

# CARING+ CLEANING

## GUIDE FOR OUTDOOR FURNITURE

### TEAK & FABRIC



#### **Terms and conditions (of the guide)**

Wintons Teak endeavour to have all information in this guide correct, however, there can be errors, in such case we apologise for any inconvenience caused and it may be necessary to change information in this guide.

WintonsTeak®

## EXPECTED FEATURES FROM YOUR NEW TEAK FURNITURE

Your new Wintons Teak outdoor furniture is made using 100% A-grade teak. In order to preserve the integrity of the materials, no finishing or chemical agents such as bleach are used in the production of your furniture. This ensures that your outdoor furniture is 100% natural.

Like any other natural materials, teak also exhibits natural variations, which manifest on colour and grain pattern. These variations add character as the timber ages, changing colour and texture over time once exposed to the elements. Below are some of the variations that you should expect from your new teak outdoor furniture.



### COLOUR VARIATION

Variations in colour occurs due to the differing environmental factors such as altitude, soil condition and rainfall. These colour variations occur from light honey to caramel like hues. These variations are inevitable, even with Wintons Teak single origin sourcing. Rest assured that exposure to the sun's ultraviolet light would, to a large extent, even out these colour variations. Wintons Teak recommends exposing your new teak furniture to full sunlight.



### DISCOLOURATION

The furniture that you received may have been kept inside a packaging for a period of time. This causes the wood to lose pigment, which results in a paler and fairer tone. Allowing your furniture to have a sunbath will restore the light honey colour of natural teak. In full sunlight, it should take approximately two weeks for the wood to develop a warm honey colour.



### BURNT CAMBIUM

Wintons Teak kiln dried all its timber to less than 10% in moisture content. Thus, this ensures that the timber is properly seasoned, which prevents warping or splits. As the timber "sweats" inside the drying chamber, cambium and other minerals found on the surface of the timber plank dries out and leaves a burnt mark on the wood. These patina grey hues will fade away once the timber is exposed to the elements for some time. It may take up to four weeks for a stubborn burnt mark to fade.



### CALCIUM DEPOSIT

Another consequence from the kiln drying process is the build up of calcium deposit within the grain of some wood. The white streak occurs mostly on mature wood with high grain density with a high calcium content.

## WHAT TO EXPECT AS YOUR TEAK FURNITURE AGES

As you are making the most of your outdoor furniture, certain wear can be expected. These signs of wear do not undermine the structural integrity of your furniture. Rest assured that Wintons Teak detailed craftsmanship, along with the exceptional timber selection process, ensures that this wear is minimised when compared to inferior products.

### ROUGH SURFACES IN THE FIRST FEW WEEKS

As the timber is exposed to the weather for the first time, its top layer dries out. This leaves dried timber cells accumulating on its surface, causing it to become rough. This is because the natural oil found in teak has not yet risen to the surface to act as a moisturiser.

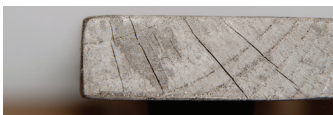
In few weeks' time, the surface should become smooth while the appearance of very fine filament of dead timber cells should subside.

### SEASONAL MOVEMENT OF TIMBER PLANK

Seasonal movement refers to change in temperature and humidity as the season changes, causing timber to expand and contract. This results in slight adulation on the tabletop surface. Note that these movements will revert as the season changes back and it does not affect the structural integrity and functionality of your furniture.

### END CHECK AND HAIRLINE CRACK

Over time, cracks may appear at the end of one of the timber components of your furniture, such as the top of the legs or end of the arms. These are known as 'end checks'. This occurs because the end surface dries at a faster rate compared to the core component. Thus, the core acts as a restraint to the ends and causes them to crack. Hairline cracks may be found at the surface due to extremely low moisture content. Note that these two types of cracks/checks are normal for any timber, including teak, and do not affect the structure or the product's lifespan.



### MOULD/FUNGI SPORES ON THE SURFACE

Mould grows on wood that has not been properly seasoned. Wintons Teak kiln dries its timber to less than 10% in moisture content. This ensures that mould will not grow in from its surface.

However, mould can grow on dirt and foreign objects resting on top of the wood. Regular cleaning of wood minimises mould/fungal growth. Mould can also grow when the furniture is kept enclosed in a damp and humid environment.

Please make sure that you place your outdoor furniture in an outdoor environment with some sunlight and airflow.

If mould growth is spotted, please ensure that it is cleaned immediately using warm water (boiling water for stubborn growth – please take caution when cleaning with boiling water, as the slatted timber top allows boiling water to drip through). Use a soft bristled scrubber to remove excess fungal growth, then wipe clean.

### TEAK OIL LEACH

A-Grade Teak contains natural oil which potentially leaches onto fabric and tiles. Please ensure that all tiles (especially natural stone tiles) are properly sealed prior to installation of your furniture, so that any natural oil dripping from the timber can be easily cleaned. Unfortunately it is not possible to completely remove oil stains from cushion covers unless done through bleaching. Please note only Sunbrella® fabrics can be bleached. Do not bleach Polyester and Olefin fabrics. For more details, please see page 20.

## CARING FOR YOUR TEAK



### CANDLE WAX REMOVAL

Candlelit ambiance sometimes comes with a mess and it can be difficult to remove, especially when the wax is already hardened.

Once the wax is dry, scrape or chip away at the wax using a dull knife, credit card or spatula to remove any excess wax. It's a good idea to vacuum up all wax fragments to remove as much wax as possible.

Next, place a clean paper towel over the wax stain. Once the wax is covered, take a medium warm iron (make sure it is not on steam setting, as it will dampen the paper towel being used), and run it over the stain, moving slowly and applying constant heat. The wax will transfer from the table surface to the paper towels. It is important to use new towels or bags each time. Repeat until all wax is removed.



### REMOVING FOOD STAINS FOR FULLY EXPOSED OUTDOOR SET-UP

Regular use of your outdoor furniture means that it can get stains from food and drinks. Stains from food and drink. Please wipe off any food stain as soon as possible, any remaining stain will be bleached through a



### MINOR DENT FIX

Even though A-grade teak has one of the highest densities in the timber species, accidents can happen. This can leave a small dent on the surface when using or moving your outdoor furniture which can be fixed with water and iron.

Put a dab of water on the affected area and cover it with a damp cloth.

Then, with your iron on its medium to high setting, hold it over the affected area and make small movements back and forth and in circles. Press down firmly and continue this process and repeat by adding more water until the dents rise up to be flush with the rest of the surface.

direct exposure to sunlight. Allow for approximately up to 2 weeks for the sun to bleach any food stain.

For stubborn stains, use 150 grit sandpaper on the affected area, and sand along the direction of the grain. This process will remove the top layer of the wood and along with it, the stain. Make sure that the timber is dry prior to sanding.

### PLEASE NOTE:

This cleaning process will expose the warm honey hue of new teak. Therefore, we recommend that you only rub the affected areas to preserve the grey patina finish. Then leave your furniture under direct sun exposure to even out the grey patina.



## HYDROPHOBIC PROTECTION FOR ALFRESCO SET-UP

Our furniture is designed for 100% Outdoor and as such they are exposed to the full rain and sunshine. This means any stain on the timber caused by food will be bleached out by the rain water and sunlight. It will take approximately 2 weeks for these stains to disappear.

In most alfresco set-ups, where the furniture is not exposed to direct sunlight or rain, any food stain may remain on the timber. For this reason we would recommend applying a hydrophobic/nano coating such as a Scotchgard before you use the furniture.

## ATTENTION !

Make sure to reapply the coatings at least once every 6 months to provide continuous protection to your outdoor furniture.



A hydrophobic coating rebounds all kinds of liquid and provides ample time for you to wipe off the surface of the table to prevent staining. Please note that if you don't wipe food scrap and spillage off the table, even with the coating on, this will still stain the table over time.

Wintons Teak recommends the application of hydrophobic coating that provides invisible protection on the timber, thus preserving the texture and colour of A-grade teak. To apply the coating simply spray it over the furniture and leave it for 24 hours before use. Please make sure that you follow the instructions found on the bottle before applying the coating.



## HARDWARE MAINTENANCE

Outdoor furniture with moving mechanisms such as extension tables and folding chairs needs to have its hardware tightened up

from time to time. If you feel that the armrest is a little shaky or that the folding table is a little loose, it's probably best to check into its hardware.

## AVOID !

### DO NOT COVER YOUR OUTDOOR FURNITURE WITH PLASTIC COVER

Please do not cover your furniture with plastic and fabrics, including "breathable" outdoor furniture cover. Any covering will prevent natural airflow, which causes the timber to sweat, increases humidity and causes the timber to become mouldy.

### USE THE FURNITURE AS INTENDED.

It is important not to sit on the armrests, tabletop or to pivot on the chairs. Do not drag tables, as this will cause their legs to crack. Always lift a table to move it about.

### DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR FURNITURE TO EXTREME TEMPERATURES OR MOVE IT BETWEEN PLACES WITH LARGE TEMPERATURE DIFFERENCES.

Do not directly expose teak to extreme hot or cold temperatures, such as a hot saucepan/flame or dry ice. This will leave a mark on the furniture. Do not move your furniture between two extreme temperatures, such as from a heated indoor space to the open air in winter. This may cause the timber to shrink/expand and make the joints crack.

### DO NOT USE EXCESSIVE FORCE TO CLEAN YOUR FURNITURE.

Excessive force from a power washer or sandblaster will erode the surface of the furniture making the surface feel rough and abrasive and susceptible to splinters. The excessive force from a power washer or sandblaster damages the joinery and causes it to split. Never use a power washer or sandblaster.

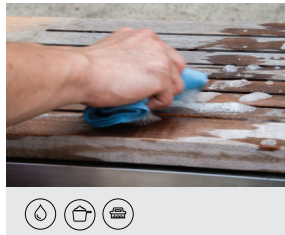


## HOW TO REJUVENATE TEAK FURNITURE

A-grade teak, unlike any other wood, needs no regular maintenance. As such, you are spoilt for choice of either having an aged teak look with character, a washed teak look and a new teak look.

### PRESERVING THE AGED TEAK LOOK

A thin layer of grey patina should become visible after 4 months in the weather. The greying process will continue for up to 18 months, when the timber will become as grey as it gets.



### TOOLS



WATER



WASHING  
POWDER



BRISTLED  
SCRUBBER



CLOTH

### CARING FOR YOUR TEAK

Dirt and dust can be removed by rinsing the teak with cold water. Allow the water to drip through till bone dry. Then wipe with soft cloth. Please note that this cleaning process will remove some patina and will make your teak brighter. Simply leave your furniture under the sun to even out the affected area to grey.

## ATTENTION !

### PRESERVING GREY PATINA

This cleaning process will both clean the stain and the grey patina hues, which will result in different shades on your teak. Hence, you should expose it to direct sun to even out the colour should you wish to retain the grey teak look.

## WHAT TO EXPECT FROM OUTDOOR CUSHION FABRIC

Wintons Teak offers three different fabric options with selections of colour and patterns. Depending on the fabric that you have chosen, they have differing quality features which affects colour-fastness and durability.



### OLEFIN

Olefin is a stronger and more colourfast fabric for outdoor use. This is because Wintons Teak olefin fabric is yarn-dyed, which means the yarn woven into the fabric has already had colouring in them. As it is more colourfast, Wintons Teak recommends using Olefin for darker colour choices.

### ACRYLIC BY SUNBRELLA










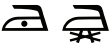
Acrylic fabric by Sunbrella is the top of the range option within Wintons Teak offering. The dying process begins before the yarn is created, which means the acrylic resin to be spun into yarn has been coloured. This process is referred to as solution-dyeing and allows the colour to experience very little fading over time. Hence, the reason for paying a considerable premium for a Sunbrella cushion cover.

TYPE OF FABRIC	COLOURFASTNESS	RESISTANCE TO MOULD AND MILDEW	STAIN RESISTANCE
Olefin	Good, which allows the fabric to be placed in an open outdoor area under direct sunlight	Fabric is mould and mildew resistant. However, mould can grow on dirt and food residues sitting on top of the fabric.	All Wintons Teak outdoor fabric has been treated for soil and stain resistance. However, over time this protection will wear off. Ensure that any spills and dirt are cleaned immediately to avoid staining.
Acrylic by Sunbrella	allows the fabric to be placed in an open outdoor area under direct sunlight.	Regular washing will minimise mould and mildew growth.	In instances when your outdoor cushion is stained, please follow the fabric care label found inside your cushion cover.



# CARING FOR YOUR OUTDOOR CUSHION FABRIC

As each fabric is made from different materials, we recommend that you refer to the care and cleaning instructions below. A summary of this is available on the attached cleaning and caring label found underneath the cushion cover.

CRITERIA	OLEFIN	ACRYLIC BY SUNBRELLA
Washing and Temperature		
	Machine Wash Warm. Machine Wash Gentle or Delicate.	Machine Wash Cold. Machine Wash Gentle or Delicate
Bleach		
	Bleach When Needed.	Bleach When Needed.
Dryclean Instructions		
	Do Not Dry clean	Do Not Dry clean
Drying		
	Tumble Dry, Normal, Low Heat.	Do Not Tumble Dry, Do Not Wring.
Ironing		
	Iron, Low.	Iron, Low. Do Not Steam.

## CLEANING YOUR OUTDOOR CUSHION FABRIC



### SPILLS AND STAINS

All Wintons Teak outdoor fabric has been treated for soil and stain resistance. Blot new spills. Do not rub spills as it spreads the stains on the fabric.

If fabric remains dirty, apply 10-20 ml of detergent solution on top of the spot, and use a very soft bristle brush to clean. Avoid scrubbing, hard bristled brushes or any other abrasive cleaning method. Place fabric under cool tap water to remove excess detergent and air dry.

### MOULD/FUNGI SPORES ON THE SURFACE






Wintons Teak outdoor fabric is mould and mildew resistant. However, mould can grow on dirt and food residues sitting on top of the fabric. Regular washing will minimise mould and mildew growth. Should there be mould and mildew growth, clean the fabric with a solution of white vinegar and warm water.

For sunbrella fabric, light bleach can be used to clean mould and mildew growth. For details on how to clean sunbrella fabric, please refer to the Sunbrella official website. General cleaning: <https://www.sunbrella.com/en-us/how-to-clean/clean-sunbrella-upholstery>

Detailed stain cleaning: <https://www.sunbrella.com/en-us/how-to-clean#>



### TOOLS

-  WATER
-  VINEGAR
-  CLOTH
-  GARDEN HOST
-  WASHING MACHINE
-  FABRIC CLEANING PRODUCT



## AVOID !

**DO NOT USE WINTONS TEAK OUTDOOR FOAM WITHOUT A CUSHION COVER.** The outdoor foam is not designed to be used without a cushion cover. This is because the open pore structure can trap dirt and blocks the flow of moisture. Any moisture retained will cause the foam to grow mould after some time.

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## TEAK & FABRIC



If you have any enquiry  
please contact customer  
service team:

[customer\\_service@wintonsteak.com](mailto:customer_service@wintonsteak.com)

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