COMMON MYTHS ABOUT DECKS

MYTH 1 • DECKS ARE GOOD DO-IT-YOURSELF PROJECTS

That may have been true in years past for simple, basic, ground level decks. Years ago decks were considered an accessory structure by building departments and often didn't require a permit. With the encouragement of local big box stores, many weekend warriors figured that they could save big money by doing the job themselves. For the most part this is no longer true. Decks have become more complex in their design, and require more skill and knowledge to successfully complete. Due in part to the many reports of deck failure, building departments have adopted much stronger building code requirements.

Often the tell-tale sign of a homeowner built deck is its incompleteness due to underestimation of time and effort required to complete the project. Hand rails, lights, and other code and finishing details are often left undone. The time to design, engineer, and acquire HOA and permit approval, along with the tools and help required to build the project, ends up costing more than hiring an experienced, licensed, and insured deck specialist, like DeckTec. Even homeowners with past experience can recognize the higher quality of an experienced deck specialist who does this work regularly.



MYTH 2 • THERE IS A "MAINTENANCE-FREE" DECK

Perhaps the biggest myth is the promise of a maintenance free deck. As a parent or homeowner, can you really think of anything that is truly maintenance free? Not likely. But many have turned to synthetic decking material in hopes that these "maintenance free" claims are true. Due to numerous class action lawsuits, the U.S. Government has banned synthetic decking manufactures from making such claims '95 MF. Instead you will see claims of "low maintenance," "easy care," and "reduced maintenance."

However, if you were to look up the care instructions for these deck materials, you will find they are anything but low maintenance, requiring a yearly scrubbing with special soaps or cleaners, daily sweeping during spring pollen or autumn to keep the deck clear of materials that will promote mold growth, and spills to be cleaned up immediately to prevent permenant staining. The only way you will get something that is maintenance free, is if you choose not to maintain it.

At DeckTec we only use real wood decking. Wood, which many people consider "high maintenance" due to the recommended yearly staining and cleaning to help protect the deck from UV rays and weather. However, you can leave your wood deck to weather naturally, to the beautiful gray patina that is the result of the outer layers of wood oxidizing to protect the inner layers. Like your car, lawn, home, or anything you value, anything requires maintenance. It's just a matter of incentifying what's truly worth maintaning.

HERE'S THE TRUTH

Anything of value, like your home, car, or landscape, requires care and maintenance. To protect your investment, you can perform these services yourself, but there is a better way to keep your outdoor rooms and deck additions in shape. DeckTec has a full service department at your disposal. Like your doctor, or a good mechanic, DeckTec keeps service records so we can help you protect your investment. Call DeckTec at 303.277.1550 for a service estimate. We can save you both time and money by making sure your deck, patio, and roof addition are in great condition for years of safe enjoyment.

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