



Wood Plastic Composite (WPC) Decking / Cladding Maintenance Guidelines

Our composite decking comes with the reassurance of continual performance year-on-year, however we know that with a little care and attention once in a while, our boards can continue to look their sparkling best. This section will give you some handy tips on how to care for your decking.

Because of its aesthetic appeal and resiliency, composite wood has enjoyed its reputation as a popular decking material. As an additional feature, it requires minimal maintenance compared to other similar products in the market.

Like other wood varieties, composite decking is quite absorbent. Meaning to say, composite decks are prone to a wide range of outdoor elements like mold and mildew, black spots, sap, grease, oil, food spills, pet strains, hard water, grass stains, ground-in dirt and rust stains. When cleaning, it is best to use oxygenated cleaner that will penetrate deep into the material to clean both its inner and outer surface.

Regular maintenance of your terrace or swimming pool deck throughout the year will help preserve it and ensure its long life. A clean deck is one on which no-one will slip or fall.

As a caution, never use chlorine-based deck cleaner because it has corrosive property that will eventually result to the damage and discoloration of your deck boards. In addition, it is also not safe to use such materials specially if the surface is near to plants and within the areas frequently used by children or pets when playing. Always remember, if a cleaning product contains Sodium Hypochlorite, it contains bleach.

To preserve the beauty of the surface of the composite deck, you may sweep it or use a leaf blower to get rid of dirt and debris at least twice a week. For routine cleaning at least twice a year, follow the succeeding directions.

ROUTINE CLEANING

We strongly recommend a regular cleaning of your decking every three to six months to clear away accumulated dirt, mud, stains and soil over the course of time.

- For a general clean- we recommend for you to use warm-soapy water on the surface of the boards. You may also use soft-bristled brush.
- For a deeper clean- you may choose to utilize a jet wash with a PSI not greater than 3100 in clearing surface debris from your deck. Using the fan attachment, ensure that it is not applied any closer than 250mm away from the surface of the board. By following these tips, you can surely preserve the long-term finish of the deck boards.

Whichever cleaning options you prefer, make sure to clean along the lengths of the boards to avoid accumulation of materials that can interfere with the drainage system.

WATER STAINING

We assure you that great care is exercised by our highly skilled workers in manufacturing our product. However, residual oils can remain present in it. Sometimes, it becomes visible in the form of white streaks in the surface of the deck boards. Although these stains will gradually disappear within the period of six to eight weeks when the boards are exposed to rainwater, you may follow the following simple steps just in case you want to speed up the process of removing such stains:

- Use warm-soapy water to completely clean the surface. You may also opt to use a jet wash on the affected area to make the process of removing the stains easier;
- To make the process faster, you may also sue a composite decking brightener because this solution is specifically made to remove residual oil present on the decking surface.

SURFACE MILDEW AND MOULD GROWTH

Our composite deck boards are highly resistant to the damaging effects of mould and mildew but still, these types of growth can typically occur to almost all outdoor surface. This in turn can result to the accumulation of stains on the board over time. As such, we strongly recommend that you follow the simple steps given above when doing your routine cleaning to help in avoiding excessive build-up of mould and mildews.

BLACK STAINS CAUSED BY DAMPNESS, FALLEN LEAVES, OR DECOMPOSING MATERIAL:

Use a conventional cleaning product containing non-bleach detergent. Always try to remove stains before they become engrained. Use a floor cloth to rub the stain in a backward and forward movement, and along the grain of the board (i.e. longitudinally). For stubborn stains, use a stiff brush.

Rinse thoroughly afterwards with plenty of water. Rust and dirt: Any stain remover containing phosphoric acid can be used to remove traces of rust or dirt. For stubborn stains, try a rust remover. Use this kind of product with care, however. If necessary, use rough grain sand wrapped around a wooden block and sand delicately, without applying pressure, and in a longitudinal direction. Rinse abundantly with water afterwards.

- After sanding, there maybe slight discoloration, but it will fade in time Oil, coffee or food stains cleaners containing lemon are effective for oil, coffee and food stains. Apply the cleaner (including acetone or alcohol type cleaners) as quickly as possible before the stain becomes engrained. If the stain persists, use a rough grain sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood to remove it, sanding delicately and without applying pressure, in a longitudinal direction along the boards (see photos 10 and 11). Rinse abundantly with water straight afterwards.

BLOODSTAINS, OR OTHER STAINS OF ORGANIC ORIGIN:

Use iced water and wash the stains several times. If necessary, use a lemon based cleaner to clean away any residue. Red wine stains: use soda water and allow to act for a few minutes. Do not allow the stain to dry out. Rinse thoroughly with water. Repeat this operation several times if necessary. Water marks in dry weather, pinkish stains may appear on your deck, especially if the

installation instructions have not been adhered to, so that water does not run off, or if the deck is badly ventilated. To remove these stains, use a pressure hose with soapy water and dry the boards immediately afterwards using a rubber-edged 'squeegee' type of implement. Scratches or burns use a rough grain sandpaper wrapped around a small block of wood and sand delicately, without applying pressure, and in a longitudinal direction along the boards. Rinse thoroughly with water and a floor cloth.

- After sanding, there may be slight discoloration, but it will fade in time

SERIOUS SCRATCHES OR OTHER DAMAGE AFTER A FEW YEARS

Your WPC deck can be given a general overhaul. Thoroughly clean the deck with lots of water.

The surface should be free of dirt or any extraneous objects before sanding it with a suitable band sander and a rough grain sandpaper (24) sanding just once and in the longitudinal direction, and without applying pressure

- Avoid using circular movements, as the area sanded in this way will have a slightly different appearance from the surrounding boards, depending on the type of sanding applied.