



# TEAK UNIVERSITY

*A.R.B. Teak* lives and breathes Indonesian teak furniture. It's because of this passion that we're committed to sharing our wisdom and knowledge so that you too can become a teak expert.

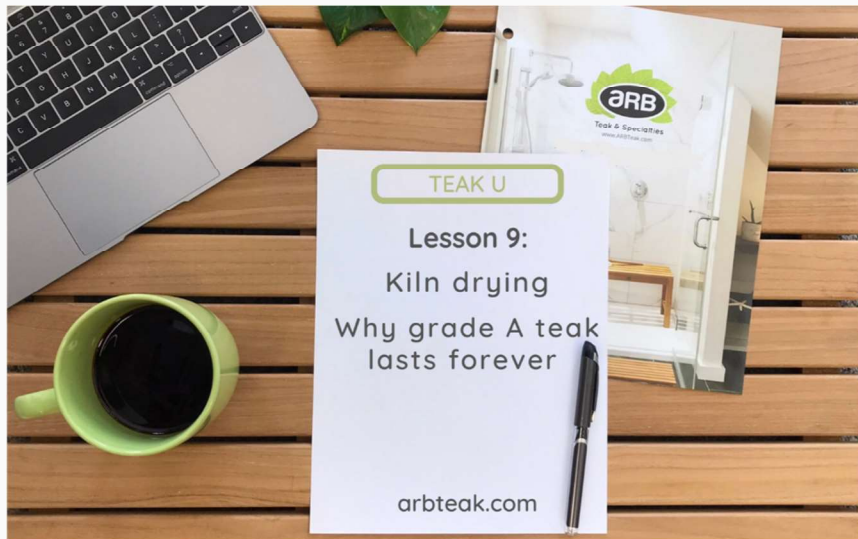
We truly believe the more you learn about teak, the more you will not only come to see it as the only solution for bath and spa furniture, but also come to fall in love with it – like we have!

**Welcome to TEAK U.**

Subscribe to TEAK U  
by emailing us at  
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**Teak & Specialties**



Why do you love teak? We've found that the majority of clients buy teak for two reasons: they love how it looks and because it lasts a lifetime.

The look is easy to understand: Teak adds warm, natural elegance to any room in the house.

Lasting a lifetime though... That takes a combination of several expertly executed processes to ensure that teak wood's natural properties are preserved when transformed into furniture.



## 1. Kiln drying

We now know grade A teak is strong, dense and high oil content. But did you know, in order to be transformed into durable furniture it first needs to be kiln dried? This process reduces the natural moisture in the tree at the time of felling from approximately 80% to

a workable 12%.

**Kiln drying is a science.** Like baking a cake, not only is it vital to have the oven on at the right temperature, it's must stay in there for the right amount of time.



Sometimes, to speed up the process, some manufacturers cut the drying time short or skip it altogether, allowing it to 'dry' outdoors in Indonesia's humid climate. Doing this way saves money and also means there's a lot of moisture still left in the wood. Unfortunately the furniture made from this wood will rapidly warp and crack.

**Kiln drying is absolutely vital for expertly crafting neat, close fitting mortise and tenon joints, which provide long term stability, regardless of environment.**



## 2. Keep it natural

The second process, or rather 'non-process' is leaving the teak wood natural — meaning not treating with oils, varnishes or coatings. This is so important because once teak wood

is treated its durability has been compromised.

Why? Because dust particles and bacteria can become trapped between the product and the wood, encouraging the growth of mold and mildew. Secondly, it traps customers in an endless cycle of sanding and treating, which nobody wants!



### 3. Quality Control

**Our quality control procedures ensure all our products meet our highest standards. Here's an overview of how we do that:**

1. Logs that are preselected by Perum Perhutani (forest department) are again carefully inspected.
2. Kiln drying is closely monitored: The start conditions of the wood are noted, the logs are checked throughout the process and the *final moisture* — not the time in the oven — defines when the process is stopped.
3. During production pieces are checked on an ongoing basis.
4. Our intensive sanding process (we spend 15x more time on sanding than the

competition) is checked several times.

5. Finished products are tested for faults and function.

6. Final inspection before and during packaging.

### **Years to come**

Beautiful, highly durable and designed for comfort, premium teak shower benches are a valuable investment and will bring clients bountiful returns for years to come. *A.R.B.*

*Teak* shower benches are always classically designed and made from 100% natural grade A teak – a good thing since they last for generations.

