





# **WPS Decking Maintenance Guide**



## **Routine Cleaning**

Cleaning your decking regularly helps to prevent dirt and debris from building up. We recommend regular cleaning every 3 to 6 months to keep your boards looking fresh.

Firstly using a bristle brush, remove any loose surface debris to minimise the risk of damaging your deck boards during cleaning. Once the deck is clear, using soapy water and a non-metallic brush, scrub your deck boards in the direction of the woodgrain and rinse afterwards using clean water.

Pressure Washers can also be used to assist with the regular cleaning/rinsing of your deck and we recommend a maximum pressure of 3100 PSI and a minimum distance of 300mm is maintained between the nozzle and surface of the deck boards.

### **Stubborn Spot Stains**

Once set, a stain involving: oil, grease or food can become stubborn to remove. We recommend cleaning your boards as soon as possible after noticing the stain using warm soapy water and a non-metallic scrubbing brush before rinsing with clean water.

For those stains which have started to set and scrubbing with warm soapy water has been ineffective then you can try using commercially available composite decking cleaners but we recommend that you use with caution and test on an inconspicuous area of your decking first to ensure no reaction takes place.

Additionally, our ECOBOARD products can be lightly sanded to lift away remnants, boards will temporarily appear lighter from the sanding however the colour will gradually balance over time. Please note, as "capped" products, our PROCAP and LUXECAP are more resistant to permanent staining compared to ECOBOARD and must not be sanded to avoid breaking through the outer CAP.





#### **Water Staining**

Over time, residual oils can sometimes leach out of uncapped composite deck boards and appear as white spots or streaks. These gradually disappear over 1-2 months with cumulative exposure to rainwater and can be addressed much earlier by simply following our regular cleaning instructions.

Additionally, composite decking cleaners can be used to assist with the cleaning.

Our PROCAP and LUXECAP deck boards are sealed with their protective cap which can prevent internal residual oils from leaching out onto the board surface.

Organic matter trapped between the gaps in your decking can start to breakdown and cause tannins to form on the surface of your decking if water is allowed to pool beneath it, therefore it is best to remove trapped organic matter regularly using a hose, soft broom or jet wash to minimise the risk of occurrence

#### **Clearing Ice and Snow**

During the colder months, it is important to keep any regularly used walking surface clear of ice and snow to address any potential risk of slipping and improve overall safety.

We recommend using a plastic shovel to clear snow or loose ice ensuring that you remove in the direction that the boards have been laid. Care should be taken to avoid impact or force to break up more solid ice formations as it increases the risk of irreparable damage to your deck boards.

To remove existing ice formations, we recommend using non-corrosive and salt-free ice melt granules but if Rock Salt needs to be used then we recommend this is cleared away as soon as possible to avoid potential damage to the surface of your deck boards.



#### **Surface Mildew & Mould Growth**

Mould and Mildew occur periodically in everyday environments and can appear on the surface of any decaying organic debris which has accumulated on top of your deck boards such as wood, leaf decay and pollen.

As the risk cannot be eliminated entirely we recommend regular cleaning and removal of decaying organic materials as soon as possible using warm soapy water and a non-metallic scrubbing brush.

