

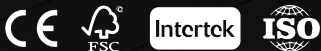
EVA-LAST®

INSPIRED BY NATURE, DESIGNED FOR LIFE.



Eva-tech®

CLEANING & CARE
GUIDE



www.eva-last.co.za

Eva-tech[®]

All Eva-tech™ composite products by Eva-Last® are designed to improve your lifestyle with their low-maintenance, high performing features. Eva-tech™ composite decking is an eco-friendly alternative to wooden decking that gives you the look and feel of timber without the upkeep hassles. Although any exterior product will need some care to maintain its appearance and functionality, the cleaning requirements for Eva-tech™ are minimal. All you will need are common household cleaning supplies to ensure long-term performance of your Eva-tech™ composite deck. There's no need for harmful chemicals or expensive specialised maintenance products.



We at Eva-Last® are here to help you in any way we can. Please submit any Eva-tech™ cleaning, care or other questions to Info@eva-last.co.za, or contact us directly through our website, www.eva-last.co.za.

Before you start

Eva-Last® Installation Guide. Establishing a solid substructure and installation are the first and most important steps to creating a long-lasting deck. Installation guides can be downloaded from our website, www.eva-last.co.za. Please consider the following points for the longevity of your Eva-tech™ deck:

- Whenever possible, aim to make your Eva-tech™ deck installation the last phase of your overall construction process. If this is not possible, your deck should be properly covered at all times with a sheet of tarp or construction grade plastic to avoid damaging the surface.
- Ensure that masonry/cement construction is set properly before installing the decking material. Better yet, install your deck after all masonry/cement construction has been completed. It is important to protect decking during masonry construction. White or hazy residue from mineral deposits (efflorescence) can leach out of stone and masonry materials after water evaporates, leaving the deposits behind. This can only be prevented with complete and secure coverage of the decking surface area during the construction phase, or installation of the decking after the masonry construction phase.
- Minerals from soils in certain arid and mountainous environments can also cause a hazing affect when deposited on the deck surface. These deposits may be due to rain water mixing with runoff from roofs, soil/dirt, pathways, etc.. When water evaporates off a deck it can leave behind a haze that can be washed away easily if tended to reasonably quickly. If this haze is left for a long period of time, it can build up and create layers, making it more difficult to clean.
- A high-pressure hose with a fan tip may be necessary in the cleaning and care of Eva-Last® products. Use at pressures under 1500 psi and at a distance of at least 300 mm away from the surface when spraying.
- Swimming pool chemicals can be harmful to the surface of your deck. If swimming pool pH levels are not kept normal, the swimming pool water can become highly saturated and create a corrosive environment which will damage the surface of the decking boards. Best practice is to maintain a normal pH pool that does not have high saturation.

If chemicals that are not for normal pH level balance in a swimming pool are used on the deck, they can stain or mark the deck. See 'Decks around pools' for more detailed info.

Cleaning your deck: Using a hard-bristled broom or high-pressure hose

What you will need



* Eva-Last®
profile cleaner



Water



Bucket



Sponge



Hard-bristled
broom



A high pressure
hose with fan tip

STEP 1:

Apply soapy water to your profile with a sponge.

STEP 2:

Sweep the liquid over your profile using the hard-bristled broom, making sure to remove all dirt and residue from the gaps between the decking boards. Sweeping in the direction of the grain is best.

STEP 3:

If residue and/or dirt are still evident on your deck, a high-pressure hose is very effective in removing stubborn and unavoidable organic waste.

NB: Use a high-pressure hose with a wide fan tip at pressures under 1500 psi. Remember to keep the hose at least 300 mm away from the surface when spraying.

For best results, spray your deck with the high-pressure hose whilst simultaneously brushing it with a hard-bristled broom and soapy water. We recommend pressure washing your deck once a month to keep it looking clean and well maintained.

Please exercise extreme caution, as pressure washing can damage your Eva-Last® deck if done incorrectly. If you notice any changes to the surface of your deck, stop immediately and contact Eva-Last® by visiting www.eva-last.co.za or e-mailing info@eva-last.co.za.



Caring for your deck

- Maintain a deck that is dry and clean.
- The best way to keep your deck free from stubborn stains is to clean them off as soon as they occur. Oil, grease and food should be removed as soon as possible. Eva-tech™ deck boards have exposed wood fibres, which can absorb these materials and stain. If staining does occur, it may be necessary to sand stubborn stains lightly to remove any marks. Avoid the buildup of organic matter on your Eva-Last® deck, cladding or beam systems. Leaves and sticks that get stuck in gaps inhibit ventilation, natural movement and retain moisture.
- Use a splat mat underneath your barbecue/grill area to help protect your deck from fatty marks and stains.
- Direct downward gutters away from your deck, cladding and architectural beams.
- Position dryer vents away from your deck. Do not enclose dryer vents with cladding or beams.
- Soil beneath your deck should be porous to eliminate standing water.
- Never use metal spades or tools with sharp edges on the surface of your deck or cladding.
- It's best practice on any flooring surface to pick up objects when moving them, rather than dragging them.
- Apply floor protectors underneath the feet and legs of your furniture to avoid marks and scratches being transferred to your deck. These protectors are inexpensive and can be bought at most hardware stores.
- When using a ladder on your deck, be sure to place a piece of plywood firmly beneath it, and secure the plywood to the surface of your deck to disperse the load of the ladder feet. Be sure to follow the ladder manufacturer's instructions and safety tips.

Trouble shooting

PROBLEM	EVA-LAST® SOLUTION
Ice removal	Allow ice to melt then wipe away. Calcium chloride or rock salt work well in melting ice. A buildup of calcium chloride or rock salt may occur, leaving a white residue. This can be easily removed with warm soapy water and a soft non-metal brush or hard bristled broom. Never use metal objects, such as a metal shovel to remove ice or snow from Eva-Last® boards.
Heat sources and fire	Bamboo-plastic composite products may retain heat when situated close to heat and fire sources. Proper caution should be taken when Eva-Last® is installed near heat sources and fire to ensure that no damage occurs to the deck.
Rubber/vinyl/latex mats	Rubber mats such, as welcome or grill mats with rubber or latex backing, can leave marks on your deck. These marks can be removed with soapy water. However, it is best to use vinyl-backed mats or colourfast woven rugs to avoid any marks.
Construction chalk	Coloured chalk, often used in construction, can leave permanent marks on most surfaces. Where possible, avoid the use of such chalk on Eva-Last® products, or use alternatives such as white chalk or baby powder.
Tape marks	Apply warm, soapy water with a sponge, then brush with a hard-bristled broom or spray with a high-pressure hose.

Note: The above conditions are considered to be normal maintenance and are, therefore, not covered by the Eva-tech™ 10-year limited warranty.



Decks around pools

It is important to maintain a clean, healthy pool in order to ensure the life and look of your Eva-tech™ deck. Pool water may have an effect on your deck, especially if it is unbalanced. Pool water balancing is simply the relationship between different chemical measurements in your pool water. You will probably not change the water in your pool for many years. Continuous filtration and disinfection remove contaminants which keep the water enjoyable, but this does not balance your water.

A swimming pool that is balanced has proper levels of pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness. Maintaining a healthy, clean pool and making sure your pool has balanced levels will ensure the water will have little to no effect on the surface of your deck.

As good practice in swimming pool maintenance and hygiene, it is suggested that you regularly test your swimming pool water to ensure that the pH, mineral content and saturation index of your pool water is maintained correctly and within recommended levels. If your swimming pool water is not correctly maintained and the water's pH is not controlled as per recommended standards and ranges, it is likely that a high acidity or alkalinity environment can adversely affect your deck surface and the appearance thereof. These environments are very corrosive and aggressive to most materials and colours, UV absorbers, and plastic materials. They may also lead to damage, discolouration or scaling of your pool cleaning equipment.

Use a good test kit to measure the chemical levels of pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness on a weekly basis.

Below is a list of best practice ranges:

- pH = 7.4 - 7.6
- Total alkalinity = 80 - 125 ppm (Marble plaster) Total alkalinity = 125 - 150 ppm (Fibreglass) Stabiliser = 40 - 80 ppm
- Free chlorine = 1 - 3 ppm Combined chlorine = 1 - 3 ppm
- Calcium hardness = 175 ppm - 225 ppm Copper = 0 ppm
- Iron = 0 ppm

*Please note the above ranges are guides and may vary according to your region and climate.

Important! Cleaning products to avoid

We do not recommend using strong alkaline or acid containing detergents to clean the surface of your deck. These cleaning agents contain, amongst other things, bleaching agents like sodium hypochlorite, and they may adversely affect the surface of your deck and the appearance thereof. It is best to avoid them.

Enjoy the outdoors!



NOTES:
