

STREETLIFE bv  
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## Maintenance instructions Streetlife

All products for outdoor use require regular maintenance. To keep maintenance costs and efforts to a minimum, Streetlife has opted for durable materials in combination with a modular design. The durable materials guarantee quality and longevity, while the modular system allows for easy replacement of damaged parts. The various modules are linked together with specific anti-theft mounting hardware and can only be assembled with special (supplied) tools.

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### Materials

#### Metals

##### Hot-dip galvanised steel

Hot-dip galvanised steel offers excellent long-term protection against corrosion. The steel has a matt grey appearance, and no periodical cleaning is required when the steel components are exposed to rain. Hot-dip galvanised steel also offers good protection in the event of scratches, as the scratch in the zinc coating will be protected by the surrounding zinc. The zinc in the coating sacrifices itself slowly and will dissolve and wash away over the lifespan. Cleaning or treatment with aggressive substances for graffiti removal, for example, has a negative effect on the life expectancy of the steel.

##### Powder-coated steel

In the event that a coloured finish is desired or the leaching of zinc is not permitted, powder coating can offer a durable and aesthetically pleasing protective layer. The expected technical lifetime is shorter than with hot-dip galvanising. The powder-coated components should be cleaned annually with water and possibly a mild detergent. Scratches and any other mechanical damage limit the technical and particularly the aesthetic lifespan.

Anti-graffiti quality powder coatings can be ordered (polyurethane-based topcoat) which especially improve cleanability. A polyurethane powder coating cannot be repaired in the event of mechanical damage. The overall composition of the coating system determines the quality of the protection and the aesthetic features. Our sales advisors can provide you with suitable advice.

##### Stainless steel

Stainless steel is a group of steel alloys with natural anti-corrosive properties. This type of steel offers long-term protection, while its metal appearance is kept intact. When used in a location that is exposed to rain, stainless steel will experience less corrosion-related problems.

##### Aluminium

This lightweight partly recycled aluminium is applied in both untreated and matt finished form. Aluminium forms a white oxide layer that protects the underlying material. Part of this layer can rub off and blacken the hands. If required, the aluminium components can be finished with a powder coating.

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### CorTen

CorTen derives its name from its properties: COR (corrosion resistant) and TEN (tensile strength). CorTen is a steel alloy with added chromium, copper and nickel, which is comparable to other alloy steels, such as stainless steel in terms of strength. The brown, rusty colour is characteristic and formed by a very dense oxide film that seals the underlying material from oxygen. The air and water-tight patina is formed over a six-month period and prevents the steel from rusting any further. CorTen steel does not require any treatment and is therefore extremely environmentally friendly. It can be applied outdoors without any adverse impact on the environment (which may not be the case when applying zinc or chemical coatings, for example). The coarse-grained patina is graffiti and sticker-resistant, and any repairs or alterations to the CorTen steel structure will become invisible over time due to its natural oxidation.

## **Wood**

### Almendrillo/Cumaru/Louro/Basalocus

Wood is a natural product and as such has natural imperfections. For its street furniture, Streetlife uses carefully selected wood from FSC certified plantations. Streetlife carries the following non-rotting hardwood species: (European) Robinia and South-American Almendrillo, Cumaru, Louro and Basalocus. Almendrillo is applied in a finger-jointed, laminated form.

In addition to South-American hardwood species, Streetlife also supplies various European species on request.

Streetlife is certified by the FSC as a COC (Chain of Custody), FSC certificate number: SGSCH-COC-008651. Streetlife is certified for two variants: FSC-100% (all the wood comes from an FSC-approved source) and FSC-Recycled (wood that is recycled under specific conditions).

## **Plastics & Composites**

### Synthetic Cones

Synthetic Cones are thick-walled, insulating plastic mouldings in high-quality PE. This plastic ages slowly under the influence of UV light. The technical lifespan is approximately ten to 12 years.

### Giant Flowerpot

The Composite Giant Flowerpots are made of natural fibres and a partially ecological resin. They are finished with a UV-resistant gel coating. An anti-graffiti coating can optionally be applied on the finished product, which improves the cleanability of the surface.

### All Black (Snow White)

This plastic with a slightly rough texture is UV-stabile. Air inclusions are visible at the beam ends. The All Black version is made of recycled synthetic material. All Black and Snow White have been categorised as Fire Class 3 according to NEN 6065.

### SMC

The plastic seats are made of SMC (Sheet Moulding Compound) composite. The material is treated with an in-mould coating with glass micro-beads, resulting in an extremely resistant top layer. The seats are impact-resistant, the surface is smooth, water runs off immediately and graffiti can be easily removed. Furthermore, SMC is fire-resistant and has an insulation quality.

From an ecological viewpoint, SMC is an environmentally-friendly plastic. Raw materials can be recycled by fractionation of discarded components. The SMC seats include polyester particles as filling material (17-20%).

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### Streetdeck®40

Streetdeck®40 is a durable, sustainable composite decking material comprising 75% shredded local residual wood and 25% thermoplastic polymer. The material is splinter-free, UV-stabile and algae and fungal growth resistant. The wood used is 100% European and PEFC certified.

## Materials Streetlife

### **Important:**

Always consider the environment when cleaning objects/products outdoors. Use cleaning agents only in diluted form and apply with a cloth so that a minimum of waste water enters the environment. The choice of a cleaning agent is always primarily determined by the type of dirt.

### **Metal**

#### Hot-dip galvanised steel

Maintenance: Clean annually with water or mild cleaning agents.

#### Powder-coated steel

Maintenance: Clean annually with water or mild cleaning agents. Immediately repair deep scratches.

#### Stainless steel

Maintenance: Clean annually with water or mild cleaning agents. Treat with stainless steel cleaner as required. In the event of serious corrosion, pickling of the entire product or blasting or grinding can offer a solution. Graffiti can be removed with appropriate cleaning products.

#### Aluminium

Maintenance: Clean annually with water or mild cleaning agents. Graffiti can be removed with appropriate cleaning products.

#### CorTen

Maintenance: None required. Graffiti can be removed with a high-pressure washer. In the event of stubborn graffiti, CorTen can be blasted with corundum. The rust patina is then locally removed, but will gradually return. Any stains on the paving can be removed with a rust removing agent for stone surfaces. This requires a careful selection based on the pavement material used. Contact Streetlife for further advice.

### **Wood**

#### Almendrillo/Cumaru/Louro/Basralocus

Streetlife has opted not to treat the wood it uses. Due to weathering, the colour of the wood deepens and blends with its natural surroundings. Hardwood is ideal for untreated application and protection is not necessary. Maintenance can thus be kept to a minimum. Experience indicates that on occasion a slat will need to be replaced. This is a very easy procedure due to the patented Streetlock® comb system and the modular design of our products.

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Should you prefer to maintain the appearance of fresh wood, it is possible to treat the timber with oil. This will slow down natural fading/greying of the timber and help it retain moisture. As the oil will create a protective layer it will also help repelling water and dirt. However, the wood's lifespan is hardly extended. Furthermore, depending on the chosen method and weather conditions, the treatment must be repeated every 6 to 12 months in order to keep the timber look fresh. There are several suitable products on the market to treat wood.

The humidity of the wood may vary. Over time, the wood's humidity will take on atmospheric conditions, and as a result the wood will shrink or expand. During the first year, the wood will generally shrink the most, which can lead to cracks and splits. Tightening joints/flange nuts each month during the first year is therefore recommended.

## Plastics & Composites

### Synthetic Cones

Maintenance: None required. Graffiti can only be removed with cleaning agents suitable for PE.

### Giant Flowerpot

Maintenance: Clean annually with water or mild cleaning agents.

### All Black/Snow White

Maintenance: Clean with mild soap or water, and apply with a soft brush or cloth.

### SMC

Maintenance: None required.

### Streetdeck®40

Maintenance: Clean regularly with a high-pressure washer. Resin from trees should be removed to prevent slipperiness. Damage to the deck should be repaired immediately, or affected planks should be replaced. Streetdeck®40 must be included in a slipperiness prevention programme. The material is resistant to salt (brine), which when applied will have no impact on the warranty. Streetdeck®40 is a lightweight decking material, and the planks cool off and ice up slightly faster than solid stony materials.

## Questions

### Which cleaning agents can/can't I use for metal components?

- Never use scrapers or abrasive sponges as these damage the material surface. Where it concerns galvanised or coated components, the protective top coat will damage and/or disappear resulting in corrosion.
- For cleaning galvanised or coated components, we recommend using a mild soap or water with ammonia, to be applied with a soft brush or cloth.
- For cleaning stainless steel components, we recommend using water with two capfuls of ammonia, to be applied with a soft brush or cloth. After cleaning, spray the surface with 3M Stainless Steel Cleaner then rub in with a soft cloth and polish. This treatment gives stainless steel a thin, protective coating.

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#### How do I remove graffiti from metal?

- For cleaning galvanised steel components, we recommend a paint stripping gel, which can be purchased from a paint shop. Aggressive solvents can be used without consequences, but please make sure they do not enter the environment.
- The backrests of the standard benches are finished with an anti-graffiti powder coating. The graffiti can be easily removed with a mild soap or a paintwork cleaner from the car industry.
- For removing graffiti from stainless steel, we recommend using an aggressive solvent, such as thinner or acetone. Apply with a soft cloth and make sure the waste water does not enter the environment. After cleaning, spray the surface with 3M Stainless Steel Cleaner then rub in with a soft cloth and polish. This treatment gives stainless steel a thin, protective coating.

#### Repairing damages (scratches):

- If the galvanised steel components are damaged to such an extent that the underlying steel is exposed, corrosion will occur. Give the rusted area a light sanding then treat it with a zinc spray. The new zinc coat will prevent further corrosion, but some colour variations are unavoidable.
- Scratches on coated components can best be repaired with products from the car industry. Rub the paintwork cleaner (for example, Commandant 4) across the scratch with a soft cloth. The cleaner will remove the top layer of the coating which will make the scratch blend out. Afterwards, apply a new silicone coating with beauty wax (for example, Valma L53).
- Clean damaged stainless steel with water and a soft brush and dry off. Spray the surface with 3M Stainless Steel Cleaner then use a Scotch-Brite polishing pad and sanding block (made of cork) to polish away any minor damages. Make sure you sand in the direction of the original polish lines.

#### How can I best store products that include hardwood?

Storage of products that include wood should preferably occur outdoors. When this is not possible, the wood should be kept in the packing foil or kept moist. Pay close attention to the packaging instructions upon delivery.

#### Which cleaning agents can/can't I use for the SMC seats?

For cleaning SMC seats, we recommend using a mild soap or water with ammonia, to be applied with a soft brush or cloth.

#### How do I remove graffiti from SMC seats?

SMC has a highly resistant topcoat, which can handle fairly aggressive solvents. Acetone and thinner can be applied safely. However, always make sure that the products used do not enter the environment.

#### How do I remove graffiti from composite Giant Flowerpots?

The Giant Flowerpots are finished with a gel coating, which is resistant to fairly aggressive solvents. Acetone can be used for removing graffiti. However, always make sure that the products used do not enter the environment. When the damage has penetrated the gel coating more deeply, the coating can be lightly polished.