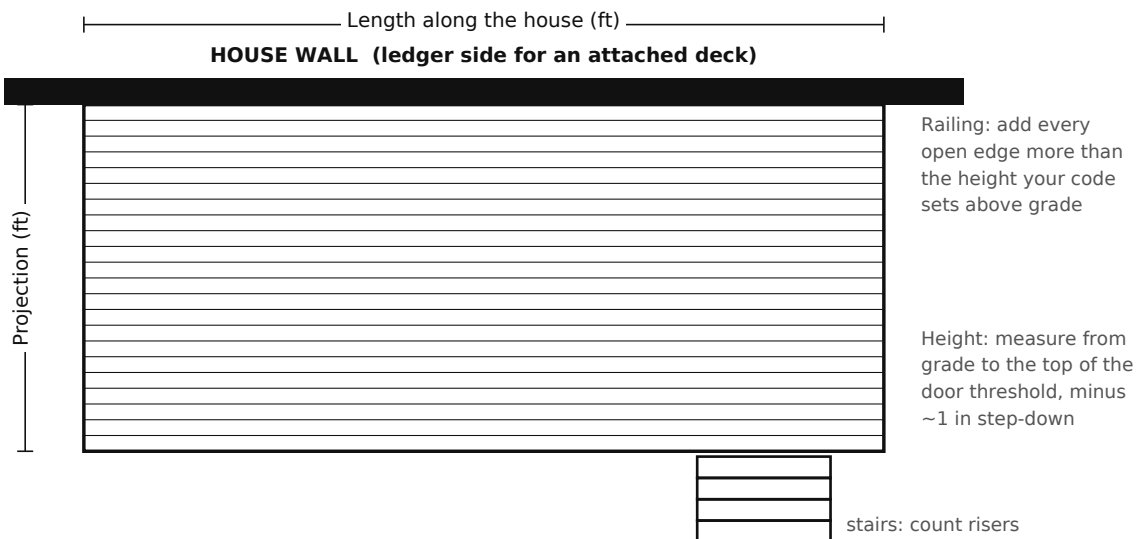


Deck Planning & Budget Worksheet

Measure the space, sketch the layout, and price it by material before you call a builder or buy a board. Two pages.

Project / address	_____	Date	_____
Length along house (ft)	_____	Projection (ft)	_____
Deck area (sq ft)	_____	Height above grade (ft)	_____
Attached or freestanding	_____	Stairs (risers)	_____
Railing (linear ft)	_____	Decking material	_____

1. Measure



2. Price it by material

Installed cost per square foot (national averages used by our deck cost calculator; it shows each as a range from 0.9x to 1.15x). Multiply by your deck area for a first budget, then add railing, stairs and add-ons.

Decking material	Typical installed \$/sq ft	Range	12 × 16 ft deck (192 sq ft)	Your deck
Pressure-treated pine	\$22	\$19.80 - \$25.30	\$3,802 - \$4,858	
Cedar	\$32	\$28.80 - \$36.80	\$5,530 - \$7,066	
Redwood	\$38	\$34.20 - \$43.70	\$6,566 - \$8,390	
Composite (Trex / TimberTech)	\$48	\$43.20 - \$55.20	\$8,294 - \$10,598	
PVC / cellular	\$58	\$52.20 - \$66.70	\$10,022 - \$12,806	
Ipe / tropical hardwood	\$65	\$58.50 - \$74.75	\$11,232 - \$14,352	

Regional labour rates move these numbers by roughly ±20%; ground-level decks come in lower and decks 8 ft or more above grade higher. Price your own ZIP code on smartdeckingcalculator.com.

3. Sketch the layout

1 square = ____ ft. Mark the house wall, doors, windows, stairs, posts, hot tub or grill area, and which way the boards run.

4. Compare quotes

Builder	Total	\$/sq ft	Material	Permit incl.?	Start	Warranty

\$/sq ft = total ÷ deck area. Ask each builder to price the same size, material, railing and stairs, and to say who pulls the permit and books inspections.