

We want you to be able to enjoy the many benefits of a Flexiteek deck long into the future, so we have created this comprehensive care and maintenance guide to help you.

Flexiteek decking has been designed to require minimal maintenance, leaving you more time to enjoy your boating! With this in mind, we have outlined how simple maintenance can help to prolong the life of your beautiful new deck.

If you have any questions regarding the maintenance of your Flexiteek deck, please get in touch with your distributor.

Find your local distributor at: www.flexiteek.com/find-a-distributor/.

THE FIVE STEPS TO A CLEAN DECK

By following these five simple care steps your Flexiteek deck will keep its good looks for longer.

Our five-step care program is designed to provide the appropriate level of cleaning for any situation.



STEP 1: USE CLEAN FRESH WATER

Daily life on your boat will inevitably result in general spillages involving foods such as ketchup and drinks like red wine. We recommend that all spills are cleaned immediately to eliminate the risk of staining.

Here is what to do:

- Use warm water to clean, following the grain rather than wiping the offending stain around in swirls.
- If it's a more stubborn stain, we suggest methylated spirit which is pH-neutral or even baby wipes but would suggest bio-degradable brands only.
- Rinse and wipe up any excess water.

STEP 2: USE A pH-NEUTRAL CLEANER

Sometimes stains and spills can require a little more effort. Especially things like oil, diesel and petrol.

We'd suggest following these simple steps using a pH-neutral cleaning detergent like our recommended Chemworld 'Wash and Care' product, diluted with water and applied to the area with the stubborn stain.

- Leave the diluted pH-neutral detergent to sink into the affected area of Flexiteek for no more than a few minutes. This works well for more difficult spills like fuel or oil.

- This approach will help to 'lift out' the stain.
- Rinse and wipe away any excess water and detergent with a clean cloth.
- In exceptional circumstances Chemworld 'Spot Cleaner' can be used in smaller areas. There are very specific instructions for using this product which **must be followed as it is not pH neutral**.

STEP 3: USE A SCOTCH-BRITE PAD

Scotch-Brite Pads are widely available from good retail stores and online. This everyday cleaning aid can work wonders on more stubborn stains.

Here is how we'd suggest using a Scotch-Brite Pad (Scotch-Brite 96 green general purpose pads) on your Flexiteek deck:

- Use water or a clear pH-neutral cleaner diluted with water.
- Using your Scotch-Brite Pad, scrub along the affected deck area in line with the Flexiteek grain.
- Ensure you are careful when scrubbing along caulking. Do not use a Scotch-Brite Pad on soft caulking areas around the edge of the deck.

STEP 4: USE A PRESSURE WASHER

Pressure washing (also known as Jet Washing) can be a great way to get a deep clean with less of the "scrub". Here are some important considerations before starting.

- Most domestic pressure washers can be used. But we recommend a typical working height of around 20cm. Your pressure washer should be able to provide a pressure of 135 bar.
- Start from the top of the affected area and work along the planks in the direction of the grain for best results.
- Ensure you remove any excess or standing water from the deck using a clean cloth, broom or squeegee.

STEP 5: SAND THE AFFECTED AREA

Before sanding your deck, make sure to wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including a mask.

SANDING SMALL AREAS

If a stubborn stain persists you can sand a small area using 60 grit sandpaper (available from any hardware store) along the Flexiteek grain. Rinse with fresh water and then wipe up any excess water.

RESTORING YOUR DECK'S APPEARANCE

As with anything exposed to the elements, your Flexiteek deck may gradually change with time. This can be rectified using 60 grit sandpaper and sanding with the grain.

PROFESSIONAL SANDING

Do not use power sanders on Flexiteek. Sanding larger areas is a specialist job and requires a trained Flexiteek professional to do this. Contact your Flexiteek distributor for further advice.

IMPORTANT CLEANING CONSIDERATIONS

Before you use a cleaner on your deck, we strongly recommend you review these important considerations.

USE A pH-NEUTRAL CLEANER

The most important consideration with any deck cleaner is to ensure it is a pH-neutral (pH7) product. All pH-neutral products need to be used in temperatures below 30 degrees Celsius.

CLEANING TIPS

- Do not allow any cleaners used anywhere on your boat to evaporate on the surface of your Flexiteek deck.
- Always wash your deck with plenty of freshwater if you think any residue has contaminated the surface.
- Follow the instructions on the cleaner you use.
- Be aware that the temperature for using some products refers to the temperature of the deck rather than the air.

GENERAL BEST PRACTICES

There are many different areas on a boat that need cleaning in their own specific ways such as glass, GRP, wood, and stainless steel to name a few.

We recommend after cleaning other areas on your boat, that the Flexiteek decking is rinsed down to remove any residue from such cleaners. Or, if a full boat clean is being carried out, that the Flexiteek is left until last. This way any residue can be been fully cleaned off.

Flexiteek synthetic decking is designed to be left in its natural state. DO NOT coat your Flexiteek with teak oil or oil-based varnish.

PROTECTING YOUR DECK

SHOES

Do not wear high-heeled shoes and be mindful that many shoe types with rubber or plastic soles can leave scuff marks.

HOT OBJECTS

Do not place hot objects, pans and BBQs directly on your Flexiteek deck, as these will mark the surface and could cause permanent damage.

HEAVY OR POINTED OBJECTS

Do not place heavy objects with narrow or pointed legs, such as furniture, on your Flexiteek deck without a pad or coaster underneath. Such objects will leave small indentations or darker marks on the deck or could cause permanent damage.

MOVING OBJECTS ON YOUR DECK

Try to avoid dragging objects across the deck as this may cause marking, which could need to be sanded out. If this does occur, try using a Scotch-Brite pad in line with the grain.

RECOMMENDED CLEANING SOLUTION

We recommend Chemworld 'Wash and Care'.

You can buy this cleaner from your Flexiteek Distributor.

If you have questions about your Flexiteek deck, we'd suggest referring to our website FAQ section for answers that are available 24/7. If you require further assistance, please get in touch with your Flexiteek distributor.