

MAINTENANCE SHEET

All our technical documentation is available and **downloadable from our website www.terrasse-premium.com**

Maintaining Terrasse Premium decking and fencing boards

Terrasse Premium composite wood boards do not require any special protection (no treatment product). Regular cleaning is required to keep the boards in good general condition.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE RULES

When?

Your decking must be washed **once a year**, ideally in the spring. Fencing panels should be cleaned **twice** a year.

How?

Use a scrubbing brush - always brush boards **lengthwise** and wash with **water with a diluted mild detergent (washing-up liquid)**- Clean the spaces between decking boards using a metal blade to ensure proper water run off.

Additional instructions for new boards

Composite wood boards undergo changes in colour during the first few months after installation (see box below). During this period, yellow stains and damp rings may appear on the boards. These marks are perfectly normal and will disappear with exposure to UV and the rain. Once this transition period has passed, the colour of the boards will be near to the original colour and long-lasting.

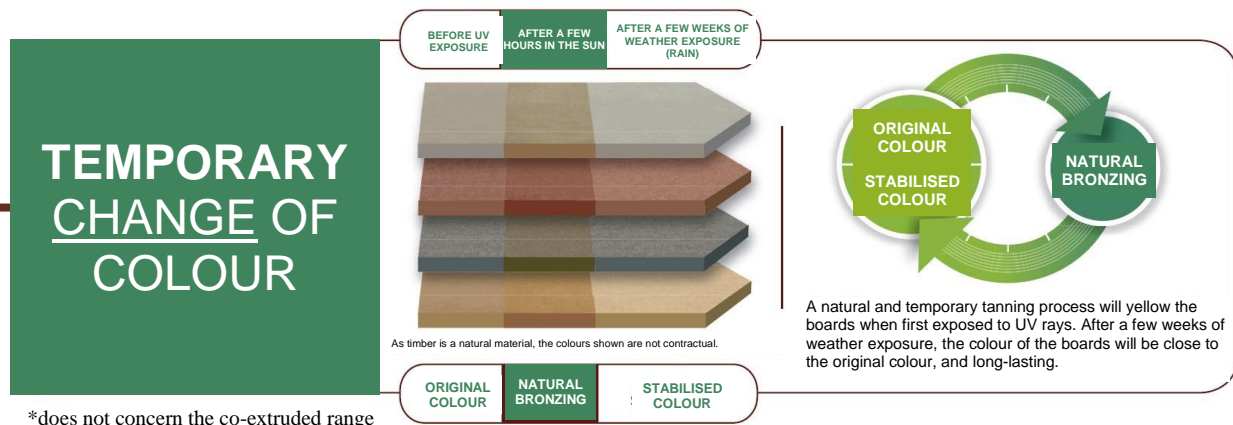
Although these stains and damp rings disappear naturally, you can, if you wish, remove them with a **water jet** and a **scrubbing brush**, brushing the boards lengthwise.

For fencing installed on dwarf walls: yellowy steaks may appear on the wall supporting the fencing during this transition phase. These colours disappear in most cases by exposure to the weather. The dwarf wall can be regularly watered in order to accelerate the process.

How does this transition phase occur?

The changes in the boards' colour are the result of a natural reaction of the wood to UV rays and weather exposure. UV rays cause the boards to yellow, and the rain naturally cleans this yellowing away. Uniform exposure to UV rays allows this phenomenon to last **4 to 5 weeks for decking boards** and **10 to 12 weeks for fencing boards**, which are exposed vertically. It should be noted that this transition phase can last longer if the boards are installed in sheltered or semi-protected areas (concealed by vegetation, sheltered areas, etc.), which, consequently, we strongly advise against.

If the installation of the decking or fencing takes place over a period of a few days, it is normal that a colour difference may be noticed between the first boards installed and the last ones. This difference will naturally fade away after uniform exposure of the products to UV rays.



Removing specific stains and scratches

Type of fault	Duration of the phenomenon	Cause	Action(s) to take
Grease stains	These stains may fade or even disappear with time.	Mainly food stains: Barbecue, oil, ice cream, etc.	To completely remove a grease stain, we advise you to take action immediately after it appears: - Sprinkle " terre de Sommières " on the stain and leave it to act for approx. 12h. Repeat if necessary. - For stubborn stains, use a solvent-based wood composite stain remover and apply it on top of the "terre de Sommières" for approx. 12h . This treatment may slightly lighten the board, but the colour will recover its homogeneity with time.
Stubborn dirt stains, black streaks on fencing	Long-lasting if no action is taken	Caused by atmospheric pollution, the dirt is deposited on the surface.	To remove this type of stain, mechanical action is required <u>Equipment</u> : sponge with scourer or scrubbing brush <u>Method</u> : always brush along the length of the boards. Cleaning products labelled "composite wood" are available on the market and are of variable quality. If these are used, we therefore recommend that you always carry out a test beforehand on a small area of the board to confirm the compatibility and efficacy of these products on our material. For this type of staining, it is best to use products based on oxalic acid.
Scratches	Permanent	Gravel, sharp objects, etc.	As the material of the Terrasse Premium boards is homogeneous throughout its thickness, the surface can be sanded to remove the scratch. The sanded area will be slightly lighter after sanding, but this colour difference will disappear after UV/weather exposure. Note this method is suitable for all our products except boards with an embossed finish (sanding removes the pattern on the surface), Carbon board (surface layer is darker than the core) and co-extruded board (special surface coating not suitable for sanding).
Moss/lichen	Long-lasting if no action is taken	Insufficient board maintenance, environment highly favourable for moss development	Apply a non-rinse moss killer, which is free from bleach (sodium hypochlorite). Test on a small area beforehand

Carbon fencing board

For what application?

Carbon fencing board has a strong surface colour.

Maintenance recommendations

As with all our fencing boards, this board should be cleaned twice a year, with a brush or mop and a **diluted mild detergent (washing-up liquid)**. N.B.: do not use high pressure cleaners or abrasive utensils for cleaning (abrasive sponges, say) even if the utensil claims that is not abrasive. As the outside layer of the board is more strongly coloured that its removal (of the scratch) may show the core as lighter.

Co-extruded board

For what application?

Co-extruded board has been specifically developed for decking subject to intensive use with a particularly high risk of food marks. Its coating guarantees that the board is effectively and durably protected against marks.

Maintenance recommendations

Co-extruded boards must be cleaned once a year using a scrubbing brush, a water jet and a diluted mild detergent (washing-up liquid). We strongly recommend using hot water. We strongly advise against using a high-pressure jet (e.g. Kärcher) as this may alter the surface of the boards, depending on the conditions of use.

THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER DO

- **Do not use Terrasse Premium products indoors or in sheltered areas:** So that the colour transition can take place, we recommend that you do not use our products indoors, or in areas sheltered from UV rays and the weather. Good weather exposure is required to make cleaning easier. For semi-sheltered projects, we strongly recommend that you consider our co-extruded range.
- **Do not use a high-pressure cleaner that is too powerful**
- **Do not use solvent**
- **Do not apply wood staining oil, paint or a protective product/reviver/renovator to the surface of the boards**