

Teak Furniture Care

Following some simple care suggestions will extend the life of your outdoor furniture and provide you with the longevity you expected. The methods of care for your outdoor teak furniture will differ from the care and maintenance needed for your aluminum and stainless steel furniture. So read these sheets carefully and save as a reference. Should you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to call the showroom. We are always happy to help.

Teak is the premium natural material for outdoor furniture. Teak is an extremely durable hardwood. It requires very little care to preserve its good looks and integrity over decades of use. It is also a material of natural beauty that displays a wide variation of rich grain and color, ranging from light honey gold to deep chocolate brown. The natural growth process ensures endless variation so that no two pieces will ever be exactly alike in grain and color.

The following information is some general care guidelines that will help you to get a lifetime of pleasure from your teak furniture. Teak requires no special treatment or coating to extend its long life; however, there are some choices for the care of its appearance:

About Natural Teak

New teak furniture often has a slight surface sheen. This sheen is from the oil that naturally occurs in teak wood. This surface oil will be washed away after a short time outdoors. The oils and resins that remain inside give teak its lasting durability. Over time when left outdoors, teak furniture will naturally age to a handsome silver-gray. This gradual process usually takes from five to twelve months depending on local conditions.

The weathering process will eventually leave your furniture with a look of timeless beauty. Water spots or other discoloration may occur early in the weathering process. After the wood has been exposed to moisture the surface grain may raise slightly. Some small cracks may also develop in the wood surface. This is a natural weathering effect and will soon blend into the surrounding surface. The slight separation of the grain has no effect on the strength and longevity of the furniture. Teak will return to its original smooth feel after the initial weathering process. Cleaning with a soft bristle brush or Scotch-Brite pad and soapy water will help return the surface to a smooth finish. Once the furniture has taken on a weathered surface, it is easily maintained by an annual cleaning with a soft bristled brush and soapy water to remove accumulated dirt. Most dirt and stains can be removed with soapy water and a brush. For tough stains and mildew add one part household bleach to two parts water in the soap solution. Rinse well with clean water after washing. Pressure washers are to be avoided as they can scour and roughen the wood surface. Also, the use of steel wool is not recommended as it can leave a residue that can produce rust spots.

Teak Cleaner

Teak that has not been cleaned can become dark gray or black after some years. For this we recommend Teak Cleaner to clean your furniture.

After cleaning with the Teak Cleaner, the golden color of the teak can be extended with the application of Teak Protector. This is a high-quality, multi-purpose wood treatment specifically formulated to enhance and help preserve the natural beauty of teak outdoor furniture. Our Teak Protector is an advanced alternative to teak oil that is water based, contains no harmful VOCs and is biodegradable. It contains UV inhibitors and light pigments to reduce the weathering effects of sunlight and a compound to provide some added protection from spills and stains.

This treatment may be applied directly to new teak (best results after the furniture has been outside for a few weeks), but must be preceded by a thorough cleaning with the Teak Cleaner on weathered teak. Teak Protector should be reapplied once or twice a year to provide continuous protection.

We do not recommend the use of teak oil. Oil can leave a greasy or sticky residue and provides ideal living conditions for mildew, thus creating black spots on your beautiful teak furniture. We also advise against the use of paint, varnish or other similar finishes. These finishes tend to crack and flake from the surface and are not suited to this application.

Our teak care products may stain clothing and patio surfaces and can damage lawns and plants with improper use. Always read the warnings, and carefully follow the instructions on the product labels.