

Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions

Lifecycle by UPM ProFi is a wood composite decking that has the luxurious look and feel of a real hardwood deck. Unlike other composite or timber decking, UPM ProFi products have unique stain resistant surfaces that offer greater resistance to spills and stains.

However, as with any outdoor flooring surface, periodic cleaning and correct care will ensure the deck retains its beauty for many years.

Recommendations for specific cleaning issues

You can use a pressure washer to clean your deck. Do not use one with greater than 90 bar and a thin tip blade, and do not apply closer than 25 cm from the deck surface. Doing so may cause damage to the surface of the deck.

Dirt and Debris

Keep your deck clean by sweeping to remove dirt and debris. If necessary, mild soap and warm water can be used with a scrubbing brush to gently remove stubborn spots.

Water/Tannin spots

As with all products containing wood, tannin stains can occur. Lifecycle by UPM ProFi should be allowed to weather naturally for about 12 weeks before these stains are addressed. These stains are the result of a reaction between the hardwood fibre, moisture and iron salts. Iron salts can come from many sources – wood, nails and fasteners, metal banding, patio furniture, even saw blades and tools used during construction. These stains will naturally fade over time or they can be removed with a deck cleaner containing oxalic acid (commonly known as wood brighteners). Using a deck cleaner containing oxalic acid may lighten your deck. Follow manufacturer instructions.

Oil and Grease Stains

Household degreasing agents should be used to remove the stain as soon as possible when they occur. Be sure to thoroughly rinse the detergent off the deck with hot water.





Mold

Since mold is naturally occurring in the environment, we cannot guarantee it will not grow on your deck. Deck cleaner containing hypochlorite (bleach) and detergent can be used to remove mold stains. Periodic cleaning and proper ventilation around structure of deck help to prevent mold growth.

Scratches or surface abrasions

Lifecycle by UPM ProFi has a hardwearing surface, however superficial marks and scratches may be caused if furniture or other heavy objects are dragged over the deck. Markings of this type on your deck should fade within 12-16 weeks. Using a deck cleaner containing hypochlorite can speed this process up when natural weathering occurs.

Chalk lines

We recommend using a blue or white chalk line when installing your deck. Do not use red chalk. Scrub the affected area with soap and hot water to help remove the stain. For stubborn stains, bleach can be added to the cleaning solution to achieve the desired result.

Removing ice or snow

De-icing salt can be used to remove ice from Lifecycle by UPM ProFi. Please use only plastic snow shovels on the deck. Do not use metal shovels.

Rust stains/stubborn spots

Lower-quality steel fasteners or electroplated screws are not recommended and can stain your deck. On newly installed decks, runoff from metal objects, such as lawn furniture or decorative iron railings can create some temporary staining. These rust stains can be easily removed with the use of a deck cleaner containing oxalic acid. In order to achieve desired results, the cleaner may need to sit on the stain for up to 15 minutes prior to rinsing.

Follow all package directions for proper usage of cleaners, safety precautions and disposal. In some cases more stubborn stains will require reapplying cleaners until the desired level of cleanliness is achieved. At times, brushing the deck with a hard bristle brush may be necessary to remove any stubborn staining. Remember to always test chosen cleaners in a small inconspicuous area of your deck for approved results. Never mix any other cleaners (ammonia, phosphoric acid, etc.) with bleach.

For additional cleaning solutions, please contact your distributor's representative.

