



### **Tongue & Groove Installation Tips**

We would like your Kayu Batu deck installation to go as smoothly as possible, with the finished product's appearance and performance maximized for your enjoyment. To this end, we recommend the following:

#### **Exterior Covered Porch Flooring**

The material should be treated with a penetrating sealer on all six sides.

Dark Red Meranti and Red Balau Batu (commonly referred to as Mahogany) is kiln dried but it can still retain moisture, so it is important that the material is sealed thus minimizing the dimensional damage. Lengthwise there is virtually no expansion, therefore neatly trimmed ends can be butted tightly together.

Nailing success has been achieved with 7d or 8d finish stainless steel nails. Blind nail through the tongue at 45%. The nail must penetrate the joints. When face nailing within  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the edge or end of the board, pilot holes are recommended to prevent splitting.

Ventilation is important. Do not box the deck underneath. The moisture underneath a boxed deck will be absorbed by the bottom side of the board. The sun and wind will dry the tops side of the board and this will cause cupping.

#### **Soffit**

The material should be nailed and glued with a high quality construction adhesive.

#### **Skirting**

All T & G skirting & siding should be installed with stainless steel screws or nails. Do not install tight. Leave a  $1 \frac{1}{16}$ <sup>th</sup> inch gap for expansion and contraction, as in periods of high humidity, the wood will expand.

***Enjoy the Natural Beauty!***