

Technical Tips and Tricks



Wooden Decking

Wooden decking is available in various types of surfaces. A distinction is made between grooved, rippled and smooth surfaces.

In order to ensure optimal impregnation results, newly laid wooden decking should be allowed to weather for 4 to 12 weeks before treating. Another alternative would be to clean the deck thoroughly with LOBA® ParkettSoap prior to the initial treatment.

Before the surface can be treated, the wood must be clean, dry and frost-free, the outdoor temperature at least 10°C and the wood moisture content no more than 20%.

When wooden decking is exposed to weathering or UV rays without surface protection, so-called “greying” occurs.

This natural greying is caused by the effects of sunlight: lignin and other wood components that give wood its colour are degraded by UV light and then leached out by rainwater. The exposed cellulose fibres, in combination with dirt deposits, shimmer silvery grey.

The extent of greying varies among the different types of wood; however, the greying process can be reduced by treating the wood with pigmented wood oils.

After a short amount of time, untreated wooden decks become dirty, and moss begins to grow. The addition of moisture makes these decks slippery, posing a safety hazard.

Two methods are recommended for refurbishing dirty or greyed decking.

The first method involves a deep cleaning with LOBA® ParkettSoap, using a floor machine with a green pad. In order to achieve the best impregnation results following the cleaning, the wood must be allowed to dry overnight. The cleaned wood is then treated with LOBA®Deck & Teak Oil. If the wood is treated before it has dried sufficiently, the moisture will push the oil out of the wood pores. This could cause irregular patches of matt/glossy finish and accelerated greying.

The second method involves cleaning the deck with a special deck-cleaning machine.

The Terrassenmeister cleans dirty wooden decks and other outdoor surfaces without the use of water. With its special brush rollers, this machine cleans and sands flooring in a single operation. Layers of greyed wood are gently removed, restoring the wood to its original colour.

With the Terrassenmeister wood decking can be treated with LOBA® Deck & Teak Oil immediately after cleaning. No overnight drying is required.

In order to reduce the shrinking and swelling processes caused by seasonal weather changes, it is recommended that the wood be treated with a water-repellent finish. LOBA® Deck & Teak Oil significantly reduces moisture absorption in wood, preventing the leaching of lignin and other wood components. This means both protection and maintenance for an improved surface appearance.

For more information about the refurbishment or treatment of wood decking, please use the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses provided below.