

ACCOYA® DECK CLEANING

Accoya is the world's leading high technology wood. It is produced from sustainably sourced, fast growing softwood using a non-toxic modification process from the surface to the core. The result is a durable, stable and beautiful material with the performance characteristics of the most durable tropical hardwoods but with industry-leading environmental credentials.

A new world of sustainable and low maintenance products including windows, doors, decking and cladding is available using Accoya. The exceptional durability provides for a minimum 50 year above ground and 25 year in-ground life.

These characteristics make Accoya an excellent choice for building extremely well performing and long lasting decks.

D 0715 - these guidelines have been written for professionals wishing to use Accoya to create beautiful, reliable and highly durable end products. Should you require further information or have any comments about this document, please contact Accsys through accoya.com.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Fully weathered, horizontal applications are subject to higher levels of moisture, UV, temperature and pollution accumulation. Horizontal surfaces - as decks and outdoor furniture - undergo wear and tear in their normal use and need to be cleaned. If coated the deck requires special attention to select the most appropriate coating system and maintenance guidelines provided by the coating manufacturers should be followed.

If left uncoated, surface mould development can be reduced or delayed by decreasing the level of moisture the wood is subject to or by application of a solution with an appropriate mouldicidal efficacy (e.g. biocidal clear primer).

CLEANING

Especially exterior horizontal surfaces will form a biofilm that will hold water and reduce the speed of drying of the board, and a large build-up of such a layer should be prevented. Without the use of preventive measures, regular cleaning will be needed to control the build-up of such a biofilm.

In normal situations a wooden deck should be cleaned once a year, preferably in spring. More frequent cleaning may be necessary in case permanently shaded areas can't be avoided, e.g. on the north side of a house or in the immediate vicinity of bushes, big trees or forests. Flowerpots and plant troughs should always be lifted from the ground, for example, by strips, spacers or coasters.

Polluted surfaces can be cleaned with a stiff brush and clear water; planed surfaces are easier to clean than sawn surfaces. Pressure washers can be used but only with a suitable control device as a direct high pressure water spray can damage all wood - including Accoya wood. If using a pressure washer it should be carried out with some experience and due care. Cleaning coated surfaces with a pressure washer should be avoided.

