

# HOW TO PAINT AND MAINTAIN DECKING



## Tools needed for painting/maintaining decking

- Decking brush
- 2" paint brush
- Decking broom
- Wood preserver
- Decking stain
- Wood cleaner

**IMPORTANT:** All Buildland products are designed for domestic landscaping use only. Products are not designed for use on driveways unless stated. Ensure driveway laying guidelines are followed.

## Why should you paint your decking?

Painting your decking will refresh and revive it, while protecting it against the elements, like UV rays which cause wood to grey over time and rain water which creates splits and cracks.

Check the forecast as you should only paint your decking in dry conditions. If it's too cold the paint won't dry and you obviously don't want it to rain for a few hours after you finish. If it's been raining recently, wait for the wood to dry before painting it.

## Which paint should you use?

To prevent rot and decay bare or untreated wood should be pre-treated with an appropriate wood preserver.

Decking oils penetrate the wood to nourish and replace the natural oils lost through weathering. They're ideal for new or newly restored decking as they enhance the natural colour and beauty of the wood.

Decking stains give decking a richer colour than oil finishes, great if you want an opaque look. Stains can be used on new or weathered decks.

## What tools do you need?

Treat your timber using a traditional block brush, plus a 2" paint brush for the hard to reach areas. For fast protection with a great finish, we recommend using a decking broom or applicator.

## Preparing your decking

We recommend the following steps when preparing your decking:

- Cleaning and preparation to remove the effects of weathering are essential when looking after any deck.
- Make sure mill scale is removed from new decking, so wood stain or oil can penetrate effectively into the wood pores. To do this, use a wood cleaner & pressure washer or scrubbing brush.
- Use a suitable cleaner to remove any algae and make sure surfaces are dry and free from dirt.
- If you're using chemicals make sure they're completely removed and washed away before you start to paint.

## Painting your decking

Once your decking - and the weather - is dry you're ready to apply your first coat. Use a decking applicator or brush to spread the stain or oil with the grain of the wood.

Use a brush to make sure you paint the small spaces between the gaps. When the first coat is completely dry you can apply your second coat. For better, longer-lasting results use two to three coats on your deck.