

## **New Product Gives Homeowners a New Option: Stone Floor on a Wooden Deck**

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Homeowners rejoice! There's a new kid in town that finally gives us some freedom when it comes to our outdoor living spaces. That "kid" is named "SilcaSystem™": a line of products which will change decks forever.

Until now, decks (and other elevated surfaces) were pretty standard...lumber framing with lumber decking. If you wanted to get really fancy, you could splurge and go for composite lumber. That was "it" for choices.

But SilcaSystem is entirely new...entirely different. These truly innovative products allow us to finally have the luxury of stone flooring on our decks...or brick, tile, slate, pavers, or any other heavy surface material for that matter. The choice is ours. Finally. My question is: why hasn't anyone thought of this before? It's so simple!

The SilcaSystem line is comprised of three products which can be used together or separately. The "big daddy" of the family is SilcaGrate™: a super-strong substructure which is attached directly to the structure's wooden floor joists. Made of engineered polymer, SilcaGrate's hexagonal matrix offers support every two inches in all directions, providing substantially more muscle than lumber pieces in traditional deck construction which span 16 to 24" between joists and only offer bi-lateral support.

SilcaGrate's patent-pending design results in unprecedented strength that exceeds current commercial building code requirements of 60 pounds per square foot by a factor of more than 6 times. In fact, in a test area of less than seven square inches (just one single hexagon) loaded with more than 700 pounds, the deflection was less than one-half inch. To put that in perspective, imagine putting five average-sized people on an area approximately half the size of a standard playing card, and still, the SilcaGrate only gave 0.375". That's impressive strength! That's how it can support the weight heavy surface materials without breaking a sweat. And even better, it's easily cut to form and a breeze to install, requiring only 6 screws, so any contractor, landscaper, or DIY homeowner can do it. Each SilcaGrate grid covers 2 square feet and takes an average of just two minutes to install. And it works just as well for non-elevated surfaces as it does for elevated surfaces. What's not to love?

Once the area is covered with SilcaGrate grids, the real fun begins. Choose your topping. You can go for traditional stone, brick, pavers, tile, or slate in whatever design and pattern you choose. Or you can opt for one or both of the other SilcaSystem products: SilcaStone™ and SilcaTile™. SilcaStone is an eco-friendly lightweight paver that looks like stone, while SilcaTile is an eco-friendly lightweight 12x12" tile. Both are made of varying percentages of recycled plastic and polymer materials and engineered to closely match the natural look of their

predecessors, but in a more environmentally friendly, weather-resistant, fall-preventative manner.

With SilcaSystem, decks don't have to look like "decks" anymore. They can adopt a high-end, posh, opulent look. Let's call them "elevated patios" instead. That sounds much more regal, don't you think?

I can almost hear decks, patios, bridges, terraces, porches, sidewalks, and stairways around the world cheering for such a great invention. We finally can have the luxurious look of stone, brick, pavers, or tile virtually anywhere we'd like. Thank Goodness!