

FIN'S FACTS ABOUT VERANDAH STAIRS

Posts, Steps, Fascia and Sills



Verandahs are a way of life for every Queenslander. Cool and inviting, they provide the perfect place to relax and enjoy our uniquely laidback lifestyle. There's nothing quite as welcoming as stepping up a set of traditional timber stairs onto a cool, shady verandah.

There are two main components in stairs. The treads (the part you stand on - or even better, according to our expert Fin, to sit on with a cool beer) are normally 250 x 38 or 250 x 50, while the stringers (the sides of the stairs) are 250 x 50. Most hardwood used for exterior stairs is called 'GOS' hardwood, which stands for Green Off Saw. This means it has not been kiln dried, so you should expect a small amount of movement as it dries out over the first six to twelve months.

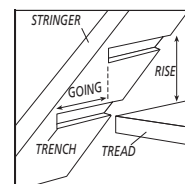
Fin says it's important to use a durable hardwood like Iron Bark or Spotted Gum, which are homegrown and will last for a long time if properly cared for. These species also have minimal shrinkage factors. Other species such as Blackbutt have a high shrinkage factor and are not recommended by Finlayson's for this particular application.

For long-term durability, it's important to paint all parts of your stairs with a good oil-based primer before assembly - a minimum of one coat of primer on the faces and edges, but because the end grain will take up moisture more readily, Fin recommends at least two coats on the end grain, and says that the extra effort at this stage will pay off over the years.

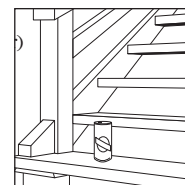
Fin warns that it's also important to put ant capping under the bottom of stringers - not only to keep white ants out of your stairs, but also to stop them from entering your house's structure via the stringers.

At Finlayson's, we're here to help, and we'll be only too happy to advise you. Feel free to ask questions or discuss your particular stairs (or any other project you may be considering) with our friendly staff.

Whether you're renovating an older home, or building a new one in the traditional style - there are many advantages in belonging to Finlayson's Renovator's Club.



As a member, you'll receive special deals on our products and services, as well as access to helpful workshops and seminars.



Remember - if you're looking for Brisbane's most authentic range of crafted traditional timber fittings, talk to us at Finlayson's.

With our long heritage, we possibly supplied the original material for your old Queenslander - and today, we're still one of Australia's leading manufacturers of Colonial and Heritage timber products and suppliers of authentic renovation items.