

DeckRite Vinyl Decking Care & Cleaning Instructions

The only regular maintenance of your DeckRite Vinyl deck other than general cleaning is an annual inspection. This includes 2 major steps: - Check all areas where sealants have been applied to areas where the decking membrane is in junction with the building, posts, columns, vents, and drains. Often the areas where this sealant is applied will expand/contract, shrink or shift causing the sealant to crack, thereby breaking the seal. Check all seams to make sure there are no openings. Although unusual, seams can open allowing water to penetrate the vinyl deck. When discovered early, repairing seams is an easy repair. Contact your DeckRite vinyl installer if repairs must be made.

General Cleaning Instructions

Your DeckRite vinyl should be cleaned a minimum of four times per year. More often if acid rain or airborne pollution are a problem in your area. A general cleaning of your deck surface consists of some warm soapy water and a stiff broom. Scrub the deck in a circular motion to loosen off any dirt, then spray the deck clean with a standard garden hose. For tough stains please consult these cleaning recommendations:

<u>Steps</u>	<u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u>	<u>Steps</u>	<u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u>
Chewing Gum	D, A B	Rust	F A
Motor Oil	B	Spray Paint	B E
Mildew or Wet Leaves	C A B	Shoe Polish	D B E
Oil Base Paint	D A B	Oil Base Paint (fresh)	D B E
Tar/Asphalt	D B E	Lipstick	A B
Latex Paint	A B E	Crayon	D B
Ketchup	A B	Grease	D B E
Ballpoint Ink	A B E	Household Soil	A B
Permanent Marker	B C E	Coffee, Tea, Chocolate	B
Cedar	B	Urethane Caulking	D G A

A: Diluted soapy water, soft brush/water rinse/dry

B: Fantastik spray cleaner or Cascade powdered dishwasher detergent/diluted (only leave on a few minutes) water rinse/dry

C: One (1) tablespoon vinegar to one (1) quart water/water rinse/dry

D: Wipe or scrape off excess (chill gum with ice)

E: Follow instructions of staining agent manufacturer

F: Apply Naval Jelly/water rinse/dry

G: Rub on citrus based hand cleaner, wait 3 to 5 minutes/water rinse/dry.

Notes

1. Always test an unseen area of vinyl before cleaning stain. A thorough rinse of water should follow all cleaning methods. Avoid applying cleaners in direct hot sunshine. Certain household cleaners, powdered abrasives, steel wool and industrial cleaners can cause damage and discoloration and are not recommended. These products will remove the top coat, UV inhibitors and printed pattern, thus damaging the sundeck. Please be aware that some products such as suntan lotion and some permanent marker inks contain dyes that can cause permanent staining.
2. It is recommended that your deck be cleaned 4 times per year to look its best.
3. You may use a pressure washer with a setting of no more than 1500 psi (max) and hold the nozzle 12 inches from the surface. Be sure to avoid seams, railing attachments and caulking. Perform a visual inspection of the vinyl membrane system after cleaning to identify any damage and to verify the effectiveness of the cleaning process.
4. To protect your Deckrite vinyl deck from scuffs or excessive wear, use non-rubber backed mats at doorways, stair landing or major traffic areas. (Rubber based products are NOT compatible with PVC)
5. Avoid dragging heavy or sharp-edged objects on the vinyl membrane as this can cause scuffs or tears in your vinyl deck.
6. DeckRite membranes are designed to withstand the harshest winter conditions and common methods of snow and ice removal. You may use a shovel to remove snow build up, just be sure it is a plastic edged shovel.
7. De-icing agents such as kitty litter (gravel style), rock salt or other snow melting agents should be used with extreme caution on DeckRite membranes as the numerous options on the market have not been tested. Some products may cause premature fading or discoloring of the vinyl membrane. Be sure to clean the membrane surface thoroughly with soap and water and rinse well before the spring sun arrives which can bake any remaining chemicals residue into the vinyl deck.
8. If trying alternate options (for tougher stains...noted above) are done at **your own risk** and MUST be done when the vinyl is cool to the touch and **not** in direct sunlight or in the peak of a hot day.
9. If damage occurs during or because of the cleaning process, it is the owner's responsibility to repair.
10. Do not extinguish cigarettes on your vinyl membrane.
11. **Caution** – Do not attempt to clean stains, paint or any blemish using any undiluted bleach. Acetone, turpentine, lacquer thinner, ketone, acid or multipurpose stain or paint removers as you may cause removal of the membrane print colors. Cleaning solutions must be dabbed, NOT rubbed. Clean well with cleanser and water and then flush thoroughly with lots of water. Always test on a out of the way area to ensure there will be no problems with the selected cleaning agent.

Special Notes: Cleaning methods other than those listed in this document have been tested by DeckRite Canada. All household cleaners, abrasives, steel wool, lacquer, waxes and cleaning products or powders may cause permanent damage or discoloration to the membrane and therefore are not recommended.

