



Instructions for Fitting Deck Lights



Note: these instructions are written for installing decklights with rabbeted deck frames (rather than deep frame), but most of the information relates to the fitting of all deck prism.

Fit glass to frame:-

Clean glass and frame rebate with acetone to remove mould release agent and polishing wax.

Prepare some small spacers from suitable plastic material to ensure the glass is held in the frame with a consistent gap all round.

Support frame on wooden blocks at sides or ends, apply a thick bead of any good marine quality mastic to the bottom of the rebate (usually a polysulphide) or a polyurethane-based sealant such as [Sikaflex 291](#). It is good practice to ensure that the frame is degreased and the glass should be abraded where the sealant touches to give it a better key. Place the glass in the frame and use spacers to ensure even gaps. Do not apply sealant to the gaps between glass and frame at this stage.

Turn the frame and glass over onto a flat surface covered in polythene and press the glass down to the surface, so that it becomes level with the frame top flanges.

Clean up the excess sealant on the surface you can see with cellulose thinners and make a neat joint between glass and frame. [This will be the bottom of the decklight when fitted]

Allow the sealant to set for 24 hours.

Turn the glass/frame over, remove the spacers and back-fill the gap around the glass with sealant. Make a neat job of cleaning up the glass and frame as this will be the top surface of the decklight.

Note: The aim is to get the level of the glass at the same as the frame, so as to prevent water hanging on the glass, which would be the case if the glass were lower than the frame. This is likely to happen if the glass is fitted after the frame is installed into the deck

Fitting the unit to the deck:-

Cut a hole in the deck with an allowance of approx. 3mm all round to allow for expansion of the fitting and the deck. If the skill of the workforce allows, the frame flange can be rebated into the deck to make a flush installation.

Use Silicon Bronze countersunk machine screws with washers and nuts as the fastening. Drill slightly oversize for the bolts and apply bedding to the fastenings in accordance with good marine practice.

Apply marine sealant to the frame underneath the frame flange and insert into the deck. Gently tighten down the bolts to avoid squeezing out all the bedding compound from the flange/ deck joint. Clean up with cellulose thinners. After 48 hours, tighten the bolts more firmly.

Notes.

Butyl rubber compounds have also been used on these decklights. Silicon Bronze woodscrews can be used as an alternative to machine screws if the thickness of the deck allows.

Maintenance

The decklight should require no maintenance other than washing when the decks are cleaned.

The frame should be allowed to patinate to a brown/green colour after contact with salt water and should not be polished.

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