



ecodek® Product Information

PLEASE READ IN FULL BEFORE COMMENCING ANY ecodek® INSTALLATION

Product Description: ecodek® composite decking is a mixture of hardwood fibres (approximately 55%) and high-density polyethylene with the addition of certain additives to improve physical, weathering and processing properties. The polyethylene used in this product is a high quality, recycled material.

The hardwood fibres are also a recovered material which is then processed, filtered and dried before being combined with the polyethylene, to form a new composite material.

The resulting product is 90-96% recycled and 100% recyclable.

ecodek® has many useful properties when used as decking, which include:

- Low moisture absorption
- Resistance to rotting, no splintering or splitting
- UV resistance
- Resistance to wood-eating insects
- Low potential for slip in both wet and dry conditions (tested to HSE standards)
- No toxic materials to leach into the soil
- Easy as wood to work with

Application Data: Both ecodek® AT, HD and Heritage profiles are specially designed for use as balconies, decking, marinas and other similar applications. They may also be used as a replacement for wood in many other areas where a non-load bearing support or structure is required. ecodek® profiles are best suited for outdoor applications where the product's inherent advantages can be fully exploited. Other profiles in the range are available on our website, such as cladding, fascia and substructure.

ecodek® Installation Instructions: More technical details are included in our ecodek® Installation Instructions for Installers available to download from our website. It is vital that you understand these instructions before commencing any ecodek® installation. The same tools for timber may also be used to fabricate and install ecodek® decking products. With the AT and Heritage deck boards, support frame joists must be spaced on maximum centres of 455mm (18") for residential decks. With the HD deck boards, support frame joists must be spaced on maximum centres of 600mm (24") for balconies & general residential installations. For commercial applications, please refer to the Load Span Table available on our website. When laying the timbers at 45 degrees, support frame joists should be on centres of 330mm (13") or less (for AT) and 425mm (16") or less (for HD). Boards must not overhang the joists by more than 40mm.

When butting boards end to end, this must be done over a double width bearer to ensure both boards are sufficiently fastened down

and supported. Screw holes must be pre-drilled (to prevent splitting) at least 20mm, and not more than 40mm in from the cut edge. Deck boards must span at least 3 bearers in order to give the board the load bearing properties stated in our literature and to eliminate the possibility of sagging over time.

For optimum water drainage and to allow for proper ventilation, a gap of 5mm must be left in-between the boards and a minimum 5mm gap at the cut ends of the boards (for hot, humid or damp areas, a 10mm gap is required between the cut end of the board and any perimeter feature, i.e. walls, sleepers, fences, etc). Failure to do so will promote fungal growth and prevent moisture evaporation. These gaps will also allow for material expansion in hot weather.

Good airflow under the deck is vital to prevent moisture remaining for long periods on the underside of the boards, poor airflow will invalidate the warranty. If you are installing over soil or a poorly draining surface you must have a minimum ground clearance of 80mm.

Decking must not be installed in an area prone to flooding or where it may be submerged or sitting in water for a period of time.

Ecodek approved stainless steel composite deck screws must be used for all installations, as normal timber decking screws are not strong enough and will invalidate the ecodek® warranty. The screws we supply are specifically designed for ecodek®. They are available in a range of colours to match the decking. 2 screws must be used per joist/bearer. Always pre-drill before screwing the board down, we recommend using a SMART-BIT® for fast & easy drilling (available from Ecodek). It must also be noted that when screwing composite to composite, the screw pilot holes must be 3.5mm diameter and at least 90% of the depth of the screw, this is because composite is a very dense material and if the pilot hole is not deep or wide enough, the screw can shear off during installation.

Never leave the end of the board unrestrained, it must be pre-drilled & screwed down within 20-40mm of the cut end. The screw head should not sit proud of the top of the groove (or decking surface if using a smooth board). Screws must be set at 18mm from the edge of the board. (When using the grooved side, screws must be placed into the second groove on each side of the board.)

NB: If using either the 38mm x 88mm Superstiff or the 40mm x 48mm Low Profile substructure products then it must be noted that they need more support than softwood equivalents.

It is therefore very important that you refer to the relevant Technical Information Sheets on two substructure options (available on our website) for specific fitting information.

It must also be noted that when screwing composite to composite, the screw pilot holes must be 3.5mm diameter and at least 90% of the depth of the screw, this is because composite is very tough and if the pilot hole is not deep or wide enough, the screw can shear off during installation.

Slip Resistance of ecodek®:

ecodek® has been extensively tested for its Pendulum Test Value (PTV) or Slip Resistance Value (SRV). Under normal conditions, ecodek® meets the HSE's standard for a flooring that is described as 'Low Potential for Slip'. In order to maintain your ecodek® deck as a low potential for slip rating, it is imperative that you regularly clean the deck and remove any dirt/algae and/or other foreign bodies as these will have a negative effect on the PTV.

It is also important to maintain any drainage channels or gaps that you have in your deck so that standing water is kept to a minimum and airflow is maintained.

If ecodek® is to be used on an incline (such as an access ramp) then the PTV will reduce accordingly and we strongly recommend the use of anti-slip treads (see the Anti-slip Insert information sheet available on our website).

It is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure that the product remains 'fit for purpose' for whatever gradient the decking is used on. Consideration must be given to the method of construction of the ramp so as to maintain optimum levels of grip (i.e. direction of boards, angle of incline, amount of foot traffic etc). ecodek® can help specify various non-slip products specific to any particular application. (Enquire for further details.)

ecodek® Care & Maintenance:

Because of the combination of natural hardwood fibres and recycled high density polyethylene in ecodek® composite boards, you may experience colour variation between boards as you lay them, this variation will weather to a lighter, but much more even hue during the first few months. This may take much longer in sheltered areas.

Note: Fading is significant on the lighter colours and if colour fade is an important factor for you, we advise choosing a darker colour from our range for your deck. "Colour variations are natural within any composite deck product. These variations are not a product defect and thus are not covered by the product warranty."

Do not allow leaves and other debris to lie on the deck surface as this will cause staining and promote fungal growth. When using a barbecue or similar, it is recommended that the deck area is protected from potential oil/grease splashes. Most heavy stains, dirt and mildew can be washed off using garden hose, deck cleaner and soft brush. We recommend our preferred composite deck cleaner (please contact us for further details). Oil and grease stains may require the use of a de-greasing cleaner and

light rubbing with a very soft brush or sponge to remove the stain (See the ecodek® Care and Maintenance Schedule available to download from our website). Keeping the deck clean and free of debris, and maintaining drainage and ventilation gaps are essential basic maintenance requirements.

To prevent mould infection, maintain slip resistance and avoid warranty invalidation you must adhere to the ecodek® Care and Maintenance Schedule.

Sizes & Colours:

The ecodek® range is currently available in five standard colours, two shades of brown, two shades of grey and one black. Other colours and lengths can be manufactured upon request. (See the profile range literature for a more comprehensive and detailed list.)

Profile sizes (approx):

- **AT** - 21 mm x 136mm Grooved/Ribbed reversible deck board in bespoke lengths between 1.5m and 6m (other lengths available on request)
- **HD** - 25mm x 136mm Grooved/Ribbed reversible deck board in bespoke lengths between 1.5m and 6m (other lengths available on request)
- **Heritage** - 21 mm x 136mm Woodgrain effect board in standard lengths of 3.6m
- 19mm x 136mm fascia board in 3.6m lengths
- 38mm x 88mm (sub-structure) heavy duty solid profile in various lengths
- 40mm x 48mm low profile substructure in 3.6m & 4.8m lengths

Handling & Storage:

ecodek® is heavier and more flexible than wood and this needs to be considered when transporting boards. Boards should always be stored on a flat surface or on a close boarded, full length pallet with bearer centres of 900mm or less for up to 1200 kilos full pallet weight and 600mm centres or less up to a maximum of 1500 kilos full pallet weight.

Warranty Details:

ecodek is the trading name of Specialist Building Products Ltd. ecodek® composite products come with a limited 25 year warranty against structural failure caused by wood-eating insects, splitting and splintering. It must be noted however, that for this warranty to be upheld, the product must have been installed and maintained to the guidelines as set out in our literature. Please read our warranty (available from our website) for further information.

ecodek® Exclusive Waste Material Buy-Back Scheme:

Because ecodek® products are manufactured from "clean" plastic products and untreated hardwood, we are able to fully recycle all waste, off-cuts, old stock or otherwise unused material returned to us in suitable condition. This is obviously of considerable environ-

mental benefit, and because it will reduce our forward material costs, it also has financial benefits. We will therefore offer customers a credit of £0.30 per kilo for returned product subject to the following conditions:

1. Material to be returned by the customer to:
Ecodek
Unit 13 Abenbury Way,
Wrexham Industrial Estate,
Wrexham LL13 9UZ
or another site by mutual prior agreement.
2. All material must be in a clean, dry and uncontaminated condition to qualify.
3. All material must be fully segregated by individual colour and all fasteners & screws removed.
4. This buy-back offer applies only to wood plastic composite products manufactured by Ecodek.
5. Advance notification of all returns to be made to the manufacturer at the above address.
6. Ecodek are unable to give a full refund on unused boards, all material returned will be treated as scrap and therefore only creditable as such.
7. In the event of any dispute regarding the condition or quantity of returned material, the decision of Ecodek will be final.

ecodek® Trouble-Shooting Guide

Effect	Probable Cause	Action Required
Colour variation after Installation	This is to be expected prior to natural weathering.	Once the material has been exposed to the elements for a few months, the colour should even out.
Colour variation after weathering	Darker areas may be exposed to less weathering.	If the area suffers from constant shade, use Ecodek's recommended deck cleaner (treat as a heavily soiled area) to accelerate the process.
Heavily soiled area	Foot traffic, airborne dust, pets etc.	Refer to ecodek® Care and Maintenance Schedule available on our website and use our recommended composite deck cleaner.
Ice or snow build up	Water puddles followed by below freezing conditions.	You can use rock salt, although it may scratch the decking. Other ice-melt products may leave a slippery residue (consult with product manufacturers).
Mould/dark spots	Can appear on poorly vented, drained or heavily shaded decks and under furniture.	Refer to the information sheet Mould and Fungus Removal available on our website and use 'Simply Gone' mould & mildew cleaner. Contact us for details.
Oil/grease stains	Oil stains, barbecues, food etc.	Refer to ecodek® Care and Maintenance Schedule available on our website
Rust stains	Can be caused by lawn conditioner and moss killer.	Please contact Customer Care: customercare@ecodek.co.uk
Water puddles/warped boards	An un-even support structure, inadequate gapping, poor ventilation or clogged gaps between boards.	Drainage slots may need to be cut into inadequately spaced boards. Install adequate ventilation gaps. For clogged gaps, use a flat tool to remove the debris.