

The Last Deck You Will Ever Build

The debate rages on: Deck construction using wood, or composite materials? Purists insist on the benefits of pressure-treated lumber. Others have discovered high-quality wood-alternative composite materials, such as Trex® or Azek®. Following are 5 reasons we recommend composite construction for your deck or patio in East Tennessee.

Average Reading Time: 2.5 minutes


1. Low maintenance. Traditional wood decks require regular attention. That translates to hours spent cleaning, staining, and sealing to stand up against Mother Nature. Skip a season? You'll pay the price in wood cracks, rot, and even warping. Wood decks are also susceptible to mildew, and even black mold. We love the beauty of natural wood, but it pains us all to see a wooden deck degrade over just a few seasons. Ownership of a wood deck requires herculean efforts in keeping surfaces clean and well maintained.

Previously owned a wood deck? The maintenance cost, measured in both time and money, is exhausting. Consider a deck made of composite materials for your next Knoxville area project.

2. Long-lasting asset. Even the best premium-quality and highly maintained decks see temperature variations; and they can undergo splitting, mildew, or insect damage. The average life of a wood deck is 10-20 years. They generally won't last as long as your home does. East Tennessee area homeowners are finding another advantage: Composite deck construction can add to the market value of their homes. A low-maintenance deck makes a house more attractive to a potential homebuyer.

3. Safety. As discussed, wood eventually fails under the unrelenting assault of the elements. In Tennessee, we see extremes of hot and cold — and especially hot summers with brilliant and damaging sunshine. Deck boards and treads will break down, evidencing dangerous splinters, or worse: give way under someone's unknowing step.

Composite decking can offer the best slip resistance of all decking materials.



Ask about our under-deck guttering system. It draws water away from vulnerable foundations. Bonus: no breeding ground for mosquitos and insects.

Also: Composite deck manufacturers have taken the lead in using hidden fasteners in their construction. No more catching a bare foot on a nail or screw head.

4. **Eco-friendly.** Harvested trees may be accompanied by the planting of new seedlings; but mature trees can take decades to grow. On the other hand, composite materials such as Trex and Azek are made from recycled wood and plastics.

Composite materials are eco-friendly, perfect for the environmentally aware homeowner.

5. **Cost.** For years, composite materials have been more expensive than their real wood counterparts. But today that's changing. With rising costs of lumber, the gap is narrowing. And remember the advantages of this low-maintenance solution. Homeowners avoid the added cost and hassle of specialty cleaners, noxious chemicals, and hours spent on wood deck maintenance and repair. The use of composite construction materials can pay for itself in as little as 3 years when including the cost of annual maintenance.

Our staff at Lakeview Home Improvements, headed by Nate Burket, can consult with you in realizing your decking dreams. We love remodeling or building decks and understand the do's and don'ts, the best practices, of executing a remarkable design. We are a leader in Knoxville and East Tennessee.

For more information on your unique deck project, [contact us](#).

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