

Mold, Mildew, and Stains on Wood Decking and Cladding

Mold growth can occur on all building materials. Mold is a by-product of heat and water combined with organic materials like dirt and dust that provide the foundation for mold spores to grow. Black staining can also appear on building materials where the natural tannins contained in leaves leach onto the building material surface.

Mold Or Mildew

It is essential to note that mold typically results from the buildup of organic matter on the deck surface combined with consistent moisture and heat exposure. Mold and mildew can affect virtually all construction materials, including plastics, composites, PVC, metals, and glass. Shaded decks and cladding are more inclined to mold growth than decks and cladding consistently exposed to UV.

Different types of Cleaner Products can be used to clean dirty decks and cladding and may also remove mildew.

Tannic acid stains can be more challenging to remove and may require the use of Wood Brightener products available in your region/country. This product is often used after cleaning to bring the wood surface back to its original color.

It is essential to note that once wood brighteners are used, the deck must be resealed immediately as wood brighteners can activate the natural sugars in the wood, which contribute to mold growth.

Ensure you rinse your deck thoroughly after applying the Deck Cleaner or Wood Brightener.

Regularly clean your wood decking and cladding to prevent the build-up of dirt, debris, and organic matter, which can contribute to mold and mildew growth.

Use extreme caution when handling any of these chemicals and wear protective clothing and glasses. Do not mix these cleaners with ammonia or household cleaners. We recommend tests in small areas on a few different boards before widespread use on the project.

Remember to follow the guidelines and recommendations provided by the wood manufacturer and the specific cleaning product manufacturers. Proper maintenance and regular inspections can help prevent the recurrence of mold, mildew, and stains on your wood decking and cladding.