

BUILDING WITH TREATED PINE

Galvanised bolts, washers and screws should be used when building with treated pine.

The chemicals used in the treatment of the timber eat off zinc and gold coloured coatings causing the bolts and screws to rust, especially if the timber is to be permanently in the weather.

Bolts should be as long as the total thickness of the materials being joined, plus 20mm.

Screws should be long enough so that two-thirds of their length goes into the members you are fastening.

While on the subject ... when building decks you should also use galvanised nails whether the decking is treated pine or not. Ordinary steel nails will rust and stain the timber in a short period of time.

And while we're still on the subject. Decks seem to eat nails. For every 1 m² of deck, you'll need 125g of 100mm nails (for joists) and 250g of 50mm bullet head nails (for decking).