
GLUING NATURALLY DURABLE HARDWOODS

Naturally durable hardwoods like Ipe are difficult to glue. Marine grade epoxy and polyurethane, PVA type III, and 2-part resorcinol glues have been used with some success in non-structural applications.

When gluing naturally durable hardwoods like Ipe, the wood should be dry and wiped down with a solvent like alcohol or acetone to remove surface oils and lapachol powder that could prevent the glue from adhering.

Possible glue options include,

- Epoxy Types: typically follow the instructions for teak. "WEST SYSTEM" EPOXY- www.westsystem.com or 866-937-8797 "G-2" EPOXY- www.indform.com or 888-277-8053
- Polyurethane Types: similar to "Gorilla Glue."
- PVA Type III; similar to "Titebond III."

Wood is an organic material, not manufactured, with variations from board to board that may impact adhesion. When gluing naturally durable hardwoods like Ipe, it is incumbent on the architect/engineer/designer to evaluate the potential impact of the acclimation process on glue connections and the appearance of the completed application.

Before using any glue in a complete application, it is recommended that samples from different boards be made and tested. Always consult and follow the manufacturer's recommendations when using proprietary products.