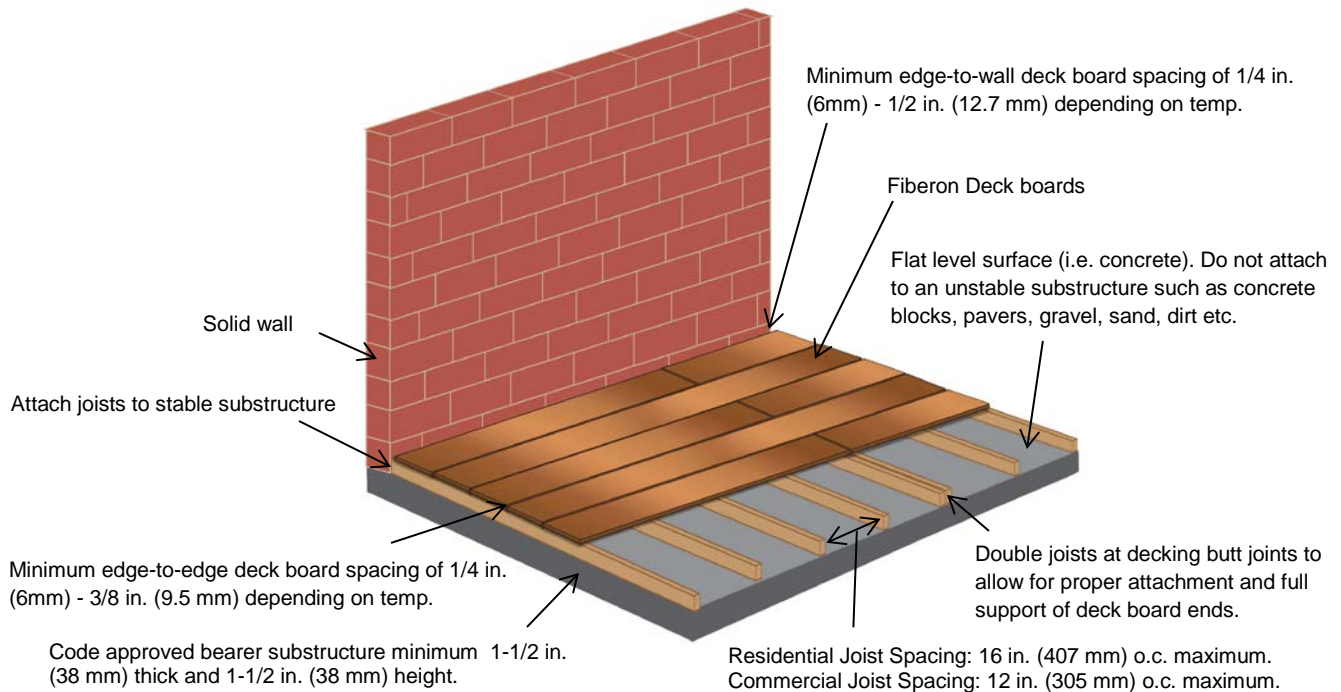


## Tips for a successful sleeper installation



- **Design deck to ensure adequate deck drainage.**
  - Ensure the concrete pad or surface below deck has adequate drainage.
  - Ensure sleepers are parallel to the direction of drainage.
- **Deck sleepers must be a minimum of 1-1/2 in. actual thickness and provide a solid connection to the pad and to the decking.**
  - Sleepers Must be code approved, long lasting and resistant to wet conditions and rot.
- **Create adequate ventilation for the deck by widening side-to-side spacing between boards to 1/4 in. with a maximum of 3/8 in. gap.**
  - The deck design must allow unrestricted air flow under the deck at the open joist ends for ventilation and drainage.
  - Gap decking from solid object (wall) 1/4 in. – 1/2 in.
- **Ensure proper construction and fastening of the sleeper system by starting with the highest point of the surface to be covered to create a flat and level surface.**

*Note: Using spacers (plastic pads) under the sleepers every 16 in. (406 mm) will help both drainage and drying of the sleeper materials.*

  - Sleepers must be spaced 16 in. o.c. for residential, 12 in. o.c. for commercial or angled installations.
  - Secure the first sleeper at the highest point.
  - Work outward from the starting point, adding sleepers and spacers (as needed).
  - Ensure screws penetrate concrete pad by at least 1 in.
  - Drill holes 1/4 in. – 1/2 in. deeper than the screws.
  - Remove the concrete dust from the holes prior to securing.
- **Properly fasten the deck boards to the sleeper.**
  - Face fasteners provide the strongest lateral bracing (as opposed to hidden fasteners).
  - Note: Before installing decking, consider applying joist tape, which limits the contact of water to the top of the sleepers.*
  - If spacers are used under the sleepers, longer screws may be required.
- **Always consult your local building codes prior to any installation.**