

Alternative Decking Plank Categories

Outdoor living surfaces have come a long way over the years—evolving from concrete slabs and cedar decks into many types of alternative decking. TimberTech has advanced this evolution as a leader in the research, development, and manufacturing of long-lasting, low maintenance, high quality decking. Today’s alternative deck planks fall into three distinct categories – traditional, capped composite, and PVC decking.

- 1** **Traditional Composite** deck planks are a wood plastic composite blend made by extruding a polyethylene plastic and reprocessed wood fiber. Traditional composite boards won’t splinter and they don’t need to be stained or painted.
- 2** **Capped Composite** deck planks have a wood composite blend core (similar to a traditional composite) fully encapsulated by a protective hardened plastic cap. The products are engineered to resist fading, scratches and stains and most companies offer an additional stain and fade warranty.
- 3** **PVC** deck planks have an expanded PVC plastic core and a solid PCV plastic cap and do not contain wood. The planks are stain and scratch resistant and are 40% lighter than traditional and capped composite deck planks. The PVC exterior allows a unique matte aesthetic, providing realistic streaking that mimics hardwood.

It’s not just a deck.
It’s TimberTech.

	Traditional Composite Decking	Capped Composite Decking	PVC Decking
TimberTech Plank Profiles	ReliaBoard TwinFinish	Earthwood Evolutions	XLM
Competitive Plank Profiles	Trex Accents Fiberon Professional AERT MoistureShield	Trex Transcend Fiberon Horizons	Trex Escapes Azek
Material - Substrate or Core	Wood Plastic Blend	Wood Plastic Blend	Foamed PVC
Material - Cap or Surface	Wood Plastic Blend	Plastic/Olefin	Plastic/PVC
Strength	Excellent	Excellent	Fair
Weight	Heavy	Heavy	Light
Fade Resistance	Fair	Excellent	Good
Stain Resistance	Fair	Excellent	Good
Scratch Resistance	Good	Excellent	Excellent
Expansion/Contraction	Good	Good	Fair
Aesthetic	Brushed/Embossed (exposed wood fibers)	Embossed (no exposed wood fibers)	Embossed