

Natural Weathering VS. **Finishing Decking**

Choosing between allowing your naturally durable hardwood decking to weather or applying a finish is both an aesthetic and maintenance-related decision.



Initial Recommendation

Apply one coat of a penetrating oil-based finish on all sides of the wood prior to installation. This helps slow down the wood's acclimation process.

Natural Weathering

If no further finish is applied, UV exposure will gradually break down the oil, and the wood will turn a silver-grey color over time. In this case, maintenance is limited to occasional cleaning to remove dirt and mildew.

Mold and Dirt

It is important to note that mold can grow on any surface, even glass. Dirt and pollen provide nutrients for mold spores to develop and spread.

Maintaining Natural Colour

To preserve the natural colour of **TIMBRA Tech®** decking, regular applications of Deck Marine Oil are necessary. The recommended process is:

- ✎ 1. Clean the surface with a suitable Deck Cleaner;
- ✎ 2. For rinsing, it's a good idea to use a garden hose with a spray nozzle in a soft shower setting; test it on a small area beforehand. A strong jet of water can damage the wood material and result in an uneven appearance.
- ✎ 3. Allow the deck to dry thoroughly;
- ✎ 4. Apply a thin coat of UV or Deck Marine Oil using a wipe-on/wipe-off method, ideally every spring and fall.

Restoring Weathered Decks

Thermally modified wood can be washed with a wood cleaner and warm water. Before applying wood cleaner, thoroughly clean the boards with a brush to remove all dirt and debris.

Proper Oil Application

Less is more. Always wipe off any excess oil, similar to polishing furniture. Excess product will remain sticky, attract dust and pollen, and encourage mold growth. Overapplication does not extend the life of the finish.

Finish Type Consideration

While water-based finishes are available, penetrating oil finishes are generally preferred. Note: water-based finishes can be applied over oil, but oil cannot be applied over a water-based finish.

Final Consideration

Ultimately, the decision is mostly aesthetic. Only natural wood decking allows you the flexibility to choose either finish or natural weathering at any point during its lifespan.

Important

Always follow the specific guidelines and recommendations provided by the manufacturers of the cleaning and finishing products used.