
TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Building A Deck Over Dry Space

The market is full of products designed to create a dry space under your deck, from composite deck boards intended to create a seal to gutter systems designed to collect and direct water away from the dwelling. If you want to build a deck over a dry space, the best practice is to build a roof structure with a waterproof membrane and install your deck on top of it using a roof deck system.

Using pedestals with deck tiles or pedestals with conventional decking can achieve this. The Tropical Forest Products Roof Decking, Deck Tile, and Pedestal System are specifically designed for this application.

As you can see on the home below, the architect designed a conventional flat (slightly sloped) roof system covered with an EPDM rubber roof membrane, creating a long-term performance dry space below. The added benefit of building a Dry Space Deck in this manner is that you can apply porch ceiling materials in a conventional way below your deck.



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Conventional Deck on Pedestals

In this example, the architect has chosen to apply the Tropical Forest Products Screw Jack Self-Levelling Pedestal System with 2x4 pressure-treated joists, joist tape, and conventional Tropical Forest Products Ipe decking, face screwed and plugged.



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Deck Tiles on Pedestals

In this example, the architect has applied the Tropical Forest Products Screw Jack Self-Levelling Pedestal System with 2' x 2' Tropical Forest Products Ipe deck tiles.

