

Maintaining Your Deck

In the past 2 months we've done more deck stripping, cleaning, repairs and staining than all last year. We've noticed that many of our customers were complaining about how the stain is not lasting the full life it states it should on the can. This is very common for us here in Canada, where the weather is constantly changing. Another reason why many decks don't last a full life is because they need a rigorous maintenance routine that many homeowners are unaware of. We thought that we would share the maintenance schedule as a guideline to help keep your deck last longer and stay mold free.

Maintenance Schedule

Step 1 - Spring Cleaning

In April, give your deck a thorough sweeping to remove any loose debris off the surface. After the deck is swept clean, you will need a garden sprayer, deck cleaning agent (we recommend using the *30 Seconds* cleaner from Home Depot), and deck scrub brush. Coat the entire deck in the cleaner and lightly scrub. After scrubbing, rinse the cleaning agent off the deck with your hose. You may need to repeat this process on very dark and soiled spots.



Step 2 - Spring Stain Touch Up

Wait a few days to allow the deck to dry completely. Be sure there is no rain in the forecast before starting to touch up the deck. Touch up any bare wood with the leftover stain from the original job. There may be a slight colour variation from the stain on the deck. This will work for 3 to 5 years before the colour variation becomes very noticeable, creating a spotty look on your deck.

Step 3 - Through The Summer

It doesn't take long for dirt to grind into the wood, so in order to prevent this from happening, continue to sweep your deck off weekly through the summer.

Step 4 - Fall Cleaning

Around the end of October, refer to Spring Cleaning - Step 1 and follow the same instructions.

Tools You Will Need

- 1) Deck scrub brush
- 2) Garden sprayer
- 3) Deck cleaning solution (we recommend 30 Seconds Cleaner)
- 4) Hose
- 5) Sturdy spray nozzle
- 6) 3" Stain brush