

Care and cleaning of decodeck®:

All outdoor building materials require cleaning. Periodic cleaning of your decodeck® will maintain the beauty of your deck.

For periodic cleaning a gentle soap solution in hot water can be used.

Cleaning or rinsing with a pressure washer may be performed. The pressure of the water should not exceed 80 bar. Always follow the grain during cleaning and don't use a dirt blaster but a fanshaped beam. Also maintain sufficient distance from the deck in order not to damage the surface.

The best way to clean the decodeck® boards is to clean with a conventional deck washer and to rinse the deck surface afterwards with a pressure washer.

Deal with stains quickly. Don't allow them to penetrate the deck's surface by drying out.

The table on the following pages gives a solution to specific stains on your deck :

Some advice:

- Deal with stains and dirt quickly for best results.
- We recommend to try out every new cleaning agent on a non-visible area of the deck, to see results, before applying it on the complete deck.
- Before using a cleaning agent, read carefully the safety prescriptions.

Painting or oiling:

Although the decodeck® boards do not require painting, oiling or sealing for protection, it is possible to paint or stain decodeck® to achieve a custom color. decodeck® first needs to weather out (app. 3 months) before painting or staining and can even be painted years after it has been installed.

Prior to painting, the surface of the deck needs to be clean and dry. Testing on a small area or on a spare board is advised, prior to applying to the whole deck surface.

Paints that are used for wood products usually work well with decodeck® boards, however a special paint for walking surfaces is advised.

Please note that once decodeck® is painted or oiled, regular maintenance and repainting/oiling will be required to maintain the effect.

Also note that treating your decodeck® with paint or oil can make it more slippery.

| Problem | Solution |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Rust stains/ground-in dirt and grime | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a cleaning product that contains phosphoric acid to remove the stains. |
| Grease and oil stains | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean the oil stain immediately with a household degreasing agent and rinse with hot water. If the stain has penetrated the surface, scrub the area in the direction of the grain with sandpaper. The scrubbed area will regain its original colour after weathering off, to match the colour of the deck again. |
| Water circles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accumulation of water because of insufficient slope in the deck or due to irregularities in the support of the deck, can cause water circles on the deck. A light slope in the deck and sufficient gapping is required for good drainage, to avoid any accumulation of water. The gaps between the decodeck boards have to be cleaned periodically for a good drainage. Cleaning the gaps can easily be done with a flat tool (knife, screwdriver,...). |
| Mould and mildew | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mould and mildew can grow on every surface, if there's insufficient ventilation or drainage. Mould or mildew can easily be removed with conventional deck cleaning agents or cleaning agents containing sodium hypochlorite (like light bleach products). Periodic cleaning of your deck, even if it appears clean, is important to prevent mould or mildew. |
| Ice and snow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rock salt can be used on decodeck® to melt snow and ice. Rinse or shovel off the decodeck® from salt residues as it starts to melt or loosen up. |
| Berries and wine stains | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mix a light bleach product into hot water according to package label. Scrub the stain lightly and thoroughly. |
| Wood tannins/Color fading | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tannin leach occurs in all wood-based products as well in decodeck®. Allow for a period of time (app. 12 weeks) to let your decodeck® weather out. |
| Burn marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burn marks are very difficult/ sometimes impossible to remove, like with all wood based products. Put a grill mat under the BBQ to prevent burn marks. If the burn mark is not too deep, use a medium-grain sandpaper and sand lightly in the direction of the grooves. |
| Nicks and scratches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To eliminate nicks and scratches use a medium-grain sandpaper and sand lightly in the direction of the grooves. Allow for a period of time (app. 12 weeks) to let your decodeck® weather out, to match the other boards again. |