



Acrylic vs Oil Decking Stains

Australian decks are synonymous with barbeques, parties and summer outdoor living. During the lengthy summer months, Australian decks feel the full force from not only high foot traffic, but harsh weather and extreme sun exposure. It is important when deciding which coating to apply to your deck that you factor in the type of coating and the maintenance required.

There are a lot of options available when it comes to decking finishes, your first decision may be whether to use a film forming or penetrating oil style of coating. Film forming finishes such as acrylic deck stains will create a thin film on the surface of the timber, while penetrating oil finishes such as Quantum's water based oils are absorbed into the surface layer of the timber, protecting it from within and making it repellent to water and dirt.

If choosing to use a film forming finish, you must consider how much your deck will be exposed to the environment because the more UV, sun, heat, rain and cold weather the timber is exposed to more likely it will become brittle and break down. Eventually allowing water to penetrate the timber and start discolouring and peeling your deck.

Quantum's range of penetrating, decking finishes are designed for ease of use for both the home DIY'er and qualified tradespeople. Available in transparent, natural or tinted finishes, Quantum will have a deck stain that will suit your needs.

Coating your deck to protect it against Australia's harsh weather need not be a challenge – here is how:

1. When coating new timber (*under 12 months old*) use SAP STRIP to remove the tannins and extractives from the timber and to open the grain, this is important so the coating can penetrate the timber. For timber over 12 months old, use DEX PREP to brighten and clean the dirty or old grey timber. (*Refer to datasheets for more information*).
2. Apply your choice of Quantum's Decking products. (*Refer to datasheets for more information*).
 1. TIMBRE PLUS DECKING: A hardwearing, premium, natural oil finish (*can be tinted with transparent stains*).
 2. ECODEX: An economical decking oil with a natural finish (*can be tinted with transparent stains*).



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