



### Coating a Timber Deck

Timber is a versatile material that can be used in a variety of situations and applications. Unprotected timber will not last as long as coated timber, particularly with the harsh Australian climate, soil and insects. A new deck is a big investment and it is important to make sure you choose the right coating system so you get the results you want.

#### Allowing the Timber to Weather

Weathering is the process of allowing the tannins and extractives to leach out of the timber over time. If they are not adequately eliminated from the timber, adhesion failure of the coating can occur.

**Softwoods:** Leave for 4-6 weeks once timber is in its final position.

**Hardwoods:** Can take 12-24 months to adequately weather (e.g. include Spotted Gum, Merbau (Kwila), Black Butt, Iron Bark and Brush Box).

#### Don't want to wait for the weathering process...!

Fortunately, the weathering process can be skipped by using Quantum's SAP-STRIP. SAP-STRIP is a non-toxic timber cleaner designed to remove tannins and extractives from all new timber (eliminates the long weathering process). SAP-STRIP also lifts the timber grain which helps the decking oil to deeply penetrate the timber.

Quantum recommends that all timber under 12 months old is prepared using SAP-STRIP to ensure removal of extractives. For older hardwood timbers you can test to see if the timber is adequately weathered by putting water onto the surface, if it soaks into the timber it is ready to coat, if not you must use Sap Strip to prepare the timber.





Coating Timber less than 12 months	Coating Timber older than 12 months
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Apply SAP STRIP to bare deck with a brush or garden spray. (Refer to datasheet for further information).</li><li>2. Leave for 15-30 minutes.</li><li>3. Wash deck with a strong jet of water to remove residual cleaner.</li><li>4. To finish, apply a coat of either ECO DEX, TIMBRE PLUS DECKING, QUANTEC or E.L DECKCOAT.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Remove the surface dirt by sweeping or hosing the deck.</li><li>2. Wet the deck and apply DEX PREP mixture with a scouer or scrubbing brush. (Refer to datasheet for further information).</li><li>3. Leave for 10-15 minutes.</li><li>4. Rinse deck with a garden hose or high pressure cleaner.</li><li>5. To finish, apply a coat of either ECO DEX, TIMBRE PLUS DECKING, QUANTEC or E.L DECKCOAT.</li></ol>

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