

Exterior decking final inspection checklist

Exterior decking final inspection is where the punch list is either short or expensive. This checklist walks the finished work the way an owner or AHJ will see it: devices on, systems running, everything labeled. Each item gets the photo that closes it instead of reopening it. Work is commonly verified against the applicable building code, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The deck crew lead with the GC's superintendent, walking the finished deck before the owner's walk and daily use.
When: After decking, railings and stairs are complete, before turnover and before the deck sees foot traffic.

Decking surface

- ☐ Boards fastened flat with consistent gaps
Deck boards fastened per the product with even gaps for drainage and movement, no cupped, proud or loose boards, ends supported. 1 photo required

Guards and railings

- ☐ Guards and railings secure, to height, with correct spacing
Guard height and baluster spacing consistent to the requirement, posts anchored so the guard does not flex under a firm push, top rail continuous. 2 photos required

Stairs

- ☐ Stair rise, run and handrail consistent and secure
Even rise and run, stringers fastened, treads solid, handrail continuous and graspable at the required height, no wobble. 2 photos required