

# Ducan

*Dek-master Vinyl*®

[www.ducan.com](http://www.ducan.com)

## HOW TO MAINTAIN AND CLEAN DEK-MASTER VINYL

Dek-Master® Vinyl is the finest vinyl decking manufactured today. To ensure it continues to look beautiful throughout the years, follow these simple guidelines and suggestions.

- You should test for moisture in plywood and cement sub-floors, particularly near ground level.
- After installation, keep traffic to a minimum for at least 48 hours to allow the adhesive to harden.
- Avoid washing the deck or putting heavy furniture or fixtures in place for 24 hours.
- Do not walk over seams for at least 24 hours after “seam sealing.”
- Move heavy furniture or objects carefully. Do not push or drag! Especially over a seam.
- Furniture legs should be equipped with non-staining, large-surface casters or furniture caps to avoid cutting into the vinyl.

### Protect against burns:

- Dek-Master® Vinyl sheets are manufactured to be safe from normal fire hazards however, the surface can be damaged or scarred by cigarettes, matches, candles or other very hot items.
- Protect the vinyl from open flames (eg. Candle) by making sure the item is on a stable surface. Never place a hot item directly on the vinyl surface.
- If the vinyl has been marred by a hot item, carefully use a nylon pad (such as the type used to clean non-stick pots and pans) and rub gently. This will sometimes remove surface scars.
- For deeper burns and cuts, a patch may be necessary.



### Control tracked-in dirt:

- Dirt has an abrasive effect which lessens the original appearance of the decking. To control tracked-in dirt or stains from asphalt and oil driveways, use a door mat at entrances which will keep your vinyl clean.
- Refrain from using rubber-backed mats, as they might stain the decking.

### Heel marks and scuffs:

- Certain types of footwear soles and heels can mark vinyl. It's a good idea to check the soles of footwear in the household as the marks they make can be unattractive and are sometimes hard to remove.
- High (stiletto) heels may cause dents and damage to vinyl decking.
- Most scuffs can be removed with light use of a magic eraser.

### Snow removal:

- Remove snow with a **plastic** snow shovel and should be shoveled in direction of the deck slope.
- Use extra caution near the overlap seams.
- **Salt is not safe** for use on the vinyl surface. It is corrosive and may damage the vinyl.
- **CMA (Calcium Magnesium Acetate) is a safe alternative to rock salt for use on the vinyl.**
- Fine gravel sand can be used in extreme conditions for added grip but can increase the chance of abrasion.
- Sawdust is a safe alternative.

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## RECOMMENDED CLEANING PROCEDURES

Dek-Master® vinyl is tough, non-porous and resistant to normal household spills. It is easily maintained and will always look its best with regular care. To keep your vinyl looking its best, follow regular maintenance procedures outlined in this section.

- **Gently sweep up dirt and grit gently** using a deck brush or broom. This will remove any larger debris that may clog drains or abrade the membrane while cleaning.

**TIP:** Light sweeping, vacuuming, or hosing regularly will help keep your vinyl looking its best and prevent dirt buildup.

- **Wet the deck surface** with water.
- **In a large pail, mix “The Duke” 20 to 1 with warm water** and pour evenly onto the deck surface.
- **Use a stiff bristle brush** and work the soaked membrane by scrubbing in small circles. This motion will allow the bristles to all areas of the textured surface. Let the deck soak for 5-10 minutes.
- **Rinse the vinyl** with copious amounts of water and allow to dry.
- If there is still dirt in the texture of the vinyl repeat the above steps until clean.



## PRESSURE WASHING

Pressure washing equipment can damage the membrane. **USE CAUTION.** If you plan on using your pressure washer to clean the vinyl please keep the following tips in mind:

- Keep the nozzle at least 24” away from the deck surface.
- Do not use a pressure washer with a higher rating of 2500 PSI.
- Do not use a rotating nozzle.
- Use a tip with at least 30° of arc as a higher concentration of water will damage the vinyl.
- The Duke Cleaner is compatible with pressure washers which include a soap injector. Pre-dilute 5 to 1 and set chemical injection to 50 to 1.

## TOUGH STAINS

Using alternate cleaning solutions can affect the vinyl. For tough stains please call our office @ **1-800-943-8226** for more information.

**TIP:** Apply ice to wax or chewing gum to make it hard and lightly scrape with a plastic spatula. This will make it easier to remove.

**WARNING: DO NOT USE BLEACH OR OTHER CLEANERS SUCH AS 30 SECONDS ON THE DECK SURFACE. THIS WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY AND PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THE VINYL MEMBRANE.**

## Cautions and Warning:

Do not try any alternative cleaning solutions not included in this guide as Ducan has not tested their reliability and safety on the vinyl surface. Some household cleaners, polishers, abrasives, and waxes may cause permanent damage to the vinyl.

The use of non-approved cleaning solutions on your vinyl membrane, combined with long term exposure to heat and UV, will create permanent damage/discoloration and although these solutions may not show immediate signs of damage, over time they will cause permanent damage.