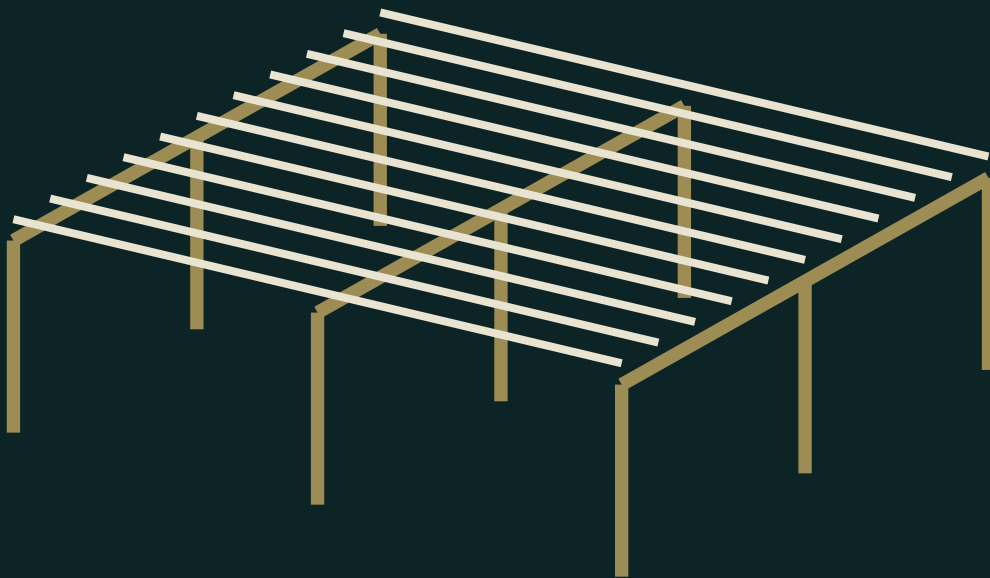




DECKING SUBFRAME

Plastic Joists & Posts



A clear foundation for Signature & Select decking

PLAN / POSTS / BEARERS / JOISTS

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Redesigned from the existing Majestic subframe installation guide.

Illustration is schematic. Dimensions are specified inside.

Three components. Different spacings.

Posts support the bearers. Bearers carry the joists. Joists support the decking boards. Set out the complete frame before digging or cutting, including board joints, borders and steps.

Posts	80 x 80mm or 100 x 100mm
Post centres	800mm maximum
Joist centres	250-350mm
Frame-joint gap	10mm at bearer and joist joins
Board butt joints	Double joists; separate support per end

Post spacing and joist spacing are different

The 250-350mm dimension is the centre-to-centre distance between decking-support joists. It is not the distance between posts. Both decking ranges use this same joist spacing.



Post grid: Set posts at no more than 800mm centres in both directions. Use this same maximum throughout the frame. Provide additional posts where the layout or connections require support.

Build a stable supporting frame

1. Prepare and mark out

Clear and prepare the area. Mark a grid for the posts and check the layout against the complete decking plan. Use 80 x 80mm posts for lower decks and 100 x 100mm posts for higher decks. Cut posts to the required length.

2. Set the posts

Concrete posts into the ground at least 500mm deep. Keep them upright while the concrete sets and align the post tops to the planned frame level. The foundation arrangement must suit the site and intended deck.

3. Position the bearers

Run bearers along the posts to support the joists. Support the bearers at posts and secure the frame to every post. Allow for the actual joist depth when setting bearer height.

Set the top of each bearer below the planned joist-top level by the actual joist depth. Do not apply a fixed 90mm allowance to joists of a different depth.

4. Leave movement space

Leave 10mm between bearer ends at joins. Support the connection at a post and keep the gap clear. This is a plastic-frame gap, separate from decking-board side, end and wall gaps.

Minimum post embedment	500mm
Bearer end gap	10mm
Joist height allowance	Actual selected joist depth

Allow movement. Support every join.

5. Secure bearers to posts

Use 6mm screws for smaller posts or 10mm screws for larger posts, using external timber-frame construction and landscaping screws. Do not use self-cutting screws. Check the selected fastener and connection against the actual member sizes.

6. Pre-drill the plastic

Use HSS drill bits. Pre-drill oversized pilot holes approximately 3mm larger than the screw diameter to allow movement. Keep this frame-drilling instruction separate from the drilling detail for decking boards.

7. Lay the joist network

Lay joists directly onto the bearers at 250-350mm centres. Start with the outside joists and work across the frame. Provide extra support around edges, openings and steps as required by the deck layout.

8. Fix and join the joists

Use 6 x 100mm or 10 x 100mm single-thread external timber screws for fixing joists into bearers, with the same oversized pre-drilling. Noggins may be fitted between joists for additional support. Leave 10mm at joist end joins.

9. Double the joists at board joins

Where two decking board ends meet, provide a double joist so that each board end has its own support and fixing. Both Signature and Select decking require a centre clip at every supporting joist. Fit starter clips at each joist supporting the first board.

Select the screw size to suit the actual post and joist profiles. Follow the fastener manufacturer requirements for engagement, edge distances and installation. The frame holes described here are not the drilling specification for decking boards.

Final checks & guide coordination

- Check that all posts, bearers and joists are secure and correctly aligned.
- Check 250-350mm joist centres and double joists at every planned board-end join.
- Check the 10mm movement gaps at plastic bearer and joist joins.
- Keep drainage routes and ventilation openings clear. Form a fall of 1:100 (10mm per metre) away from buildings along the decking board length.
- Collect all plastic sawdust and offcuts. Do not leave plastic debris in the ground or beneath the deck.
- Photograph the completed frame before covering it with decking.

Use alongside the decking guide

Use the Signature or Select installation guide for board clips, board-end gaps, wall clearances, edge-board fixing, aftercare and warranty. The 10mm plastic-frame gap is not a decking-board gap.

Design scope

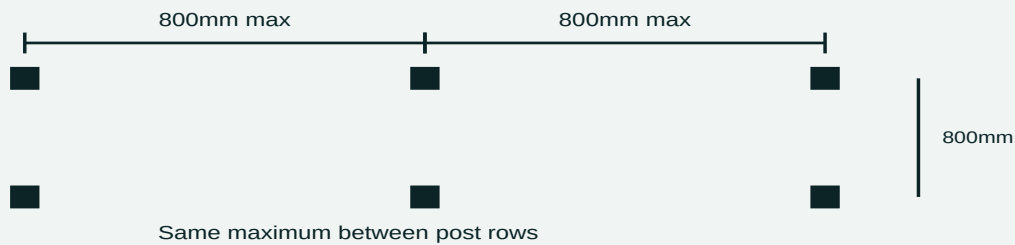
This guide covers the assembly sequence and spacing for the Majestic plastic subframe. The actual joist profile, connections and foundations must suit the site and intended loading. No general load rating is stated for all frame combinations.

Guide information

Based on the existing Majestic Decking Subframe Installation Guide, with 800mm maximum post centres confirmed by Majestic and coordinated with the Signature and Select decking guides. Issued 10 September 2026. Diagrams are schematic.

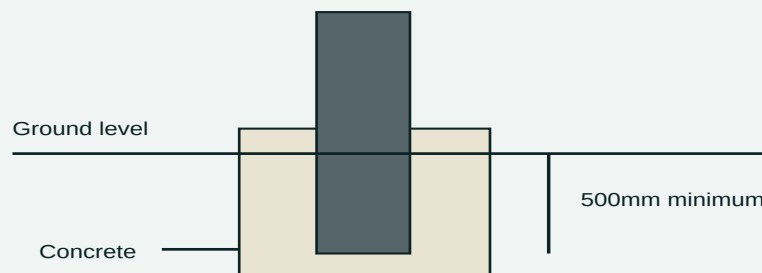
Follow the sequence

1 Set out the post grid



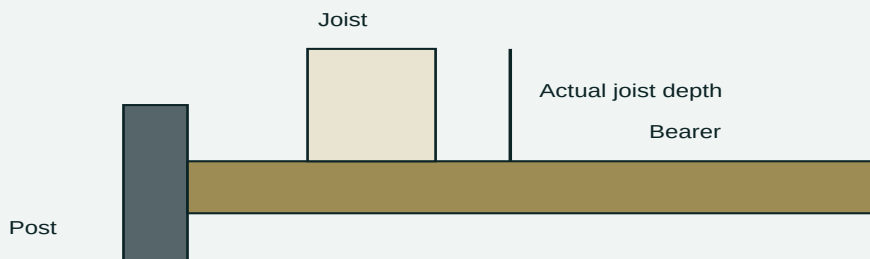
Mark posts at no more than 800mm centres in both directions. Joist spacing is a separate dimension.

2 Set the posts upright



Concrete posts at least 500mm into the ground, using a foundation arrangement suited to the site.

3 Set bearer height for the joists

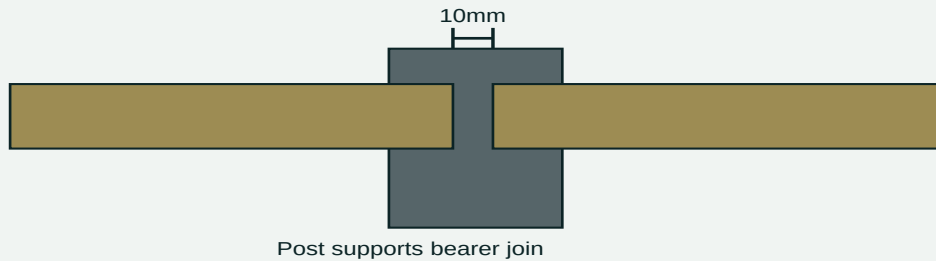


Allow the actual joist depth above the bearer. Coordinate the frame with the required decking fall.

Diagrams are schematic, not to scale. Follow the accompanying written instructions.

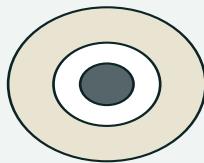
Finish the details

4 Allow movement at frame joins



Leave 10mm between plastic bearer or joist ends. Support bearer joins at posts.

5 Pre-drill the plastic frame



Outer opening = pilot hole

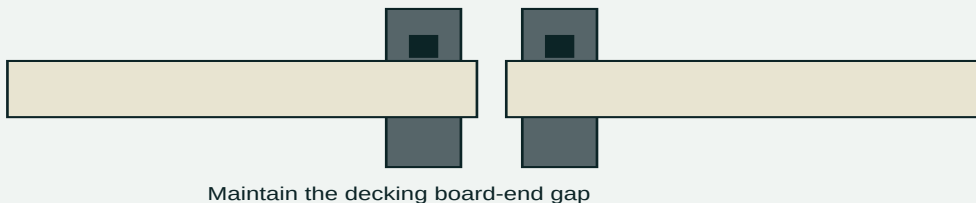
Centre = screw diameter

Hole diameter = screw diameter + approx. 3mm

Use HSS bits. Frame pilot holes are approximately 3mm larger than the screw diameter.

6 Support both board ends

One support + clip per board end



Use 250-350mm joist centres. At a board butt joint, use double joists with a separate clip for each board end.

Diagrams are schematic, not to scale. Follow the accompanying written instructions.