MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo Decking

Setting Expectations

MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo has similar properties to outdoor rated exotic hardwoods like IPE. Installation methods, care and performance characteristics will be similar.

End user Expectations

- The MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo Decking Board is a natural product; some **variation in color, grain and appearance is normal.** Color can change fast from dark brown to brown or grey, depending on UV exposure climatic conditions and maintenance schedule.

- Annual cleaning of your MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo Decking is recommended. Clean the deck using warm water, mild deck cleaner (Messmer's Deck Cleaner and Messmer Brightener or similar oxalic acid cleaner) and stiff bristle brush.

- MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo is a wood-like product and may develop slight splinters and cracks as it expels moisture. This is normal and is not a product defect. If splinters develop follow the cleaning procedure, scrubbing with a stiff bristle brush will eliminate most splinters.

- The recommended finish is Messmer's Bamboo Oil for Moso; however, most oil-based finishes will work. Water based and acrylic finishes will not bond well.
    - MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo is very dense and not very porous. Finishes will not absorb like wood. **For best results, wait several weeks after installation to apply finish.** This will give time for the surface pores to open and absorb as much finish as possible.
    - When finish is applied, it is **extremely important that excess finish be wiped from the surface while still wet.** Heavy application of finish will result in a tacky and glossy surface.
        - If too much finish is applied, do not worry. Time, sun exposure and traffic will wear the finish down. Or it can be sanded off, or clean with the Messmer's Cleaner and Brightener process to dull the finish.
- When installing around **Pools or other wet areas**, you may see water stains on the decking - this is residue from the minerals or chlorine in the water after it evaporates - as well as dirt and pollen on the surface of the deck. These stains can easily be removed by cleaning. To prevent these stains, brush standing water off the deck so it evaporates evenly. Finishing with Messmer's oil finish will help minimize staining but will not prevent it entirely.

It is important to remember that the color of MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo is all the way through. This is the color of cooked bamboo; it is not a topical treatment. Sanding of the decking is possible to remedy most finish or damage issues.

Installer Expectations

- MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo can be installed on any standard joist spacing. Lay boards like flooring. Our structural end-match system will span 16" joist spacing with ease.

- Estimate decking based on total square footage of the deck. Estimate perimeter board and stair-nose in linear footage.

- Moso produces Bamboo Outdoor Thermo in many widths and profiles. Be sure to ask your dealer for the product you need. Most common but not limited to: 4"or 6" decking; 8" and 12" wide fascia boards or lumber; single groove perimeter boards 6" and 8" wide; 2x4, 2x2, and 2x6 beams.
- Moso asymmetric clips are available in 305 and 316 stainless. Stainless screws and bamboo plugs are available from Starborn.

- MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo is very dense. Any fasteners will have to be pre-drilled. Pre-drill 80% of the diameter of the screw. Do not expect that the screw will widen the hole. Screws should be no less than 3/4" from the edge of the board.

- MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo is **more dimensionally stable than any similar hardwood** or plastic decking product. While it may not expand or contract very much, the framing material it is attached to will still move with changes in temp and humidity. Please consider this when setting spacings.

- **This product works like wood**. It can be cut with any wood cutting tool: routed, planed, drilled, chiseled etc. Carbide tipped fine finish blades will last the longest.

- When using our asymmetric clips for installation or any other stainless-steel fastener, **Do not use an impact driver!!** Impact drivers will weaken the screws and you may find that screws will snap before they are fully driven.
    - **Use a standard drill-driver with an adjustable torque setting**.

- Our grooved decking features an industry standard groove. If you wish to use another brand of clip to install, please feel free. Moso has not tested all of the numerous clips on the market. If the clip fits and holds the board firmly in place, we have no issue. Please let us know what you used and how it went. We are always looking for feedback. info@moso-bamboo.com

- ### Storage and handling
  MOSO® Bamboo Outdoor Thermo should be kept out of direct sunlight and should not be exposed to inclement weather before installation. This will prevent uneven fading and water staining prior to installation.