



## Care and Cleaning for Capped Composite Decking

**Keeping your deck clean** – All external building materials require some type of care and maintenance. You will never need to oil or paint your new Composite decking boards, but we do recommend that you clean your new Modern Deck when required with hot soapy water and a soft bristle brush in the direction of the grain. The ideal time to do this is immediately after installation to remove foreign marks and stains left from the installation process and then when required throughout the year. A good clean 3-4 times a year is recommended. When using a pressure washer make sure its at no greater than 1800psi and you use a fan attachment only 30cm from the surface.

**Mildew and Mould** – Mould will build up on any surface and standing water with warm conditions allows this to happen. Although mould will not damage your deck it is important to remove it immediately after it appears. The best way to clean mildew and mould from you deck is to simply use hot soapy water with a soft bristle brush.

**Dirt and Debris** – Dirt and debris should be washed off regularly with a hose. If you leave this on the surface of the deck for long periods of time it will require more effort during the cleaning process.

**Tannins** – Tannin stains are caused from organic materials falling or being washed onto the deck from gardens, trees and gutters. Again, it is important to clean you deck to avoid unsightly stains on your beautiful deck. If you have tannin stains on the surface of the deck that will not wash off with hot soapy water and a brush, you can use an approved “deck brightener” that will remove stubborn stains.

**Oil/Grease/Food** – You must take care to avoid spilling oil and grease on the deck, although its unlikely to do any damage it is important to clean any such spills from the surface of the deck promptly. In most cases this can be done with paper towel but if its left long enough you will have to use hot soapy water with a brush. It’s a good idea to have a spill mat under your **BBQ** to catch any spills.

**Scratches** – Modern Deck has a superior HDPE (high density polyethylene) shell but like any other type of material it can be scratched or damaged if care is not taken. Please make sure that items like outdoor furniture, flowerpots, BBQ’s and other items that might be dragged across the deck have protective pads under them to avoid unnecessary damage. If you do scratch a board, you can try using a wire brush and moving it in the same direction at the grain. Remember in most cases you can prevent this happening by ensuring you have protection pads under all objects that are on the deck.

**Do Not** – use bleach, acetone, sugar soap etc to clean the deck. Only use mild detergents, do not leave debris on the deck like leaves and branches etc should be swept of the deck regularly and do not use metal shovels to remove snow and ice.