

What will affect the finish of **Decking and Siding**

Key Factors affecting the longevity of a finish on exterior TIMBRA Tech® PRODUCTS.

The performance and durability of coatings on TIMBRA Tech® decking and siding depend on several environmental, material, and installation factors. To accurately assess the expected longevity of a finish, consider the following variables:

1.

Coating Type

- ✦ Not all coatings perform equally across different applications.
- ✦ Penetrating oil-based finishes behave differently than film-forming or water-based finishes.
- ✦ UV inhibitors can extend the life of the finish, particularly in high-exposure areas.

2.

Wood Species

- ✦ Each wood type has unique density, porosity, and extractive content, affecting coating absorption and retention.

- ✦ Thermally modified woods, like **TIMBRA Tech®** products, may respond differently compared to untreated hardwoods or softwoods.effective air circulation.

3.

Environmental Conditions

- ✦ **Climate Zone:** Marine, desert, forest, or inland climates will impact moisture levels, UV intensity, and general wear.
- ✦ **Humidity & Rainfall:** Higher moisture exposure can accelerate degradation of coatings, especially on horizontal surfaces.
- ✦ **Salt Air (coastal areas):** Accelerates weathering and may demand more frequent maintenance.

4.

Installation Orientation

- ✦ **Horizontal Installations (e.g., decks, railings):** Subject to direct sun, rain, snow, and foot traffic—requiring more frequent maintenance.
- ✦ **Vertical Installations (e.g., siding, fences, posts):** Typically experience less wear and longer-lasting finishes. Horizontal Installations (e.g., decks, railings): Subject to direct sun, rain, snow, and foot traffic—requiring more frequent maintenance.

5.

Usage and Foot Traffic

Residential Decks:

- ✦ Consider type and volume of use—children, pets, furniture movement, parties, etc.

Commercial/Public Use:

- ✦ Skateboards, bicycles, wheeled carts, or even light vehicle traffic increase wear.
- ✦ For public walkways, docks, or boardwalks: Apply at least one coat of UV inhibitor, then allow to weather naturally to a low-maintenance silver-grey patina if desired.

6.

Sun Exposure

- ✦ **UV Radiation:** The leading cause of finish degradation. The more direct the exposure, the faster the fading.
- ✦ **Shade Factors:** Buildings, trees, or other structures may partially shield surfaces, reducing UV intensity.
- ✦ **Orientation Matters:**
 - ✦ Southern Exposure: Most intense, with sustained overhead sun.
 - ✦ Western Exposure: Second most intense, with harsh afternoon sun.
 - ✦ Northern and Eastern exposures: typically experience slower weathering.

7.

Seasonal and Daily Sun Patterns

- ✦ UV intensity varies not only between summer and winter but also by time of day.
- ✦ Monitor the deck or siding's exposure across seasons for a full picture of solar impact.

Summary

To maximize finish longevity:

- ↘ Choose appropriate coatings for your wood and environment.
- ↘ Factor in orientation and sun exposure.
- ↘ Adjust maintenance frequency based on use and environmental wear.

Important Note

Always follow manufacturer instructions for both wood and coating products. Test small areas before full application to ensure compatibility and desired aesthetic.