

Dr.Decks Marks 35 Years and 1,000 Custom Deck Projects

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The family-owned contractor reaches the milestone on a foundation of board-bent curved decks and integrated deck automation.

Dr.Decks, a family-owned custom deck builder founded and owned by Jason Russell, has reached 35 years in business and more than 1,000 completed deck projects across the South Sound region. The company marks the milestone while continuing to specialize in board-bent curved decks and integrated deck automation, techniques that few contractors in the Pacific Northwest offer.

Founded in 1991, Dr.Decks operates from 4440 S 49th St in Tacoma and serves homeowners across Tacoma, the broader South Sound, and the corridor north toward Seattle. Russell serves as design lead and build lead on each project and is the named holder of the company's workmanship warranty.

The work that distinguishes the company is deck board bending, a specialty technique that allows composite and PVC boards to follow curves rather than ending at straight edges. Dr.Decks uses the process to build sweeping perimeter curves, circular sections, custom-shape inlays, and picture-frame borders, details more often associated with architecture than with standard deck construction. The same approach carries across the company's range, which includes multi-level, freestanding, rooftop, pool and spa, cantilevered, and raised decks, along with wheelchair ramps, deck rebuilds, and new-deck construction.

"Bending a board by hand to follow the curve of a home is what has set the work apart from the start, and reaching 35 years of it is a milestone for the whole team," said Jason Russell, owner of Dr.Decks.

Each project begins with a design consultation, 2D floorplans, and 3D deck models, with 3D-printed models available on request, so a homeowner can review the layout, scale, and materials before construction begins. Dr.Decks handles permit acquisition through Pierce County or the City of Tacoma, foundation work, and deck

framing completed by certified installers.

Deck automation is a second area in which the company has built its reputation, and it remains one of the few contractors in the region to offer the work as a standing service. The category includes four custom-engineered features the company builds repeatedly, known as the Phantom Staircase, the Phantom Deck Chair, the Phantom BBQ, and integrated in-deck seating and entertainment, each with motors and mechanisms built into the deck structure rather than added afterward. The same in-house team handles lighting automation, landscape lighting, post-cap and rail lights, step lights, and the associated wiring, working with lighting from In-Lite and TimberTech.

Across its projects, Dr.Decks works with a full range of materials, from pressure-treated wood, cedar, and redwood to exotic hardwoods such as Ipe, Tigerwood, and Cumaru, along with composite and PVC. TimberTech by Azek is the primary composite specified, supported by the company's TimberTech Platinum installer status. Framing is engineered for the load using wood, aluminum, composite, and pressure-treated LVL, with footings set on helical piers, diamond piers, or concrete according to the site. The company also builds the structures around a deck, including pergolas, gazebos, cabanas, patios, privacy screens, outdoor kitchens, and fire features.

Dr.Decks holds TimberTech Platinum status, Certified Deckorators standing, and membership in the North American Deck and Railing Association. The company is licensed and bonded, and its work carries a one-year workmanship warranty that can be extended to five years, while TimberTech material warranties run up to 50 years depending on the board line specified. Design consultations, 2D floorplans, and 3D models are part of the planning process, and estimates are provided at no cost.

Dr.Decks is a family-owned deck and outdoor living contractor based in Tacoma, Washington, founded and owned by Jason Russell. The company specializes in custom and curved deck construction, deck board bending, and deck automation, and serves Tacoma, the South Sound, and the greater Puget Sound region.

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