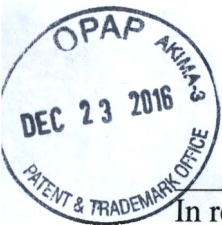


IN THE UNITED STATES OF PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD



In re Trademark Application of

MARBLE SYSTEMS, INC.

Serial Number: 86/693,803

Filed: July 15, 2015

For: VERANDA

Examining Attorney JACKSON

Law Office 120

Commissioner for Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1451

**BRIEF FOR APPELLANT**



12-23-2016

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In re Trademark Application of	:	
	:	
MARBLE SYSTEMS, INC.	:	
	:	Examining Attorney JACKSON
Serial Number: 86/693,803	:	
	:	Law Office 120
Filed: July 15, 2015	:	
	:	
For: VERANDA	:	
	:	

\*\*\*\*\*

Commissioner for Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1451

Sir:

**BRIEF FOR APPELLANT**

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORD

A. Nature of the Case

This an ex parte appeal from the final decision of the Trademark Examining Attorney refusing to register the mark VERANDA based on the Trademark Examining Final Office Action dated March 25, 2016 and the Trademark Examining Attorney's Denial Request for Reconsideration of October 26, 2016.

B. Disposition Below

The Examining Attorney issued the Final Refusal in an Office Action dated March 25, 2016, refusing registration on the grounds that there may be a likelihood of confusion under

Trademark Act Section 2(d) between the present U.S. Trademark Application Serial Number 86/693,803 for the mark VERANDA for the goods “CERAMIC TILES; CERAMIC TILES FOR FLOORING, FACING, LINING AND COVERINGS; GLAZED CERAMIC TILES; MOSAIC ART TILES MADE OF MARBLE; NATURAL STONE TILES” and U.S. Trademark Registration Number 3,178,672 for the mark VERANDA for the goods “NON-METAL BUILDING MATERIALS FOR USE IN BUILDING DECKS; NON-METAL FENCING; NON-METAL LATTICES” in International Class 019. Appellant timely filed a Notice of Appeal on September 26, 2016, along with the requisite fee and an official Response to the Final Office Action.

Thereafter, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board issued a Notice on October 5, 2016, informing the Applicant that the Response of September 26, 2016 would be considered as a Request for Reconsideration and remanded the application back to the Examining Attorney for action. On October 25, 2016, the Examining Attorney denied Applicant’s Request for Reconsideration. The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board issued a Notice on October 31, 2016 stating that the Appeal was resumed and Applicant had sixty days from the date of that notice to file its Brief.

## II. STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES

Whether the Examining Attorney erred in refusing registration under Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act when she asserted that there may be a likelihood of confusion under Trademark Act Section 2(d) between the present U.S. Trademark Application Serial Number 86/693,803 for the mark VERANDA on the goods CERAMIC TILES; CERAMIC TILES FOR FLOORING, FACING, LINING AND COVERINGS; GLAZED CERAMIC TILES; MOSAIC ART TILES

MADE OF MARBLE; NATURAL STONE TILES and U.S. Trademark Registration Number 3,178,672 for the mark VERANDA on goods identified as NON-METAL BUILDING MATERIALS FOR USE IN BUILDING DECKS; NON-METAL FENCING; NON-METAL LATTICES.

### III. RECITATION OF THE FACTS

Appellant filed an application on the Principal Register a trademark for the word mark VERANDA on July 15, 2015 which was given Serial Number 86/693,803 and classified in International Class 19.

The goods on which the mark is used was described in the application as filed were CERAMIC TILES; CERAMIC TILES FOR FLOORING, FACING, LINING AND COVERINGS; GLAZED CERAMIC TILES; MOSAIC ART TILES MADE OF MARBLE; NATURE STONE TILES. The Examining Attorney issued a first refusal in an Office Action dated October 27, 2015 refusing registration under Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act and citing Registration Number 3,178,672 for VERANDA asserting likelihood of confusion. A Response was timely filed on February 12, 2016 arguing over the rejection, presenting evidence and additional information requested. A final Office Action issued on March 25, 2016 continued the 2(d) likelihood of confusion rejection citing Registration Number 3,178,672 for VERANDA. A Response was timely filed on September 26, 2016, arguing over the rejection, along with a Notice of Appeal and fee.

The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board issued a Notice on October 5, 2016, informing the Applicant that the Response of September 26, 2016 would be considered as a Request for Reconsideration and remanded the application back to the Examining Attorney for action. On

October 26, 2016, the Examining Attorney denied Applicant's Request for Reconsideration. The application has been rejected in the aforementioned Office Actions refusing registration of the mark under Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act because of Examining Attorney's assertion that there was a likelihood of confusion between the present U.S. Trademark Application Serial Number 86/693,803 for the mark VERANDA and U.S. Trademark Registration Number 3,178,672 for the mark VERANDA as the goods were same and furthermore where the marks of the respective parties are identical or virtually identical, the relationship between the relevant goods need not be as close to support a finding of likelihood of confusion.

The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board issued a Notice on October 31, 2016, resuming the ex parte appeal, noting that Applicant was allowed sixty (60) days from the mailing date in which to file its Brief.

#### IV. ARGUMENT

Applicant traverses the outstanding rejection that there may be a likelihood of confusion under Trademark Act Section 2(d) between U.S. Trademark Registration Number 3,178,672 for the mark VERANDA for the goods "NON-METAL BUILDING MATERIALS FOR USE IN BUILDING DECKS; NON-METAL FENCING; NON-METAL LATTICES" and Applicant's mark VERANDA Serial Number 86/693,803 for the goods "CERAMIC TILES; CERAMIC TILES FOR FLOORING, FACING, LINING AND COVERINGS; GLAZED CERAMIC TILES; MOSAIC ART TILES MADE OF MARBLE; NATURAL STONE TILES."

The goods with which the marks are associated significantly differ. The degree of relatedness must be viewed in the context of all factors, in determining whether the goods are sufficiently related that a reasonable consumer would be confused as the source or sponsorship.



The cited '672 registration noted above is for non-metal building materials for use in building decks, non-metal fencing and non-metal lattices. These building materials are made from lumber and composite boards. The meaning and scope of the goods identified in an identification of goods must be given their ordinary meaning and not stretched to cover every possible interpretation. One does not or would not construct decks, fencing and lattices of ceramic and/or mosaic tiles. As can be seen by Exhibit A, (the specimen filed with the renewal of the '672 application as taken from the TSRD files of the United States Patent and Trademark Office), clearly show that the '672 registrant uses grooved edges capped composite decking board. The product overview in the specimen notes that it looks, installs and works like wood but resists warping, rotting and damage from weather or insect attack and is made from premium recycled wood and polymer. Indeed, the ordinary consumer chooses between composite board and wood boards when selecting for a building contractor to build a deck.

There is a clear distinction between the ceramic and natural stone tiles and mosaic tiles of Applicant and the specific decking board composite board of the cited '672 registration. Using the Trademark Examiner's argument since boats have decks, it would fall under the umbrella of the '672 registration (see the VERANDA registration for boats on page 7). The goods are totally different, have to meet different code specifications and have specifically different material composition and uses as well as being installed by different building professionals in different channels of trade.

The substitution of the goods of the '672 registration for the goods of Applicant would not meet any building code and would not be approved by the locality building inspector. Furthermore, the use of unapproved materials could have disastrous consequences for the structural integrity and safety of a particular construction being built. Furthermore, Applicant's

goods are specifically different and noncompetitive.

The essential inquiry is whether there is sufficient overlap of the perspective purchasers of the parties' goods to confuse actual and potential purchasers. Because the goods are used on construction projects that are "quite different" and sold to discriminating customers, there is no likelihood of confusion even though both parties use the identical mark. *Dynamics Research Corp. V. Langenau Mfg. Co.*, 217 USPQ 649 (Fed Cir. 1983)

In determining any likelihood of confusion among the relevant public analysis, all relevant *du Pont* factors should be considered. Key considerations which must be considered are: (1) similarities between the marks; and (2) the similarities between the goods or services. Each of the factors may from case to case play a dominate role. *Kellogg Co. v. Pack 'em Enterprises Inc.*, 21 USPQ2d 1142 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Any one of these factors as well as any of the factors may control in a given case depending on the evidence of record. *Citigroup, Inc. v. Capital City Bank Grp. Inc.*, 637 F.3d at 1355, 98 USPQ2d at 1260 (Fed. Cir. 2011).

The Trademark Examining Attorney has interpreted "decks" to cover patios or pool areas when the common meaning is "b. a roofless floored area that adjoins a house", *The American Heritage College Dictionary 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*, pgs. 359-360 (Exhibit B). Thus, the Trademark Examiner has given a broader interpretation to the goods than would ordinarily be given by the normal purchaser.

The word "veranda" has been registered numerous times, and the following VERANDA trademarks are currently in force in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Some representative trademarks VERANDA marks are:

<u>U.S. REG NO.</u>	<u>MARK &amp; GOODS/SERVICES</u>	<u>INT'L CLASS</u>
2,274,617	VERANDA For: Periodical magazine dealing with homes, gardens and lifestyles	016
3,118,416	VERANDA For: Boats	012
4,481,770	VERANDA For: Decorative water fountains; decorative table-top water fountains; decorative electric candles for non-illumination purposes	011

Contrary to the argument of the Trademark Examining Attorney, Applicant's goods are used in totally difference areas of construction and are unrelated to Registrant's goods. Decks are built primarily by carpenters in the decking industry. They are made of lumber and/or composite board. Tile is the subject of another building specialty which requires a different skill set different adhesives, different cutting tools and different installation tools. Furthermore, Applicant provides relatively expensive goods to knowledgeable comparative purchasers who pick the color and design of the tiles, the color of the grout and then pay thousands of dollars for a tile setter to cut and lay the tile in the predetermined design. There is little to no impulse buying because of the complexity including the necessity for color coordination, size and pattern limitations. Generally speaking, decks and tile projects costs tens of thousands of dollars and require specialists in the field which do not cross over to do deck construction or conversely, tile laying and cutting. The equipment required to do each type of job is different and the base materials are manufactured by totally different manufacturers from totally different raw materials. The discrimination and degree of care by users of the respective goods must be considered, along with other relevant factors and give appropriate weight. The accompanying channels of trade are different, as most tile stores only sell tile such that there would not be a likelihood of confusion as to the source of these goods. There are some chain stores which do sell both lumber, composite

board and tile but the ceramic tiles and natural stone tiles are separated from each other and are linked to specific manufacturers.

The Board in the past has found no likelihood of confusion even with respect to identical marks applied to goods and/or services used in a common industry when such goods and/or services clearly differ and there is insufficient evidence to establish a reasonable basis for assuming that the respective goods would have the same source of origin. *See, e.g., Borg-Warner Chemicals, Inc. v. Helena Chemical Company, 225 USPQ 222, 224 (TTAB1983).* The purchasers of Applicant's goods exercise considerable care in purchasing the goods. As noted, the trades in which the respective goods are used are completely different and would not be handled by the same tradesman. There is no overlapping skill set.

While theoretically possible, any likelihood of confusion by purchasers regarding the goods identified by the Applicant's or Registrant's marks is purely speculative inasmuch as (1) the customers to whom the '672 Registrant's marketing efforts would be directed are highly unlikely to confuse tile products with lumber or composite board, and (2) the clientele to whom Applicant's goods are directed are sufficiently sophisticated purchasers and/or installers who are easily able to discern the distinctions in the different end products usages. That these sophisticated purchasers might encounter both marks (Applicant's and the Registrant's mark) would involve at most only a *de minimis* number of purchasers. In other words, any overlap in customers is too small to be significant much less dispositive. *Electronic Design & Sales v. Electronic Data Systems, 954 F. 2d 713, 21 USPQ 2d 1388 (Fed Cir 1992).*

In light of the relatively narrow scope, use and installation of Applicant's goods, it is highly unlikely that the marketplaces for the goods of this Applicant and those of the '672 Registrant overlap.

When all these factors are taken together--the physical differences of the goods; the sophistication of the purchasers and their knowledge of the construction industry; the necessity for different skilled tradesmen to install the end building product, the lack of evidence that goods such as those identified in Applicant's application and the cited '672 registration would emanate from the same source as well as the goods, are not advertised together show that the likelihood of confusion is unlikely.

Moreover as noted, the goods of Applicant are expensive to purchase as well as expensive to install and are not the subject of impulse purchasing, but are purchased with care and deliberation. In these circumstances, consumers would recognize the differences in source of origin that these marks indicate different sources for the goods.

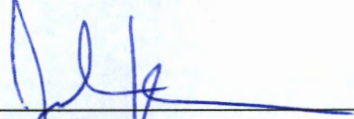
The Board has many times acknowledged that mere theoretical possibilities of confusion, deception or mistake or *de minimis* situations are not the point of a likelihood of confusion determination. Instead, trademark law deals with the practicalities of the commercial world. *Witco Chemical Co. v. Whitfield Chemical Co., Inc.*, 418 F.2d. 1403, 1405, 164 USPQ 43, 44-45 (CCPA 1969), *aff'd* 153 USPQ 412 (TTAB 1967). The practicalities of the commercial world are that there is little to no likelihood of confusion between Applicant's mark and its goods and the goods of the cited '672 registration.

V. SUMMARY

For the reasons set forth herein, it is respectfully urged that the rejection be reversed and the present Application be allowed and passed to publication. If any costs are incurred, please charge Deposit Account Number 07-1340.

Respectfully submitted,

GIPPLE & HALE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John S. Hale  
Registration No. 25,209

(703) 448-1770 x 301  
6718 Whittier Avenue, Suite 200  
McLean, Virginia 22101  
Attorney Ref.: TMB-7855



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Trademark Application of	:	
	:	
MARBLE SYSTEMS, INC.	:	
	:	Examining Attorney JACKSON
Serial Number: 86/693,803	:	
	:	Law Office 120
Filed: July 15, 2015	:	
	:	
For: VERANDA	:	
	:	

Commissioner for Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1451

**EXHIBIT A**

Home / Lumber & Composites / Fencing / Vinyl Fencing / Vinyl Fence Panels

**Veranda** Model 73013298    Internet #203079474    Store SKU #613633

## 6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden Pro Privacy Fence Panel Kit

★★★★☆ (72) [Write a Review](#) [Questions & Answers \(257\)](#)



**\$79.97** /each

Color/Finish: **White**



Nominal Panel Height x Width (ft.)  
6 ft. x 8 ft.

- ☒ Ship to Home  
Estimated Arrival: **SEP 28 - OCT 4**  
[See Shipping Options](#)
- ☐ Ship to Store **FREE**  
Available for Pick Up: **SEP 29 - OCT 4**

**Add To Cart**

[Save to List](#)

OR 

Item cannot be shipped to the following state(s):  
AK, GU, HI, PR, VI

**NEARBY STORES MAY HAVE THIS ITEM**

[Check Nearby Stores](#)

[Open Expanded View](#)

[Click image to Zoom](#)



[Related items](#)    [Product Overview](#)    [Specifications](#)    [Recommended items](#)    [Questions & Answers](#)    [Customer Reviews](#)

### Frequently Bought Together



+



+



Price for all three:

**\$113.33**

**Add To Cart**

- ☒ **This item:** 6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden Pro Privacy Fence Panel Kit **\$79.97**
- ☒ Veranda 5 in. x 3 in. x 9 ft. White Vinyl Routed Fence End Post **\$29.97**
- ☒ Veranda 5 in. x 5 in. Vinyl White Pyramid Post Cap **\$3.39**

### Product Overview



The 6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden Pro Privacy Fence Panel has do-it-yourself friendly styles to professional **grade fencing**. This vinyl fence offers the perfect combination of high quality and low maintenance you have been looking for. The lightweight design makes installation **fast and easy**.

- Corresponding posts sold separately: use line post (model # 73013030), corner post (model # 73013275), end post (model # 73013274).
- Coordinating gates sold separately: use model # 73014520 (4 ft. walk gate) or model # 73014521 (5 ft. drive gate).
- 5 in. x 5 in. post tops (various styles available) attach most easily by using Veranda post top caps (model # 73014050).
- Vinyl privacy fence assembles in minutes without the use of brackets, fasteners or screws.
- Tongue and groove boards fit together with no gap in between for true privacy in your yard.
- Easy-to-assemble vinyl privacy fence kits contour to follow the slopes of your yard.

## Info & Guides

[FAQ](#)

[Installation Guide](#)

[Instructions / Assembly](#)

[Specification](#)

You will need Adobe® Acrobat® Reader to view PDF documents.  
Download Adobe Acrobat Reader from the Adobe Web Site.



## Complete Your Project: Privacy Easy-to-Assemble Vinyl Fence

Once you have selected your Privacy Vinyl Fence style, color and size, continue

Once you have selected your Privacy Vinyl Fence style, color and size, continue to gather your component materials.



## Available Styles, Colors and Sizes:

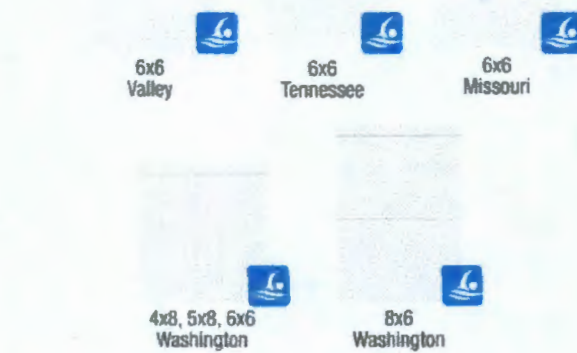




Veranda Model # 73013236 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

\$79.97 /each



Veranda Model # 73013236 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

\$79.97 /each



Pool Code Approved  
Pool code approved panels  
meet ICC requirements



ProSeal™  
Our patented technology delivers  
strength and durability

Available in the following colors:



White



Sand

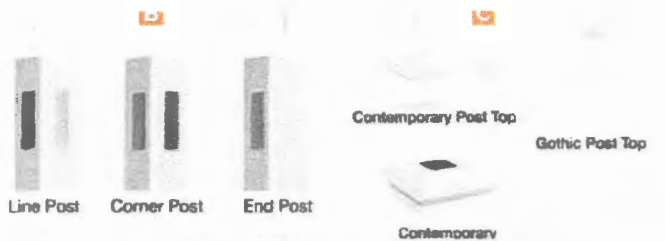


Cypress



Birchwood\*  
\*Roosevelt only

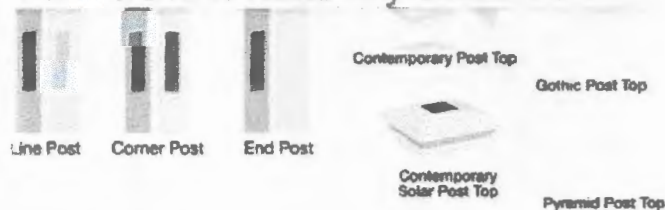
Components: Collect Posts, Tops & Clips



Veranda Model # 73013295 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

\$79.97 /each



Post Insert

Post inserts are required for fences in high wind areas and with all gates.



Post Top Clips

Veranda Model # 73013294 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

\$79.97 /each



Post Insert

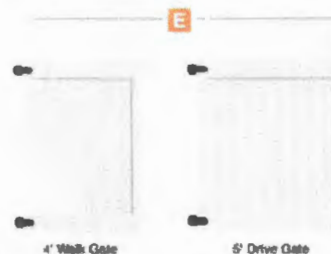
Post inserts are required for fences in high wind areas and with all gates.



Post Top Clips

### Optional: Choose Walk or Drive Gates

Pro Series Fencing uses ready-to-assemble gate kits available in Drive or Walk Gate widths to match your color and style. Selected drive and walk gates include one Heavy-Duty Boerboel™ Hinge Kit.



4' Walk Gate

6' Drive Gate

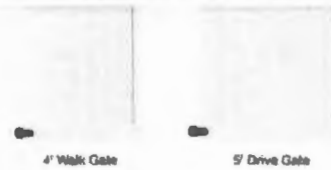


Boerboel® handle and latch sold separately

Veranda Model # 73013294 ★★★★★ (12)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

\$79.97 /each



4' Walk Gate

6' Drive Gate



Boerboel® handle and latch sold separately



**Don't forget...**

You will need pea gravel, concrete, level and a post hole digger for installation!

Veranda Model # 73013298 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

**\$79.97** /each



**Don't forget...**

You will need pea gravel, concrete, level and a post hole digger for installation!



Veranda Model # 73013298 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

**\$79.97** /each



✕ More In This Collection From Veranda (4)

Veranda Model # 73013298 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

**\$79.97** /each



✕ More In This Collection From Veranda (4)

YOUR CURRENT PRODUCT



1 of 2

Veranda Model # 73013298 ★★★★★ (72)

6 ft. H x 8 ft. W White Vinyl Linden P...

**\$79.97** /each



**\$79.97** /each

Veranda 6 ft. H x 8 ft. W  
White Vinyl Linden...

**\$29.97** /each

Veranda 5 in. x 5 in. x 9 ft  
White Vinyl...

**\$29.97** /piece

Veranda 5 in. x 5 in. x 9 ft  
White Vinyl...

**\$29.97** /each

Veranda 5 in. x 5 in. x 9 ft  
White Vinyl...

 Accessories (7)

## Specifications

---

### Dimensions

Actual panel height (in.)	66	Nominal panel height (ft.)	6
Actual panel thickness (in.)	1.75	Nominal panel width (ft.)	8



<http://www.homedepot.com/p/Veranda-6-ft-H-x-8-ft-W-White-Vinyl-Linden-Pro-Privacy-Fence-Panel-Kit-73013296/203079474>

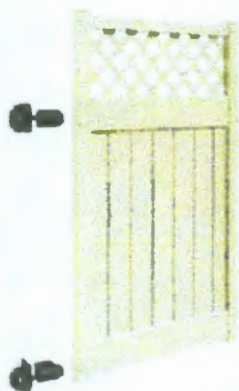
9/19/16

Home / Lumber & Composites / Fencing / Vinyl Fencing / Vinyl Fence Gates

**Veranda** Model 73014351 Internet #204830833

## Yellowstone 4 ft. W x 6 ft. H Sand Vinyl Un-Assembled Fence Gate

★★★★★ (8) [Write a Review](#) [Questions & Answers \(2\)](#)



[Go to Expanded View](#)

[Click image to zoom](#)



**\$278.00** /piece

Color/Finish: **Sand**



Nominal Gate Width (ft.) x Nominal Gate Height (ft.)  
4 ft. x 6 ft.

☒ Ship to Home **FREE**  
Estimated Arrival: **SEP 29 - OCT 3**  
[See Shipping Options](#)

☐ Ship to Store **FREE**  
Available for Pick Up: **SEP 29 - OCT 4**

**Add To Cart**

[Save to list](#)

OR **PayPal**

Item cannot be shipped to the following state(s):  
AK, GU, HI, PR, VI

Product Not Sold In Stores

[Related Items](#)   [Product Overview](#)   [Specifications](#)   [Recommended Items](#)   [Questions & Answers](#)   [Customer Reviews](#)

### Accessories (2)

YOUR CURRENT PRODUCT



**\$278.00** /piece

Veranda Yellowstone 4 ft. W  
x 6 ft. H Sand

★★★★★ (8)

☒ Item Selected



**\$4.97** /each

Veranda 3/4 in. x 2 in. x 4-  
1/2 in. Vinyl

★★★★★ (2)

☐ Select This Item



**\$9.12** /piece

Veranda 5 in. x 5 in. Sand  
Vinyl New England

★★★★★ (3)

☐ Select This Item

1 Item(s) Selected

**Add Items To Cart**

## Product Overview

Download a free copy from the Adobe View site.

- Designed to fit a 4 ft. gate opening when installed with hardware
- Dimensions of assembled gate (excluding hardware) are 72 in. x 44 in.
- Gate was designed to complement the Yellowstone panel
- Fence panel, posts and post tops sold separately
- Boerboel gate hardware sold separately
- Gate kit, assembly required
- Same style of gate is also available to fit a 5 ft. opening
- Also available in white and cypress color
- Transferable limited lifetime warranty



<http://www.bonisedepot.com/p/Veranda-Yellowstone-4-ft-W-x-6-ft-H-Sand-Vinyl-Un-Assembled-Fence-Gate-73014351/204830833>

9/19/16





Veranda Model BRDVCG BW 16 Internet #202594367 Store SKU #360023 Store SO SKU #458602

## ArmorGuard 1 in. x 5-1/4 in. x 16 ft. Brazilian Walnut Grooved Edge Capped Composite Decking Board

★★★★★ (7) [Write a Review](#) [Questions & Answers \(50\)](#)**\$34.37** /each

- Beautiful and durable surface with realistic wood grains
- Resistant to fading, staining, mold, termites and rot
- Low maintenance and easy to clean with a 20-year limited warranty

Nominal Product Length (ft.)  
16☒ Pick Up in Store **FREE**

Available for Pick Up, Today

**137** In stock at  
**Suwanee #1754**[Change Pick Up Store](#)☐ Express Delivery from Store

Pick Your Delivery Date as Soon as Tomorrow

**Add To Cart**[Save to list](#)

OR

[Buy now with PayPal](#)

Item cannot be shipped to the following state(s): GU, PR, VI

**In Stock At Your Selected Store****Suwanee #1754**  
Suwanee, GA 30024  
[Change Pick Up Store](#)**137** In Stock  
Aisle 18, Bay Q14  
[Text Product Location](#)[Open Expanded View](#)[Click image to Zoom](#)[Related items](#)[Product Overview](#)[Specifications](#)[Recommended items](#)[Questions & Answers](#)[Customer Reviews](#)

## Frequently Bought Together



+



+



Price for all three

**\$48.31**[Add To Cart](#)



✓ **This item:** [ArmorGuard 1 in. x 5 1/4 in. x 16 ft. Brazilian Walnut Grooved Edge Capped Composite Decking Board](#) **\$34.37**

✓ [Veranda 4 in. x 6 in. White New England Base Trim](#) **\$3.97**

✓ [Veranda ArmorGuard Back 5 in. x 5 in. Plastic Matte Post Sleeve Base Molding](#) **\$9.97**

## Product Overview

Veranda ArmorGuard decking with patent pending PermaTech innovation raises the bar in composite decking, providing the most resilient surface for the ultimate in stain, fade and mold resistance. ArmorGuard decking summons the beauty of tropical hardwoods, bustling seascapes, and western forests with stunning, subtle tones and graining. ArmorGuard hidden fasteners are recommended for installation. You'll have a fastener-free surface that is smooth on your feet, while emulating the look of interior hardwoods. California residents see [Proposition 65 information](#).

- Looks, installs, and works like wood but Veranda resists warping, rotting and damage from weather or insect attack
- Mold and mildew resistant surface
- No sanding, staining or sealing required
- Environmentally friendly, made with premium recycled wood and polymers
- Easy to clean for years of enjoyment
- Single board square footage - 7 sq. ft.
- Approximate board weight - 2.05 lbs. per lin. ft.
- For residential or commercial joist/stringer spacing please see installation guide
- Note: Product may vary by store
- [Click here for an estimate on your Decking Project](#)
- [Click to learn how to select the right lumber for your project](#)

### Info & Guides

[Full Product Manual](#)

[Installation Guide](#)

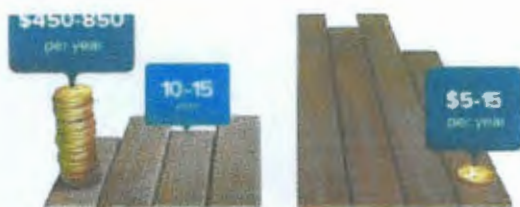
[Product Brochure](#)

[Maintenance and Care Manual](#)

[Warranty](#)

You will need Adobe® Acrobat® Reader to view PDF documents. Download a free copy from the Adobe Web site.





**Never stain, paint or  
replace your deck again.**

Our composites' long life and low  
maintenance save you money



**Spend time enjoying your  
deck versus maintaining it.**

True low maintenance with soap and  
water or mild household cleaners.  
Never a need to stain or paint.



**Good for the environment  
and your family.**

Created from recycled content,  
our composites are toxin-free and  
produced using sustainable practices.



**When safety counts.**

Unlike wood, composite decking  
won't splinter, crack or rot, making  
your home safer for bare feet, small  
children and pets.

✱ More In This Collection From Veranda (9)

YOUR CURRENT PRODUCT



**\$34.37** /each

Veranda ArmorGuard 1 in. x  
5-1/4 in. x 16 ft.



**\$46.97** /each

Veranda ArmorGuard 48 in.  
x 5 in. x 5 ft.



**\$56.97** /each

Veranda ArmorGuard 3/4 in.  
x 11-1/4 in. x 8 ft.



**\$66.77** /package

Veranda ArmorGuard 6 ft.  
Brazilian Walnut.

1 of 3

★★★★ (7)

☒ Item Selected

★★★ (3)

☐ Select This Item

★★★★ (8)

☐ Select This Item

★★★★ (5)

☐ Select This Item

1 Item(s) Selected

Add Items To Cart

+ Accessories (8)

## Specifications

### Dimensions

Actual product Length (ft.)	16	Nominal Product Length (ft.)	16
Actual product thickness (in.)	0.93	Nominal Product Thickness (in.)	1
Actual product width (in.)	5.25	Nominal product width (in.)	5.25
Approximate Weight (lb)	34		

### Details

Color Family	Brown	Features	Hidden Fasteners Compatibility, Prefinished, UV Protected
Fastener recommendation	Use Veranda ArmorGuard Screws and Hidden Fasteners	Material	Composite

### Warranty / Certifications

Manufacturer Warranty	See store for details
-----------------------	-----------------------

How can we improve our product information? Provide feedback

### CUSTOMERS WHO VIEWED THIS ITEM BOUGHT ...



\$17.17 /each

Veranda ArmorGuard...

★★★★ (4)

+ ADD TO CART



\$25.77 /each

Veranda ArmorGuard...

★★★★ (5)

+ ADD TO CART



\$46.97 /each

Veranda ArmorGuard...

★★★★ (19)

+ ADD TO CART



\$29.97 /each

Veranda ArmorGuard...

★★★★ (11)

+ ADD TO CART



\$56.97 /each

Veranda ArmorGuard...

★★★★ (8)

+ ADD TO CART



## More Products With These Features

☒ Material **Composite** ☒ Brand **Veranda** ☒ Review Rating **3 & Up**

Search

## Customer Questions & Answers

50

Questions

53

Answers

Ask a New Question

Search Questions and Answers



Sort By

Questions with Most Answers

- + **How does it hold up to shoveling? Will it scratch?**  
*Asked by Kmarey May 8, 2016*

2  
Answers

- + **Are these a true 16 foot long board?**  
*Asked by Todaysday April 15, 2016*

2  
Answers

- + **Can this deck be screwed down rather than using the special fasteners? Also, is this deck slippery in the rain or snow?**  
*Asked by DebB August 26, 2015*

2  
Answers

- + **Does the deck stay cool in the hot summer when walking barefooted on it?**  
*Asked by Julie September 17, 2016*

1  
Answer

1 2 3 4 5

## Customer Reviews

Write a Review

3.7

out of 5



5 ★ (3)  
4 ★ (2)  
3 ★ (0)  
2 ★ (1)  
1 ★ (1)

Customer Images

Page 1 of 1



Reviewed

7 Reviews

Quality  4.4  
Value  3.8

**71%**  
Of Customers

Recommend  
This Product  
5 of 7 reviews

+ Filter Reviews by: Rating, Profile, Gender, Age, Verified Purchase (7)

Search Reviews



Sort By

Most relevant



**Aaron**

Verified  
Purchase

 DIY

Maintenance free

March 19, 2016

**5.0**  
out of 5



☒ Recommended Product

Quality  5.0  
Value  5.0

Installed on a 10x20' deck. Installation was easy with the hidden fasteners. After almost a year, I have only noticed minor fading, holding up to the family and pets very well. Love having a maintenance free deck surface. Composite does get hotter in the sun compared to wood, and more slippery from rain/snow.

**Pros:** Alternative for Real Wood, Easy to Clean, Easy to Install

**Cons:** hot in the sun



This member's photo shows the product as it appears in their home.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Trademark Application of

MARBLE SYSTEMS, INC.

Serial Number: 86/693,803

Filed: July 15, 2015

For: VERANDA

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Examining Attorney JACKSON

Law Office 120

Commissioner for Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1451

**EXHIBIT B**



THE  
AMERICAN  
HERITAGE  
COLLEGE  
*dic·tion·ar·y*

NEWEST definitions – over 200,000  
MOST photographs and illustrations – over 2,500  
BEST usage guidance – over 400 notes



THIRD EDITION



illusions or naiveté: Gullible shoppers are easily duped.  
**de·cel·er·ate** (dē-sel'ə-rāt') *v.* **-at·ed, -at·ing, -ates.** — *tr.*  
 1. To decrease the velocity of. 2. To slow down the rate of  
 advancement of: *decelerated the arms buildup.* — *intr.* To de-  
 crease in velocity. [DE- + (AC)CELERATE.] — **de·cel·er·a·tion**  
*n.* — **de·cel·er·a·tor** *n.*

**de·cem·ber** (di-sēm'ber) *n.* The 12th month of the year in the  
 Gregorian calendar. [ME *decembre* < OFr. < Lat. *December*,  
 the tenth month of the Roman year, prob. < \**decemmembris*  
 < \**decem-mēnsis*: *decem*, ten; see **dekmp** + *mēnsis*, month;  
 see **MINES**.]

**de·cem·brist** (di-sēm'brist) *n.* A participant in the attempt to  
 overthrow Czar Nicholas I of Russia in December 1825.

**de·cem·vir** (di-sēm'var) *n., pl. -virs or -viri (-vā-rī')* 1. One  
 of a body of ten Roman magistrates, esp. a member of one of  
 two bodies appointed in 451 and 450 B.C. to draw up a code  
 of laws. 2. One of an authoritative body of ten. [ME < Lat.,  
 sing. of *decemviri*, commission of ten men: *decem*, ten; see  
**dekmp** + *viri*, pl. of *vir*, man; see **WI-RO**.] — **de·cem·vi·ral**  
*adj.* — **de·cem·vi·rate** (-vā-rāt') *n.*

**de·cent·ry** (dē'sən-sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1. The state or quality of  
 being decent; propriety. 2. Conformity to prevailing standards  
 of propriety or modesty. 3. **decenties**. a. Social or moral prop-  
 erties. b. The necessities for an acceptable standard of liv-  
 ing.

**de·cen·na·ry** (di-sēn'ə-rē) *adj.* Of or relating to a ten-year  
 period. — *n., pl. -ries*. A period of ten years; a decade. [<  
 Lat. *decennis*, lasting for ten years. See **DECENNIAL**.]

**de·cen·ni·al** (di-sēn'ē-əl) *adj.* 1. Relating to or lasting for ten  
 years. 2. Occurring every ten years. — *n.* A tenth anniversary.  
 [Lat. *decennium*, a period of ten years. See **DECENNIAL**.]  
 — **de·cen·ni·al·ly** *adv.*

**de·cen·ni·um** (di-sēn'ē-əm) *n., pl. -cen·ni·ums or -cen·ni·a  
 (-sē-nē-ā) A period of ten years. [Lat. < *decennis*, lasting for  
 ten years: *decem*, ten; see **dekmp** + *annus*, year; see **AN-**.]*

**de·cent** (dē'sant) *adj.* 1. Characterized by conformity to stan-  
 dards of propriety or morality. 2. Free from indecency; mod-  
 est. 3. Fairly good; adequate: *a decent salary*. 4. a. Morally  
 upright; respectable. b. Kind or obliging: *decent of them to*  
*help you*. 5. Informal. Properly or modestly dressed. [Lat.  
*decens*, *decens*, pr.p. of *decere*, to be fitting. See **dek**.] —  
**de·cent·ly** *adv.* — **de·cent·ness** *n.*

**de·cen·tral·ize** (dē-sēn'tra-līz') *v.* **-ized, -iz·ing, -izes.** — *tr.*  
 To distribute the administrative functions or powers of (a  
 central authority) among local authorities. 2. To cause to  
 withdraw or disperse from a center of concentration. — *intr.*  
 To undergo decentralization. — **de·cen·tral·i·za·tion** (-tra-  
 lī-zā-shən) *n.* — **de·cen·tral·i·za·tion·ist** *n.*

**de·cep·tion** (di-sēp'shən) *n.* 1. The use of deceit. 2. The fact  
 or state of being deceived. 3. A ruse; a trick. [ME *decepcion*,  
 Of. *deception* < LLat. *deceptio*, *deception* < Lat. *dēcep-*  
*tiō*, a part of *dēcipere*, to deceive. See **DECEIVE**.]

**de·cep·tive** (di-sēp'tiv) *adj.* Deceiving or tending to deceive.  
 — **de·cep·tive·ly** *adv.* — **de·cep·tive·ness** *n.*

**de·cer·e·brate** (dē-sēr'ə-brāt') *tr.v.* **-brat·ed, -brat·ing.**  
 To eliminate cerebral brain function in (an animal),  
 as by removing the cerebrum in an experiment. — *adj.* (also  
*de·cer·e·brat*) 1. Deprived of cerebral function, as by surgery. 2.  
 Resulting from or as if from decerebration. 3. Lacking intelli-  
 gence or reason. — *n.* (also *-brite*). A decerebrate animal or  
 person. — **de·cer·e·bra·tion** *n.*

**de·cer·ti·fy** (dē-sūr'ta-fi') *tr.v.* **-fied, -fy·ing, -fies.** To re-  
 move the certification of: *voted to decertify the union.* — **de·**  
**cer·ti·fi·ca·tion** (dē-sūr'ta-fi-kā'shən, dē'sor-) *n.*

**de·ci·mal** (di-sid') *v.* **-cid·ed, -cid·ing, -cides.** — *tr.* 1. To settle  
 all contention or uncertainty about: *decide a case*. 2. To influ-  
 ence or determine the outcome of. 3. To cause to  
 make or reach a decision. — *intr.* 1. To pronounce a judg-  
 ment; announce a verdict. 2. To make up one's mind. [ME  
*deciden* < OFr. *decider* < Lat. *decidere*, to cut off, decide:  
*de-*, to cut off, to cut; see **KAE-DE**.] — **de·cid·a·bil·i·ty**  
*n.* — **de·cid·a·ble** *adj.* — **de·cid·ar** *n.*

**de·ci·bel** (dē'si-bəl, -bēl') *n.* A unit used to express relative  
 difference in power or intensity, usu. between two acoustic or  
 electric signals, equal to ten times the common logarithm of  
 the ratio of the two levels. [DECI- + BEL.]

**de·cid·ed** (di-sid') *v.* **-cid·ed, -cid·ing, -cides.** — *tr.* 1. To settle  
 all contention or uncertainty about: *decide a case*. 2. To influ-  
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*deciden* < OFr. *decider* < Lat. *decidere*, to cut off, decide:  
*de-*, to cut off, to cut; see **KAE-DE**.] — **de·cid·a·bil·i·ty**  
*n.* — **de·cid·a·ble** *adj.* — **de·cid·ar** *n.*

**de·cide**, **determine**, **settle**, **rule**, **conclude**, **resolve**.  
 These verbs mean to make or cause to make a decision. **De-**  
 is the least specific: *The rain decided her against eating*  
*ice cream*. **Determine** often involves somewhat narrower issues:  
*He determined the verdict*. **Settle** stresses finality of de-  
 cision: *The lama waved a hand to show that the matter was*  
*settled in his mind* (Rudyard Kipling). **Rule** implies  
 the decision is handed down by someone in authority:  
*The committee ruled that changes should be implemented*.  
**Conclude** suggests that a decision, opinion, or judgment has  
 been reached after careful consideration: *She concluded that*  
*the case was unjust*. **Resolve** stresses the exercise of choice  
 in making a firm decision: *I resolved to diet*.

**de·cid·ed** (di-sid') *adj.* 1. Without doubt or question; def-

inite: *a decided success*. 2. Free from hesitation or vacillation;  
 resolute. — **de·cid·ed·ly** *adv.* — **de·cid·ed·ness** *n.*

**de·cid·u·a** (di-sij'ōō-ə) *n., pl. -u·as or -u·ae (-ōō-ē')*. A mu-  
 cous membrane lining the uterus, modified during pregnancy  
 and shed at parturition or during menstruation. [NLat. (*mem-*  
*brāna*) *decidua*, (membrane) that falls off < Lat. *deciduus*,  
 falling off. See **DECEDE**.] — **de·cid·u·al** *adj.*

**de·cid·u·ate** (di-sij'ōō-it) *adj.* 1. Characterized by or having  
 a decidua. 2. Characterized by shedding.

**de·cid·u·ous** (di-sij'ōō-əs) *adj.* 1. Falling off or shed at a  
 specific season or stage of growth: *deciduous antlers*. 2. Shed-  
 ding or losing foliage at the end of the growing season: *de-*  
*ciduous trees*. 3. Not lasting; ephemeral. [< Lat. *deciduus* <  
*decidere*, to fall off: *de-*, to + *cadere*, to fall; see **KAE-DE**.]  
 — **de·cid·u·ous·ly** *adv.* — **de·cid·u·ous·ness** *n.*

**de·ci·gram** (dēs'ī-grām') *n.* A metric unit of mass or weight  
 equal to one-tenth (10<sup>-1</sup>) of a gram.

**de·ci·le** (dis'il', -əl) *n.* Statistics. 1. Any one of the numbers or  
 values dividing the distribution of the individuals in a series  
 into ten groups of equal frequency. 2. Any one of the ten  
 groups. [DECI- + -LE<sup>2</sup>.]

**de·ci·lion** (di-sil'yən) *n.* 1. The cardinal number equal to  
 10<sup>33</sup>. 2. Chiefly British. The cardinal number equal to 10<sup>60</sup>.  
 [Lat. *decem*, ten; see **DECI** + (M)ILLION.] — **de·ci·lion·al** *adj.* &  
*pron.*

**de·ci·lionth** (di-sil'yənθ) *n.* 1. The ordinal number matching  
 the number decillion in a series. 2. One of a decillion equal  
 parts. — **de·ci·lionth·ly** *adv.* & *adj.*

**de·ci·mal** (dēs'ə-məl) *n.* Math. 1. A linear array of integers  
 that represents a fraction, every decimal place indicating a  
 multiple of a negative power of 10. For example, the decimal  
 0.12 = 12/100. 2. A number written using the base 10. — *adj.*  
 1. Expressed or expressible as a decimal. 2. a. Based on 10.  
 b. Numbered or ordered by groups of 10. [Med.Lat. *decimā-*  
*lis*, of tenths or tithes < Lat. *decima*, a tenth part or tithe <  
*decem*, ten. See **dekmp**.] — **de·ci·mal·ly** *adv.*

**de·ci·mal·ize** (dēs'ə-mā-līz') *tr.v.* **-ized, -iz·ing, -izes.**  
 Math. To change to a decimal system. — **de·ci·mal·i·za·**  
**tion** (-mā-lī-zā'shən) *n.*

**decimal place** *n.* Math. The position of a digit to the right of  
 a decimal point.

**decimal point** *n.* Math. A dot written in a decimal number to  
 indicate the place where values change from positive to neg-  
 ative powers of 10.

**decimal system** *n.* Math. 1. A number system based on units  
 of 10. 2. A system of measurement in which all derived units  
 are multiples of 10 of the fundamental units.

**de·ci·mate** (dēs'ə-māt') *tr.v.* **-mat·ed, -mat·ing, -mates.**  
 1. To destroy or kill a large part of (a group). 2. *Usage Prob-*  
*lem*. a. To inflict great destruction or damage on. b. To reduce  
 markedly in amount: *He decimated his trust fund*. 3. To select  
 by lot and kill one in every ten of. [Lat. *decimāre*, *decimāt-*,  
 to punish every tenth person < *decimus*, tenth < *decem*, ten.  
 See **dekmp**.] — **de·ci·ma·tion** *n.*

**Usage Note:** *Decimate* originally referred to the killing of  
 every tenth person, a punishment used in the Roman army for  
 mutinous legions. Today this meaning is commonly extended  
 to include the killing of any large proportion of a group.  
 Sixty-six percent of the Usage Panel accepts this extension in  
 the sentence *The Jewish population of Germany was decimated*  
*by the war*, even though it is common knowledge that the  
 number of Jews killed was much greater than a tenth of the  
 original population. However, when large-scale destruction  
 other than killing is meant, as in *The supply of fresh produce*  
*was decimated by the accident at Chernobyl*, the usage is ac-  
 cepted by only 26 percent of the Panel.

**de·ci·me·ter** (dēs'ə-mē'tar) *n.* A metric unit of length equal  
 to one-tenth (10<sup>-1</sup>) of a meter.

**de·ci·pher** (di-si'far) *tr.v.* **-phered, -pher·ing, -phers.** 1. To  
 read or interpret (ambiguous, obscure, or illegible matter). See  
**Syns** at **solve**. 2. To convert from a code or cipher to plain  
 text; decode. — **de·ci·pher·a·ble** *adj.* — **de·ci·pher·er** *n.*  
 — **de·ci·pher·ment** *n.*

**de·ci·sion** (di-siz'hən) *n.* 1. The passing of judgment on an  
 issue under consideration. 2. The act of reaching a conclusion  
 or making up one's mind. 3. A conclusion or judgment  
 reached or pronounced; a verdict. 4. Firmness of character or  
 action; determination. 5. Sports. A victory in boxing won on  
 points when no knockout has occurred. [ME *decisioun* <  
 OFr. *decision* < Lat. *decisiō*, *decisiōn-*, curtailment, settle-  
 ment < *decidere*, to cut off, decide. See **DECEDE**.] — **de·ci·**  
**sion·al** *adj.*

**de·ci·sive** (di-si'siv) *adj.* 1. Having the power to decide; con-  
 clusive. 2. Characterized by decision and firmness; resolute.  
 3. Beyond doubt; unmistakable: *a decisive defeat*. — **de·ci·**  
**sive·ly** *adv.* — **de·ci·sive·ness** *n.*

**De·cius** (dēs'shəs, -shē-s) *n.* A.D. 201–251. Emperor of Rome  
 (249–251) who was chosen by his soldiers against his will.

**deck<sup>1</sup>** (dēk) *n.* 1. *Naut.* A platform extending from one side of  
 a ship to the other. 2. a. A platform or surface likened to  
 a ship's deck. b. A roofless floored area that adjoins a house.  
 c. The roadway of a bridge or an elevated freeway. 3. A pack

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō tōok
ā father	ōō bōot
ē pat	ū cut
ē ba	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī ple	th this
ir pler	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō too	ā about
ō paw	item

Stress marks:  
 ' (primary);  
 ' (secondary), as in  
 dictionary (dīk'shə-nēr'ē)



deck<sup>2</sup>

## decondition

of playing cards. 4. A tape deck. 5. Slang. A packet of narcotics. — *tr.v.* **decked, deck-ing, decks**. 1. To furnish with or as if with a deck. 2. Slang. To knock down with force. — *idioms*. **clear the deck**. Informal. To prepare for action. **hit the deck**. Slang. 1. To get out of bed. 2. To fall or drop to a prone position. 3. To prepare for action. **on deck**. 1. On hand; present. 2. Sports. Waiting to take one's turn. [ME *dekke* < MDu. *dec*, roof, covering. See (s)teg-<sup>2</sup>.]

**deck<sup>2</sup>** (dĕk) *tr.v.* **decked, deck-ing, decks**. 1. To clothe with finery; adorn. Often used with *out*. 2. To decorate. [Du. *dekken*, to cover < MDu. *decken*. See (s)teg-<sup>2</sup>.]

**deck chair** *n.* A folding chair usu. with arms and a leg rest.

**deck-er** (dĕk'ər) *n.* Something having a deck or an indicated number of levels. Often used in combination: *double-decker buses*.

**deck hand** *n.* Naut. A member of a ship's crew who performs manual labor.

**deck-house** (dĕk'hous) *n.* Naut. A superstructure on the upper deck of a ship.

**deck-le** (dĕk'lə) *n.* 1. A frame used in making paper by hand to form paper pulp into sheets of a desired size. 2. A deckle edge. [Ger. *Deckel* < *Decke*, cover < *decken*, to cover < MHGer. < OHGer. *decchen*. See (s)teg-<sup>2</sup>.]

**deckle edge** *n.* The rough edge of handmade paper formed in a deckle. — **deck-le-edged'** (dĕk'lə-ĕjd') *adj.*

**deck tennis** *n.* Sports. A game in which a small ring is tossed back and forth over a net.

**decl.** *abbr.* Declension.

**de-claim** (di-klām') *v.* **-claimed, -claim-ing, -claims**. — *intr.* 1. To deliver a formal recitation, esp. as an exercise in rhetoric or elocution. 2. To speak loudly and vehemently; inveigh. — *tr.* To utter or recite with rhetorical effect. [ME *declamen* < Lat. *declāmāre*; *dē-*, intensive pref.; see *de-* + *clāmāre*, to cry out; see *kēle*-<sup>2</sup>.] — **de-claim'er** *n.*

**de-cla-ma-tion** (dĕk'lə-mā'shən) *n.* 1. A recitation delivered as an exercise in rhetoric or elocution. 2. A vehement oratory. b. A speech marked by strong feeling; a tirade. [ME *declamacioun* < Lat. *declāmātiō*, *declāmātiōn-* < *declāmātus*, p.part. of *declāmāre*, to declaim. See *DECLAIM*.]

**de-clam-a-to-ry** (di-klām'ə-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *adj.* 1. Characteristic of a declamation. 2. Pompously rhetorical; bombastic.

**de-clar-ant** (di-klār'ənt) *n.* One that makes a declaration, esp. a person who has signed a declaration of intent to become a U.S. citizen.

**de-cla-ra-tion** (dĕk'lə-rā'shən) *n.* 1. An explicit formal announcement, either oral or written. 2. The act or process of declaring. 3. A statement of taxable goods or of properties subject to duty. 4. Games. A bid, esp. the final bid of a hand in certain card games.

**de-clar-a-tive** (di-klār'ə-tiv, -klār'ē) *adj.* Serving to declare or state. — **de-clar'a-tive-ly** *adv.*

**de-clar-a-to-ry** (di-klār'ə-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *adj.* Declarative.

**de-clare** (di-klār') *v.* **-clared, -clar-ing, -clares**. — *tr.* 1. To make known formally or officially. 2. To state emphatically or authoritatively; affirm. 3. To reveal or make manifest; show. 4. To make a full statement of (dutyable goods, for example). — *intr.* 1. To make a declaration. 2. To proclaim one's support, choice, opinion, or resolution. 3. To choose the order in which cards are to be played from the dummy as well as from one's own hand in games such as bridge. [ME *declaren* < OFr. *declāre* < Lat. *declārāre*; *dē-*, intensive pref.; see *de-* + *clārāre*, to make clear (< *clārus*, clear; see *kēle*-<sup>2</sup>).] — **de-clar'a-ble** *adj.* — **de-clar'er** *n.*

**de-class** (dĕ-klās') *tr.v.* **-classed, -class-ing, -class-es**. To lower in class or status.

**de-clas-sé** (dĕ-klā-sā') *adj.* 1. Lowered in class, rank, or social position. 2. Lacking high station or birth; of inferior social status. [Fr., p.part. of *déclasser*, to lower in class; *dé-*, down (< Lat. *dē-*; see *de-*) + *classe*, class; see *CLASS*.]

**de-clas-si-fy** (dĕ-klās'ə-fi') *tr.v.* **-fled, -fy-ing, -fies**. To remove security classification from (a document). — **de-clas'si-fi-a-ble** *adj.* — **de-clas'si-fi-ca-tion** (-fi-kā'shən) *n.*

**de-claw** (dĕ-klō') *tr.v.* **-clawed, -claw-ing, -claws**. To remove the claws from: *declaw a cat*.

**de-clen-sion** (di-klĕn'shən) *n.* 1. Ling. a. In certain languages, the inflection of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives in categories such as case, number, and gender. b. A class of words of one language with the same or a similar system of inflections. 2. A descending slope; a descent. 3. A decline or decrease; deterioration. 4. A deviation, as from a standard or practice. [ME *declenson* < OFr. *declinaison* < Lat. *declinātiō*, *declinātiōn-*, grammatical declension, declination. See *DECLINATION*.] — **de-clen'sion-al** *adj.*

**de-cli-na-tion** (dĕk'lə-nā'shən) *n.* 1. A sloping or bending downward. 2. A falling off, esp. from prosperity or vigor. 3. A deviation, as from a specific direction or standard. 4. A refusal to accept. 5. Magnetic declination. 6. Astron. The angular distance to a point on a celestial object, measured north or south from the celestial equator. [ME *declinacioun* < OFr. *declination* < Lat. *declinātiō*, *declinātiōn-* < *declinātus*, p.part. of *declināre*, to turn away. See *DECLINE*.] — **de-cli-na-tion-al** *adj.*

**de-cline** (di-klīn') *v.* **-clined, -clin-ing, -clines**. — *intr.* 1. To express polite refusal. 2. a. To slope downward; descend. b. To bend downward; droop. 3. To degrade or lower; condescend. 4. To deteriorate gradually; fail. 5. a. To move away from the setting sun. b. To draw to a gradual close; wane. — *tr.* 1. To refuse politely. See *Syns at refuse* 1. 2. To cause or bend downward. 3. Gram. To inflect (a noun, verb, or an adjective) for number and case. — *n.* 1. The result of declining. 2. A downward movement. 3. The waning when something approaches an end. 4. A downward declivity. 5. A disease that gradually weakens or wastes the body. [ME *declinen* < OFr. *decliner* < Lat. *declināre*, to bend downward, change the form of a word + *-clināre*, to lean, bend; see *kēle*-<sup>2</sup>.] — **de-clin'a-ble** *adj.* — **de-clin'er** *n.*

**de-cliv-i-tous** (di-kliv'i-təs) *adj.* Rather steep.

**de-cliv-i-ty** (di-kliv'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties*. A downward slope. *declivitas* < *declivus*, sloping down; *dē-*, *de-* + *clivus*, to slope; see *kēle*-<sup>2</sup>.]

**deco** (dĕk'ō) *n.* Art deco.

**de-coct** (di-kōkt') *tr.v.* **-coct-ed, -coct-ing, -cocts**. 1. To extract the flavor of by boiling. 2. To make concentrated by boiling down. [ME *decocten*, to boil < Lat. *decoquere*, *deco-* boil down or away; *dē-*, *de-* + *coquere*, to boil, to cook. — **de-coct-ion** *n.*

**de-code** (dĕ-kōd') *tr.v.* **-cod-ed, -cod-ing, -codes**. To convert from code into plain text. — **de-cod'er** *n.*

**de-col-late** (di-kōl'at') *tr.v.* **-lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates**. head. [Lat. *dēcollāre*, *dēcollāt-*; *dē-*, *de-* + *collāre*, to collar. — **de-col-la-tion** *n.*

**de-col-late** (dĕk'ə-lāt', dĕ-kōf') *tr.v.* **-lat-ed, -lates**. To separate the copies of (a computer printout, for example). — **de-col-la-tor** *n.*

**de-col-le-tage** (dĕ-kōl-rāzh') *n.* 1. A low neckline on a garment. 2. A dress with a low neckline in front. — **de-col-lé**, having a low neckline. See *DECOLLETTÉ*.

**de-col-lé** (dĕ-kōl-rā') *adj.* 1. Cut low at the neck. 2. Wearing a garment that is low-cut. — **de-col-lé dress**. 2. Wearing a garment that is low-cut. — **de-col-lé**. [Fr., p.part. of *décolleter*, to lower a neckline; *dē-*, off (< Lat. *dē-*; see *de-*) + *coller*, to collar. — *de-col-lé*, dim. of *col*, neck, collar < Lat. *collum*, neck. — **de-col-lé** *n.*

**de-col-o-rize** (dĕ-kōl'ə-rīz') *tr.v.* **-nized, -niz-ing**. To free (a colony) from dependent status. — **de-col-o-riza-tion** (-ni-zā'shən) *n.*

**de-col-or-ant** (dĕ-kōl'ə-rənt) *n.* A bleaching agent.

**de-col-or-ize** (dĕ-kōl'ə-rīz') *tr.v.* **-ized, -iz-ing, -izes**. To move the color from. — **de-col-or-i-za-tion** (-kāl'ə-rī-zā'shən) *n.* — **de-col-or-iz'er** *n.*

**de-com-mis-sion** (dĕ-kō-mish'ən) *tr.v.* **-sioned, -sions**. To withdraw (a ship, for example) from active service.

**de-com-pen-sa-tion** (dĕ-kōm-pən-sā'shən) *n.* Failure of the heart to maintain adequate blood circulation. — **de-com-pen-sate** *v.*

**de-com-pose** (dĕ-kōm-pōz') *v.* **-posed, -pos-ing, -poses**. — *tr.* 1. To separate into components or basic elements. 2. To cause to rot. — *intr.* 1. To become broken down into components; disintegrate. 2. To decay; putrefy. — **de-com-po-si-bil'i-ty** *n.* — **de-com-po-si-a-ble** *adj.*

**de-com-pose** (dĕ-kōm-pōz') *n.* Ecol. An organism, a bacterium or fungus, that feeds on and breaks down plant or animal matter.

**de-com-po-si-tion** (dĕ-kōm-pō-zish'ən) *n.* 1. The result of decomposing; disintegration. 2. a. Chem. Separation into constituents by chemical reaction. b. Biol. Breakdown of organic materials. — **de-com-po-si-tion** *n.*

**de-com-pound** (dĕ-kōm-pound', dĕ-kāmpound') *n.* 1. Compounded or consisting of things or parts that are ready compound. 2. Bot. Having or consisting of compound divisions; bipinnate: *a compound leaf*.

**de-com-pound** (dĕ-kāmpound') *tr.v.* **-pound-ed, -pounds**. To decompose.

**de-com-press** (dĕ-kāmp-rĕs') *v.* **-pressed, -press-ing, -press-es**. — *tr.* 1. To relieve of pressure or compression. 2. To return (a person exposed to conditions of increased pressure) usually back to normal atmospheric pressure. — *intr.* 1. To return to normal atmospheric conditions after being exposed to increased pressure. 2. Informal. To relax.

**de-com-pres-sion** (dĕ-kāmp-rĕsh'ən) *n.* 1. The act or process of decompressing. 2. A surgical procedure used to relieve pressure on an organ or part, such as the abdomen.

**decompression chamber** *n.* A compartment in which the atmospheric pressure can be gradually raised or lowered, used in readjusting divers to normal atmospheric pressure.

**decompression sickness** *n.* A disorder, seen esp. in divers or in caisson workers, caused by the formation of nitrogen bubbles in the blood following a rapid drop in pressure and characterized by severe pains in the joints and chest, irritation, cramps, and paralysis.

**de-con-dition** (dĕ-kan-dish'ən) *v.* **-tioned, -tion-ing, -tions**. — *tr.* 1. Psychol. To cause (a conditioned response, such as phobia) to become extinct. 2. To cause to decline.