

Cleaning recommendations



Cleaning and caring for terrafina floor systems

LIGNODUR® terrafina floor systems primarily consist of wood flour. Due to brushing processes, this wood flour lies open on the surface and, like natural wood, can absorb both materials like fat or colouring substances. Natural weathering through the sun and rain mean that almost all stains usually fade or disappear in a relatively short time. Floor covers under roofed-over areas are not subject to the same weathering and you can therefore expect to have to pay more attention to such places. Remove any marks that appear without delay in accordance with point III (ff.) below.

I. First-time cleaning

After the floor has been laid, it should be subject to first-time cleaning. Sweep the surface, water it down and clean it using a scrubber (stiff bristles). Please use a diluted floor cleaner (e.g. Ajax floor cleaner, diluted 1:20 with water) for this purpose.

II. Basic cleaning

As outdoor areas are subject to constant soiling, it is necessary to basically clean the floor at least once every six months, regardless of its optical impression. However, additional cleaning action may be required depending on the degree of soiling and on the loads it has to bear.

We recommend that the boards are cleaned with a liquid bleach solution (e.g. Dan Klorix, diluted 1:3 with water). Work this in extensively using a scrubber with hard bristles. Please follow the manufacturer's instructions. Subsequently rinse this area down with water.

Alternatively, the boards can be cleaned with a high-pressure cleaner. Work in the longitudinal direction at a

maximum pressure of 100 bar and a flat jet at a distance of at least 20 cm to the floor. Try to apply the high-pressure cleaner evenly to obtain the most uniform possible cleaning result.

III. Stain removal

We recommend our cleaning set for the removal of stains. The set consists of:

- 1 bottle of floor cleaner (called Ajax)
- 1 spray can of chloric bath cleaner (called Sagrotan)
- 1 spray can of orange cleaner
- 1 microfibre sponge
- 1 sheet of sandpaper grain size 80
- 1 lint-free paper towel



1. Water marks

Water marks can appear in the first weeks after laying as the wood contents wash out. This process can be shortened by regularly washing down the surfaces. However, it cannot be avoided completely and it therefore does not represent a quality defect.

Water marks appear after rain, condensation and from interactions with other liquids. They are particularly prone to form at points of transition between roofed-over areas and exposed surfaces or due to irregular exposure to dampness under roofed areas. The lack of a slope on freely exposed surfaces also encourages water marks to form. Water marks can generally be removed with water and a scrubber.

2. Fat stains

Fatty substances should be removed from the boards as

Type of staint	Ajax	Sagrotan	Orange cleaner	Microfibre sponge	Paper towel	Sand paper
General cleaning	X					
Water marks	X					
Fat removal	X		X	X	X	
Coloured stains	X	X		X		
Fox marks	X	X		X		(X)
Burn marks						X

soon as possible to prevent fat stains from forming, or at least to reduce the size of the stains. Subsequently clean the affected point with Ajax floor cleaner.

Any stains that remain usually fade in the course of natural weathering. Alternatively, orange cleaner can be used:

1. Remove coarse dirt.
2. Use the orange cleaner on dry surfaces only.
3. Spray orange cleaner onto the spot.
Please always follow the safety information printed on the can.
4. After a short reaction time, remove the cleaner by dabbing it up with a lint-free paper towel.
5. If the stain is still visible, repeat points **3 and 4**.
6. Remove marks that may be produced around the treated spot afterwards by applying some Ajax floor cleaner.

3. Stains caused by discolouring foodstuffs

Foodstuffs that discolour (such as red wine, mustard and fruit) can leave a coloured stain behind on the floor boards. Thus please remove such foodstuffs as quickly as possible with Ajax floor cleaner.

If discoloured residues remain, clean the area with a chloric bath cleaner (e.g. Sagrotan), see point 4.

4. Mould stains

Mould stains can appear in places that are covered for a long period of time and are hardly ever exposed to the weather (e.g. under plant pots, umbrella stands, covers for garden furniture). In the worst circumstances, these areas can attack the surface of the boards and spoil the look of the floor. With this in mind, it is better not to cover the terrace areas. Mould stains can be removed at an early stage using a chloric bath cleaner (e.g. Sagrotan).

Proceed as follows:

1. Remove coarse dirt.
2. Spray the Sagrotan bath cleaner onto the spot.
Please follow the safety notes printed on the can. The bath cleaner can also be used on wet floor boards.
3. After a short reaction time, remove the cleaner by dabbing it away with a towel or the microfibre sponge.
4. Repeat the application, if necessary.

Once they have taken hold, mould stains can only be removed mechanically (e.g. using sandpaper, grain size 80). We are not able to guarantee complete removal in such cases. The aforesaid treatment can alter the colour tone of the floor. However, natural weathering usually adapts colour differences over the course of time.

5. Green infestation

Green infestation should be removed without delay to prevent permanent optical soiling by the spread of microorganisms. Once green infestation starts to form, we recommend that a diluted, liquid bleach solution is used (e.g. Dan Klorix mixed with water at a ratio of 1:3). Work this in hard with a scrubber (hard bristles) and subsequently rinse down with plenty of water. Alternatively, you can use a green infestation remover. Please observe the manufacturer's processing instructions.

6. Burn marks / other stains irremovable by cleaning

Burn marks, dried paint, plastic worn down from garden furniture etc. can only be removed by mechanical abrasion. Use coarse sandpaper to do so, e.g. the sandpaper contained in the cleaning set has a grain size of 80.

1. Always work carefully in the direction of the floor board structure.
2. Do not remove more material than absolutely necessary.
3. Given natural weathering conditions, the difference in colour caused by the removed material will readjust over the course of time.

7. Rust stains

Rust stains can be removed using the so-called "Rostflecken Entferner" from the Mellerud Company. Apply in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

8. Cement residues

Cement stains can be removed using acid-free cement stain remover.

Please follow the manufacturer's instructions.

General notes

When treating stains, please note that extensive brushing or hard treatments with towels or the microfibre sponge may result in partial brightening. Consequently, it is advisable to rub carefully and over a large surface in the longitudinal direction of the boards.

All the methods described here of removing stains have been determined empirically. It is impossible to simulate all possible constraints, situations, staining agents and loadings.

We cannot guarantee that stains will be removed completely or that the surface will remain unchanged after treatment.

Hence stains that cannot be removed completely, marks, brighter spots or other slight changes to the surface are no reason for complaint.



Please also see the assembly and care videos at www.terrafina.de

