



Teak

Ensuring a long product life

Weather and wind mean that all wood kept outdoors is exposed to large variations in moisture. Rain and air contain dirt particles that both wear and coat outdoor furniture. Wooden components need regular maintenance and cleaning for a long lifetime. Here, we offer advice on how to best maintain your furniture.

Wooden components

Teak is a wood with a naturally high oil content. It comes untreated and, if left untreated, will develop a handsome grey patina over time. Just how quickly teak greys varies. Small cracks can appear over the years. These will come and go depending on the humidity. When first coming into contact with rain/moisture, the surface fibres in the teak may swell and rise. This is remedied by light sandpapering (grit rating 180–200). The most important maintenance is regular cleaning. Naturally, how much and how often depends on where the furniture is placed. Sometimes, you may need to clean it several times a season. Clean your furniture with a sponge or a cloth and soapy water. Use a scrubbing sponge if necessary (such as a green Scotch-Brite™). Rinse with water. Never use a pressure washer to clean your furniture as you risk damaging the wood fibres. The actual greying process varies in length and, for a time, the teak may appear mottled, which is quite natural due to its high oil content. The process is accelerated by rain (or watering) and sunlight. Be sure to protect greyled wooden components from grease stains as the greyled wood easily absorbs grease.

If you would prefer to keep the brown colour, you need to oil the teak, in which case we recommended a teak oil for outdoor use. Clean the furniture thoroughly before oiling. Note that the furniture must be completely dry before being oiled. Follow the instructions on the oil packaging. Repeat the treatment if the teak feels dry and washed out. Be sure to wipe up any excess oil. Excess oil attracts dirt, which in turn can start to mould. The oiling process is then repeated as necessary, when the teak feels dry. If you do not continue to oil the teak, it will eventually grey as described above. Oiling the surface layer does not significantly extend the wood's lifetime, it is more a matter of appearance.

All our teak furniture is unique and can, quite naturally, vary in appearance and colour. There may be some knot formations, which do not weaken the construction but rather add character. Naturally, the teak we use is grown on controlled plantations, which ensures sustainable forestry and spares nature and the climate.

Winter storage

In preparation for winter storage, you can oil your furniture some time in advance, giving the oil time to soak into the wood properly. The best winter storage option is an unheated storeroom that is cool, dry and well ventilated. Another alternative is to use a furniture cover (or tarpaulin), a canopy or something similar. If you use a furniture cover, be sure not to let it rest directly against any wooden surfaces as the air should be able to circulate between the furniture cover and the wooden surfaces. It is important that the furniture is both clean and dry when stored for the winter. If the chairs are stacked, remember to place something between them to protect the wood.

Bases

Hot-galvanized bases offer long-term corrosion protection and need no maintenance other than regular cleaning. Hot-galvanizing produces a slightly mottled grey finish that can vary in nuance depending on the properties of the material. Such variations will even out over time. Bases eventually transition from a shiny to a matt finish. Products made of steel tubing will always be somewhat shinier than products made of solid steel due to the slightly different properties of the materials. Any minor damage to hot-galvanized products will generally heal itself.

Powder-coated bases undergo multi-stage surface treatments, so maintenance is only needed if the paint is worn or damaged. Check for any damage and repair as necessary. Maintenance entails sanding and painting with a metal paint for outdoor use. Naturally, regular cleaning is also a good idea. Use a damp cloth to remove any dirt. Do not use solvents or cleaning agents containing abrasives.

Electroplated bases (Brewery series up to 2019) have a thinner layer of zinc than hot-galvanized bases. Any damage is repaired with a cold galvanizing paint. Electroplated products should be avoided in aggressive coastal environments, as salt water can shorten the product's lifetime.