

Teak Care and Maintenance

Teak is known for its exceptional strength and resilience. Teak wood contains natural oils that make it both rot and pest resistant. When new, teak will appear golden-brown and polished. Once placed in the elements, the weathering process will begin, and the wood will transition to a silver-gray patina. During the weathering process, you may notice “checking” or small cracks that appear in the grain. This is perfectly natural, as wood will expand and contract once outdoors. This has no effect on the structural integrity of the furniture. Water spots or other discoloration may also occur during the weathering process but will even out with time. Complete weathering typically takes between five and twelve months, depending on exposure to the elements.

Considering teak’s strength and resilience in all climates, your furniture will require little to moderate upkeep and will last a lifetime. Teak is a great material for outdoors because of its durability and weather resistance, and it can be left outside year-round. If you choose to store your teak furniture, be sure the location is dry and unheated. Furniture covers are available; however, we do not recommend covering teak in damp climates, as this could result in the growth of mold and mildew.

TEAK DO'S & DON'TS

DO:

- Use water-based products
- Use products such as bleach or mild liquid dish soap
- Use a garden hose
- Use soft bristle brushes for cleaning
- Lightly sand (220/300 grit) as needed

DON'T:

- Use oil-based products, stains, or varnish
- Use a power pressure washer
- Place waxy substances (such as candles) directly on teak surfaces
- Leave items on the surface for long periods of time

GENERAL CLEANING

- For cleaning teak, we recommend two options ...

1). Prepared cleaning solution: Mix 1 gallon of warm water and 2/3 cup of mild liquid dish soap (i.e., Dawn); add 1/4 cup bleach to remove mildew.

With a garden hose, rinse the furniture and apply mixture with a soft bristle brush. Clean as frequently as desired.

- OR for a deeper clean ...

2). Use Kingsley-Bate Cleaner: A water and acidic based formula that brightens weathered teak. Apply as directed. Clean once a year or as desired.

MAINTAINING THE ORIGINAL COLOR

- Should you choose to maintain the original amber color of new teak, this will require more routine care and maintenance. For this process, we recommend Kingsley-Bate Teak Care products. These products can be applied once a year or more, if desired.

1). Clean your teak (see above)

2). Use Kingsley-Bate Protector: A water-based formula that brightens and restores teak to its original golden-brown tone. Apply as directed. Teak Protector does not affect the longevity of your furniture, only its appearance.

3). Use Kingsley-Bate Shield: A water-based, non-toxic, and biodegradable formula that repels moisture and helps prevent stains from food or beverages. Teak Shield also helps prevent the adhesion of dirt and growth of mildew. Apply as directed following the completed application of Protector (if used). Repeat annually, or more often if desired.

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