At OSMEN, we think of the right outdoor cushion as the perfect final touch to any outdoor furniture set. Keeping them maintained and looking their best is very important. We have compiled some of the best ways to prevent mold and mildew issues, should they arise.

PREVENTING MOLD IN OUTDOOR CUSHIONS

- Pat down wet cushions with cloth and let air dry.
- Use our Weather Defense Fabric Protector to make your cushion covers waterproof.
- Waterproof covers are an excellent way to keep Mold and mildew at bay.
- Clean food or drink spills immediately with a damp cloth.
- Keep cushions inside when it rains, or when the humidity is high.
- · Regularly spray cushions with distilled white vinegar.
- Clean your cushions routinely every few months to prevent Mold.
- Make sure your storage space for your cushions is well ventilated.



EARLY SIGNS OF MOLD AND MILDEW

Mildew and Mold can form on the surface of organic materials like wood, wicker, and cotton, making outdoor furniture and, in particular, outdoor cushions a prime target.

- Mold is typically black or dark in colour but can also appear in lighter shades of yellow, green, and blue stains.
- Mold on an outdoor cushion can have a fuzzy or velvety texture.
- · A musty, dirty smell is an indication of Mold.
- Mildew can show up as a light, discoloured, powerdery, or fluffy substance.

COMBATING MOLD AND MILDEW

White Vinegar

Distilled white vinegar is a non-toxic and eco-friendly way to clean outdoor cushions.

Directions

- 1. Add distilled white vinegar to a spray bottle.
- 2. Place cushions in a safe space, spray cushions thoroughly.
- 3. Leave cushions to soak in vinegar for up to 15 minutes
- 4. Dip sponge into a bowl of dish liquid and water. (1 part to 3)
- 5. Scrub cushions with the sponge, then rinse with a clean cloth.
- 6. Dry cushions in a sunny spot.

If the cushion covers are removable, add a cup of distilled white vinegar to the fabric softener dispenser of your washing machine. Wash and repeat if necessary.

Pro tip: To prevent further Mold and mildew outbreaks, spray the white vinegar onto the cushions again.

Dish Liquid

For less severe cases of mold and mildew, dish liquid is an easy and convenient way to clean your cushions.

Directions

- Remove as much surface dirt, mold, and mildew as you can with a bristle brush.
- 2. Spray the multi-surface cleaner onto cushions, then scrub.
- 3. Stir 1/3 cup dish liquid into a bucket of water and mix.
- 4. Brush the solution all over the cushions until saturated.
- 5. After ten minutes, use the hose to rinse down the cushions.
- 6. Place in a sunny spot until dry.

Borax

Borax (sodium borate) is a quick and effective way to clean and neutralise the odours of mold and mildew.

Borax is toxic and dangerous if ingested. We strongly recommend wearing protective gloves when handling Borax and keeping it away from the presence of children and pets. Keep Borax away from sensitive areas such as your mouth and eyes.

Directions

- 1. Find a clean, safe place to lay the cushions.
- 2. Hose down your cushions.
- 3. Add Borax (1 cup) and a drop of dish liquid to a bucket of water.





gloves when using bleach as it can irritate your skin, eyes, and damage your lungs.

Directions

- 1. Lay tarp out.
- 2. Put on protective gear.
- 3. Stir 3/4 cup of bleach into a bucket of water and combine.
- 4. Make sure to patch test the solution before use.
- 5. Wipe down the cushions and reapply as needed.
- 6. Allow the solution to sit for 10 minutes.
- 7. Rinse down cushions with a garden hose.
- 8. Place cushions in a sunny spot to dry.



- 4. Mix solution, then apply to cushions using a bristle brush.
- 5. Scrub vigorously in all areas where there is Mold.
- 6. Leave the solution to settle for 5 minutes.
- 7. After 5 minutes, hose down cushions to remove excess solution.
- 8. Drain excess water from cushions, then dry it in a sunny spot.

Bleach

Bleach is excellent for targeting fungi, germs, and bacteria on most surfaces.

However, bleach is a toxic substance that can cause damage to the pigment on coloured fabrics. Wear protective





Pressure Washer

A pressure washer is an ideal tool for stubborn stains on wood, concrete, wicker, or fabric. For best use of the pressure washer always consult the user manual or online guide.

Directions

- 1. Lay cushions on a flat surface.
- 2. Attach the pressure washer to the garden hose.
- 3. Set the PSI to the lowest setting.
- 4. Using water only, soak the cushions.
- 5. Switch to the pressure washer soap reservoir.
- 6. Sweep the cleaner of the cushions until all fabric is covered.
- 7. Leave for about five minutes.

- 8. Scrub off the excess soap.
- 9. Rinse the cushions with water, removing all soap residue.
- 10. Remove excess water and air dry.
- 11. Wipe down the cushions and reapply as needed.
- 12. Allow the solution to sit for 10 minutes.
- 13. Rinse down cushions with a garden hose.
- 14. Place cushions in a sunny spot to dry.

MOLD AND
MILDEW CARE
FOR OUTDOOR
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