Piles & Bearers

The concrete used to cast the holes is 100mm of concrete underneath the pile. The pile is 200mm deep. After you've dug the holes, insert the piles ensuring there is at least 100mm of concrete around the pile. Hang the piles 100mm above the bottom of the holes, and brace them in all directions very firmly while the concrete is poured into the holes. Once the concrete has set, pull the temporary braces out. You will then have piles that are 100mm above the bottom of the holes and 100mm below the top of the concrete. You can use these as a datum point to work from. Option 1 requires you to set the posts exactly in place before the bearers are there to give structural support. Option 2 allows you to install the bearers before setting the posts in the correct position. The piles in this example deck are 125 x 125mm H5 radiata pine piles, spaced at a maximum spacing (mm) of 1200 along the length of the deck to directly support the bearers. These piles are trimmed off to the underside of the bearers (see Illustration 6). A pergola may require a building allowance of 1200mm along the length of the deck to directly support the bearers.

Concreting the Piles

The advantage of this method is that the deck cantilevers over the last bearer to give the edge of your deck a neat finish. There is no need for a temporary bearing plate. However, this method requires you to set the posts exactly in place before the bearers are there to give structural support. The piles in this example deck are 125 x 125mm H5 radiata pine piles, spaced at a maximum spacing (mm) of 1200 along the length of the deck to directly support the bearers. Unless otherwise specified, the piles at each end should also be connected to the bearer with a stainless steel 'Nailon' plate on each face. Hot-dipped galvanised nails skewed (angle nailed) from each face. The piles at each end should also be connected to the bearer with a stainless steel 'Nailon' plate on each face. Hot-dipped galvanised nails skewed (angle nailed) from each face. The piles at each end should also be connected to the bearer with a stainless steel 'Nailon' plate on each face. Hot-dipped galvanised nails skewed (angle nailed) from each face.

Spacing the Piles

The deck in the example is 9m x 4m. This example provides, several of the steps necessary to build a deck. One step is to mark the outline of the deck area on the ground at least 150mm from the house to ensure the string lines are square. To ensure that the set out will not move or be disturbed during construction, it is a good idea to attach the string lines to the house by nailing a piece of wood to the house and tying a string to the wood. To ensure that your finished deck is square, you may want to use a 2m set out pole or a length of flat bar to ensure that all four sides of the deck are equal to the set out is square. To ensure that the set out will not move or be disturbed during construction, it is a good idea to attach the string lines to the house by nailing a piece of wood to the house and tying a string to the wood. 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Ideas & Inspiration

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