



Outdoor teak furniture

CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Sika·Design®
HANDMADE FURNITURE

Outdoor teak furniture

Teak wood is known for its high strength and durability. Due to its natural oil content, the wood is very durable, resistant to wind and weather, and is not attacked by insects and rot. Therefore, our outdoor teak furniture can withstand all kinds of weather and be left outside all year round. At Sika-Design, we recommend leaving the surface untreated to achieve a beautiful silver-gray color. We do not recommend using oil as you risk trapping fungal spores under the oil.

For maintenance and cleaning we recommend using soap water, the recipe and procedure can be found in this guide. For daily cleaning, use a damp cloth with a mixture of mild soap and water.

Transformation of teak color

Teak furniture exposed to sun and rain will take on a beautiful silver-gray color over time.



Teak adjusting to its surroundings

Teak is a natural material that reacts to wind and weather and is affected by rain, sun and the climate in general. A process called checking may occur as your outdoor furniture adjusts, very slightly, to its surroundings. This can result in small hairline cracks developing, usually on the end grain sections. The cracks come and go, and will eventually settle. The cracks has no effect on the durability of the garden furniture, and is not subject to warranty.



Cleaning of surfaces

When teak furniture is left outdoors, it is not only exposed to wind and weather, but also to mold spores that are found everywhere in nature; in the air, the soil and on organic material such as leaves. As a result, many people experience mold and discoloration on the surface of their teak furniture.

Mold does not pose a health issue outdoors, but over time it might give the furniture a dark moldy, and in the worst case slimy, surface that can be difficult to remove. Cleaning is therefore a necessity to maintain a beautiful surface.

Cleaning before first use

Before using your new teak furniture for the very first time, it is a good idea to clean it, as there may be dust from production. For this purpose, use a soft cloth/sponge and water with mild soap, and a dry cloth to wipe the furniture afterwards.

After cleaning, the pores of the wood will rise. When the surface is completely dry, you can sand it with a piece of very fine sandpaper (grain 180 - 240), and the surface will be smooth and pleasant again. Always remember to sand in the direction of the grain.

For daily cleaning

For daily cleaning use a damp cloth, wrung out in a mild mixture of soap and water. Minor grease stains and smudges can often be removed with a soap flake-treatment. Find our recipe on the next page.



Maintenance with soap flakes

At Sika-Design we recommend regular maintenance with soap flakes. Make a large batch of soap flake-mixture and store it in a bucket to easily maintain your teak furniture. After the soap flakes treatment, the wood will acquire a brownish color that will gradually disappear again when exposed to rain and sun.

What you need:

2 dl white soap flakes, 1 liter of warm water, cotton cloth or a kitchen sponge



Watch our video guide by
scanning the QR-code

Procedure:**1: Preparation**

- Dissolve soap flakes in water, whisk, and cool to a thick paste (approx. 24 hours in the refrigerator).

2: Cleaning

1. Place the furniture in the shade and remove splinters with fine sandpaper.
2. Apply soap paste with a cloth or sponge. Make sure to scrub to loosen the dirt, and then let the mixture sit for 15-20 minutes.
3. Rinse thoroughly with water and repeat if necessary until the wood is clean.

3: Treatment

1. Apply an even layer of soap paste and let it soak for 30 minutes.
2. Remove excess soap paste and polish the surface in the direction of the grain.
3. For new furniture, apply 1-3 times, especially tables.
4. Remove dried soap residue with a knife, for example between boards.



Chemical cleaning

If your old teak furniture needs a more thorough cleaning, there are several products available to clean teak surfaces. Always remember to follow the instructions on the product.

If you choose to clean the wood in early spring, late autumn or winter, you should generally not use a cleaning product in freezing temperatures.

Winter storage

When summer comes to an end, you should already start thinking about getting your teak garden furniture ready for winter.

Furniture should only be stored for winter when it is completely dry on the surface - otherwise mold can form in the wood, so make sure to bring the furniture inside before the air becomes too humid. Let the autumn sun dry the garden furniture thoroughly on both the front and back of the furniture.

Teak garden furniture is best stored in a dry place, preferably with ventilation (e.g. carport or covered terrace), as this helps to extend the life of the furniture. If the wood is in a heated room, the wood can dry out and cracks can occur in the wood. Covering it with plastic covers or other dense material is not recommended.

Make sure to give the furniture a soap treatment either well in time before winter storage, or before use in the spring.



All our teak products are labeled with "Indonesian Legal Wood", which ensures that the wood is responsibly sourced and can be traced back to the original sender at all times.



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Rynkebyvej 245
5350 Rynkeby

(+45) 6615 4224
info@sika-design.com
CVR 3147 6712