

Tiger Claw[®]

Hidden Deck Fasteners

A “do-it-yourselfer” talks about the wave of the future:

Eric Haag is a mechanical engineer by degree. He’s owned a fixer-upper rental property for the past 20 years. He’s also a homeowner and loves to do both interior and exterior work — with a little help from the local home improvement store.

His decking experience started with two projects. The first was building a 16 x 18 extension off his original deck. The second was to resurface an existing 16 x 12 deck.

“I looked into both pressure treated lumber and Trex Woodland brown decking and doing that, I realized I didn’t like the screws and the way the finished deck looked,” said Haag. “Water would puddle around the screws. You’d also get little splinters and other abnormalities from pressure treated lumber. On the other hand, I had seen decks that used composite lumber. With screws, there was a mushroom effect that I didn’t like.”

Haag decided to research hidden deck fasteners. He knew there were other competitors’ products on the market but he found that Tiger Claw was the best. After deciding on the Trex product he chose TC-3, by Tiger Claw, for composite lumber.

“I thought they were easy to use — even comparable to applying just screws,” said Haag. “The big difference is the outcome. You don’t see anything. The deck looks great.”

“Because the deck is made of composite, it looks very uniform. That’s the other thing that’s very good about Tiger Claw. It provides almost an automatic spacing between deck boards so that you don’t have to be concerned with things like whether it’s going to be curvy or not. That’s a problem with composite deck work. The boards have a tendency to bend. With traditional screws, you stand on one edge and you can look down the gaps of the board and see curves. But with Tiger Claw, you have a nice spacing that’s almost automatic. It was really worth doing. The deck looks absolutely beautiful.”

Haag says in addition to the ease-of-use, durability, and aesthetic qualities of his new deck, there’s another benefit. He says he goes barefooted on the deck all the time, without worry of splinters.

“There’s no doubt that the Tiger Claw hidden deck fasteners are the wave of the future. Anybody who puts screws into their decking is going to be unhappy somewhere down the road. If you can avoid it, you’re going to want to do it. I am really happy with my deck. Quite frankly, if I hadn’t come across these Tiger Claws, I probably wouldn’t feel this way.”