



## Care & Cleaning Guide

### Maintain the Beauty

All exterior building materials require cleaning. We recommend a basic cleaning with a composite deck cleaner or combination of soap, hot water and a soft bristle brush. Ideal times to clean are just after installation and then on a semi-annual basis (typically spring or fall is most conducive with the weather). This will help to maintain the beauty of your Trex® fence.

#### Problem

#### Solution

##### Dirt and Debris

Clean fence to remove dirt and debris. Soap, hot water and a soft brush are all that is needed.

##### Chalk Markings

Most colored chalk lines are permanent. For Trex® use either baby powder or Irwin Strait-Line dust-off marking chalk available at: [www.irwin.com](http://www.irwin.com).

##### Visible Printing

The printing on the side of Trex® fencing boards are required by building codes. With careful installation, most printings can be hidden. Visible printings can be lightened with acetone.

##### Water Spots, Leaf Staining and Wood Tannins

Tannin leaching occurs in Trex® and all wood based products naturally. Allow for at least 12 weeks of normal weathering. This process may be hastened through the use of a product containing oxalic or phosphoric acid commonly known as Deck Brightener. \*

##### Ice and Snow

Calcium chloride or rock salt, available in many home centers, will melt ice on Trex® fencing. Rinse off when first practical. Use caution when removing snow or ice with a snow shovel, and never use a metal snow shovel on a Trex® fence. A shovel may scratch the fence, which is not covered under warranty.

##### Scuffs & Abrasions

Scuffs and abrasions can fade or disappear naturally after 12-16 weeks of weathering. This can be accelerated with a product containing oxalic or phosphoric acid, also known as Deck Brightener. \*

##### Rust Stains, Ground-In Dirt and Grime and Pigment Staining

Use a cleaning product containing oxalic or phosphoric acid base, also known as Deck Brightener to lighten or remove the rust or dirt. Product may need to sit on stain 10-15 minutes before rinsing. \*

##### Oil and Grease Stains

Rinse the stain with hot water as soon as possible. Use Pour-N-Restore ([www.pour-n-restore.com](http://www.pour-n-restore.com)) as directed for any remaining stain (test in a small area first as this may remove some of the colorant from the fencing surface).

##### Mold & Mildew

Semi-annual (Spring and Fall) cleaning of your fence is important to prevent the build-up of pollen and other debris that can support the growth of mold. Use conventional fence washes or cleaners that contain sodium hypochlorite (bleach) and detergent (refer to the [Mold Technical Bulletin](#) for specific recommendations). \*

##### Pressure Washer

Trex Company does not recommend the use of a pressure washer. The use of a pressure washer with a greater than 1,500 PSI and/or applied closer than 12" from the fence surface could damage the fencing surface and result in a **loss of warranty coverage**.

##### Sanding

Trex Company does not recommend sanding. Sanding will change the appearance of the surface of Trex® material and **will void the warranty**.

##### Disposal

Trex® products should be disposed with normal construction debris or household waste. **Do not burn** Trex® products.

\* Use of products containing bleach or acid will lighten the surface of Trex®. Use in an inconspicuous area to determine if lightening is esthetically unpleasing to you. Neither product will affect the structural integrity of Trex® composite fencing.