



## Stipulation of Settlement and Release

### Required Cleaning Instructions

#### Tools and materials needed:

- A Garden hose with access to a water outlet
- Olympic Deck Cleaner (not Olympic Deck Wash). Available at Lowes, Home Depot and other stores. No other cleaner is approved by Trex.
- A 3-5 gallon pump garden sprayer. Available at the above stores.
- Old shoes and clothes for cleaning
- Rubber gloves

#### Cleaning Steps:

1. Clean only on a day when the deck is dry and no precipitation is expected. If the deck is wet, then the cleaner will be diluted and not be effective. DO NOT pre-wet or rinse the deck with water as this also will make the cleaner ineffective.
2. Ambient temperature should be between 50-90F
3. Remove all furniture and loose items from the deck
4. Sweep or blow the deck to remove any loose debris, i.e., leaves, grass, dirt, etc.
5. Cover any plants adjacent to the deck and/or wet the plants prior to and after cleaning. Note: this cleaner will not harm most plants.
6. Use only fresh Olympic Deck Cleaner purchased within 30 days prior to the cleaning. Old, leftover cleaner is not as effective and will diminish the results. Follow the instructions on the back of the container.
7. Fill the pump sprayer with Olympic Deck Cleaner.
8. Pump to increase the pressure for spraying.
9. Working from one end of the deck to the other, begin spraying a small area (approx. 10'x10')
10. The wet cleaner must remain on the deck for 15 minutes without drying. The hotter the weather, the more likely the cleaner will dry.
11. If the cleaner begins to dry, simply spray more on this area.
12. After the cleaner is on the deck, proceed to the next 10' square.
13. A partner may rinse the first cleaned area as long as no water gets outside of the cleaned area. It is ok to wait until the entire deck is cleaned to rinse.
14. Usually, no scrubbing is needed on the deck, although under some plants, dirt can accumulate and light scrubbing may be advantageous to remove the dirt.
15. After the cleaning, thoroughly rinse the entire deck with water. Residual cleaner will show foaming during the rinsing. Continue rinsing until no foaming is apparent.
16. The Olympic Deck Cleaner does contain bleach and will lighten the appearance of the deck.
17. Note: If the deck has rarely or never been cleaned or is in an especially mold-prone environment, then multiple (2 or more) cleanings may be needed to remove residual mold.



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### **Mold Technical Bulletin**

Mold is a lower form of plant life that can settle and grow on any surface, including Trex<sup>®</sup> decking. Mildew is a form of mold that grows on damp surfaces.

Mold spores are similar to seeds, but cannot be seen until colonies form. Air currents, insects, animals and water transport the spores easily. Due to mold's adaptability and large number of species, it is very hard to control and impossible to totally eliminate. Mold will not affect the structural performance of Trex decking.

In order to form visible colonies, mold needs food, moisture, and temperatures between 40 and 90° F. Trex decking is not a food source for mold, but can collect food in the form of dirt and debris such as the overflow from flowerpots and gutters. Trex decking can also supply moisture if the gaps between deck boards are too small or clogged. Refer to Trex decking Usage Guidelines for gapping instructions.

### **How to remove Mold from Trex<sup>®</sup> Composite & PVC Decking**

All exterior building materials require cleaning. Trex is no exception. Periodic cleaning of Trex decking will remove dirt and pollen that can feed mold. If mold colonies appear, clean the deck with a commercial deck wash containing a detergent and sodium hypochlorite, commonly known as bleach. This chemical will remove the mold, but please be aware it will also lighten the wood on the surface. In some cases it will require several treatments with the deck wash to completely remove all mold colonies. Even if the spots are no longer visible, there may still be mold spores on the surface that could re-grow, so periodic cleaning is important.

The following brands of deck cleaners have been found to be effective in removing mold from Trex decking:

- Olympic<sup>®</sup> Premium Deck Cleaner\*
- Expert Chemical<sup>™</sup>\*\* Composite Deck Cleaner & Enhancer (expertchemicalinc.com)

Always apply these products to a dry deck. Applying to a wet deck will significantly reduce the effectiveness of the cleaner. NEVER mix any other cleaners (ammonia, phosphoric acid, etc.) with bleach.

- For a non-chlorine based alternative UltraMean<sup>®</sup>\*\*\*\* can be used, but will require scrubbing with a soft brush immediately after application.

Mold spreads easily and may return in some environments despite proper cleaning and preventative measures. Mold does not damage Trex and will cause no structural harm if allowed to propagate.

### **How to remove Mold from Trex Transcend<sup>™</sup> Decking**

If debris such as pollen and dirt is allowed to remain on the deck surface, mold can feed on the biofilm. Using a hose and warm soapy water with a soft bristle brush is recommended to remove the food source and mold.

\* Olympic<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of PPG Architectural Finishes, Inc.

\*\* Expert Chemical<sup>™</sup> is a trademark of Expert Chemical Inc.

\*\*\*\* UltraMean<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Rhino Hide<sup>®</sup>