Deck Screw Size Chart

Tip: Set your PDF viewer to "Actual size" before printing to maintain scale.

Size	Gauge	Common Lengths	Board Thickness	Typical Applications
#6	6 gauge	1", 1-1/4", 1-1/2"	1/2" boards	Thin trim, fascia backing, light-duty
#7	7 gauge	1-1/4", 1-5/8", 2"	5/8" boards	Composite trim, thin deck boards
#8	8 gauge	1-1/4", 1-5/8", 2", 2-1/2"	3/4" boards	5/4 deck boards (actual 1"), cedar/redwood
#9	9 gauge	2", 2-1/2", 3"	3/4"-1" boards	Treated 5/4 deck boards, hardwoods
#10	10 gauge	2-1/2", 3", 3-1/2"	1"-1-1/4" boards	Standard deck boards, 2x material, heavy-duty
#12	12 gauge	3", 3-1/2", 4", 5"	1-1/2"-2" material	2x6 deck boards, stair treads, structural
#14	14 gauge	3-1/2", 4", 5", 6"	2" material	Ledger boards, 4x4 posts, heavy framing
1/4"	1/4" diameter	3-1/2", 4", 5", 6", 8"	Multiple boards	Ledger attachment, structural connections

Selection Guidelines:

- Screw length rule: Use 2-3x the board thickness for proper holding power
- Standard 5/4 deck boards (actual 1"): Use 2-1/2" to 3" screws (#8-#10 gauge)
- Minimum joist penetration: 1-1/2" into joist required by building codes
- Edge distance: Keep screws minimum 3/4" from board edges to prevent splitting
- End distance: Maintain 2" minimum from board ends, pre-drill if closer
- Always buy 10-15% extra screws to account for waste and mistakes

