

# MOSO<sup>®</sup> bamboo x-treme<sup>®</sup> frequently asked questions

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# MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® frequently asked questions

Since 2009, MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® has become the world leader in bamboo terraces. Why is Bamboo X-treme® the mostly sold product and what is MOSO®? More of these questions are answered within this document.

Q: Who is the MOSO® group?

A: The MOSO® group was founded in 1997 in Holland with the sole purpose to establish bamboo as a real alternative to wood in both interior and exterior applications. MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® was created by MOSO® for exterior solutions.



## General Knowledge:

Q: What is Bamboo X-treme® and how is it made?

A: Bamboo X-treme® is MOSO®'s exterior bamboo product which is sold as decking, siding, trim, deck tiles and lumber applications.

1. Bamboo strips are dried and crushed.
2. The crushed strands are thermally modified to cook out the sugars,
3. The carbonized strips are then pressed at a very high heat and bound together with phenolic resin (the resin is the same as a bowling ball).
4. Bamboo X-treme® is approximately 90% bamboo and 10% phenolic resin.

Q: What are the basic details of MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® Decking?

- A:
1. All boards are 6' long and end matched
  2. All boards have a smooth face and a reeded face
  3. Decking is packaged 3 boards to a bundle = 18/lb is UOM
  4. Standard 1x6 decking is available in 1 groove and 2 groove
  5. Decking is also available in a 7" profile which only comes in 2 groove only

Q: What are the basic details of MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® Siding?

- A:
1. All the siding is 73" long
  2. All the siding has a structural end match system
  3. All the boards are packaged in 3 board bundles = UOM
  4. The siding is also available in a 7" wide profile.

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Q: What are the other profiles MOSO X-treme in available in:

A: 1. Trim boards in 1x8 and 1x12

- a. Boards are full 8” and full 12” wide
- b. Trim boards are sold by the piece

2. 2x2, 2x3, 2x4 are available for finish applications

- a. All 2x beams are coated with 2 part PPG Duroluxe at the factory
- b. All 2x beams are 79” long and have eased edges

3. 2x6 is available, square edge and a full 6’ wide as it is designed for our OEM partners.

Q: What are the performance characteristics of Bamboo X-treme®?

A: 1. Bamboo X-treme® has a higher Janka hardness than Ipé

2. Because of its stability, it is no problem to install with clips, making blind fastening a perfect option.

3. Bamboo X-treme® boards are flat and straight meaning faster installation in less cost.

4. Bamboo X-treme® is a hybrid:

- a. Bamboo X-treme® has the features of a manufactured product = consistency all the boards are the same.
- b. Bamboo X-treme® has the benefits of a tropical hardwood = longer joist span fire rating and durability

Q: What are the testing references for MOSO® Bamboo X-treme®

A: 1. Bamboo X-treme® has Class 1 Durability per EN 350 (highest class in Europe)

2. Bamboo X-treme® has a Class A fire rating ASTM E 84

3. Bamboo X-treme® has Class A fire rating CAN ULC 102

4. Bamboo X-treme® has WUI certification for decking and siding in California

5. Bamboo X-treme® has a Solar reflectance (SR) 32 (ASTM C1549)

Q: Is Bamboo X-treme® eligible for LEED credits?

A: Specification of MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® can contribute to the following credits under LEED Building Design & Construction V4:

MR 1 Building Life Cycle Impact Reduction

MR 2 Building Product Disclosure      Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)

MR 3 Building Product Disclosure      Sourcing of Raw Materials

SS 7 Heat Island Reduction

More info: [moso-bamboo.com/lca](http://moso-bamboo.com/lca).

# MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® frequently asked questions

Q: Why are the boards all 6' long?

A: The answer is twofold:

1. In order to get the proper amount of fiber from production only certain parts of the bamboo pole are used in production. Moso bamboo poles can grow up to 75 feet tall, but it is only the bottom 8' that will work for strip production. The result is the 6' length is the optimum for cost and production.
2. The building products industry in China was built around the flooring industry, in which 6' is the preferred length. This affected factory set up and manufacturing equipment.

Q: Six foot lengths are too hard to sell: There will be too many butt joints:  
Can you make it longer?

- A:
1. Six foot lengths are easy to handle they fit in a truck or van and no need to schedule a delivery.
  2. Six foot lengths are easier to handle and faster to install.
  3. The boards all have eased end matched joints like interior flooring and being that all the boards are the same length; the installer creates a pattern that truly gives the look of an interior hardwood floor.

## **Installation:**

Q: What is the appropriate joist span for MOSO X-treme

- A:
1. The preferred joist span for MOSO X-treme is 18" OC.
  2. MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® can be installed on 24" centers.
  3. If recovering an existing deck with 16" centers MOSO® Bamboo X-treme®'s end match can float the joint.
  4. For diagonal patterns please use 12" center spacing and consult local building codes.

## **Fastening:**

Q: How do I fasten it?

A: MOSO® provides our proprietary Asymmetric Kick Clip. The clip is used for both the siding and the decking product.

Q: Can MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® decking be screwed through the face of the board?

A: Yes, Starborn Industries provides Deck Fast Screws and their Pro- Plug system for this application.

# MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® frequently asked questions

Q: Do I have to use the MOSO® Clip?

A: No, but the Bamboo X-treme® is a 20 mm thick material which does not line up equally with imperial measurements.

## **Finishing:**

Q: Do I have to finish?

A: No, you can let the material weather naturally over time. If left untreated, MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® will weather a barn board grey color over time, depending on the exposure to the sun. MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® will turn to a silver grey over time, but takes about 36 months to go full silver patina.

\*Please note that the siding may weather slower depending on the sun exposure and the fact that does not take direct weather like the decking.

Q: What finish do I use?

A: MOSO® recommends Messmers UV Plus.

Q: How long will the finish last?

A: The time between finishing is dictated by the direct exposure to the sun.

Q: Can I use other finishes?

A: Other penetrating oils for hardwood may work, but we recommend contacting the manufacturer for their recommendations.

## **Workability:**

Q: What is it like to work with?

A: The MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® mills and works similar to that of Ipé or other tropical hardwoods.

1. Carbide or Diamond blades are recommended for saw blades.
2. Six foot lengths are easier to handle and faster to machine.
3. The boards are flat and straight making them easier to handle when machining.

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## Other:

Q: Will there be surface checking on my deck?

A: Yes, as the top layer of the Bamboo X-treme® acclimates to its surrounding temperature there will be some surface phishers.

Q: Do I need to end wax the boards?

A: No due to the construction of the MOSO® Bamboo X-treme® material the ends are solid and the wax will not penetrate and will weep to the surface and affect the finish.

Q: What if I see cracks at the ends of the boards?

A: The cracks at the ends of the boards are typically caused by heat from cutting. There is no grain to the bamboo so what you see on the ends are not end checks or cracks and will not get larger over time.

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