

Care & Maintenance

**TEAK**



**Walters™**



Knit Collection

## About Teak.

Our furniture is crafted with solid teak wood, which is considered an extremely durable material for outdoor furniture.

As a natural material, no two pieces of teak are exactly the same. Slight variations in the color and grain structure are typical, giving each piece a unique character.

Unfinished teak will expand and contract in response to changes in temperature and weather exposure. Over time this may result in hairline cracks, which are a natural part of the weathering process and do not affect the structural integrity of the frame.

## Guidelines.

- Make sure your furniture is in a cool, dry place before starting any maintenance or applying protective products.
- Do not use an abrasive cleaner, sponge, or steel brush.
- If preparing furniture for winter storage or other long-term storage, it's best to clean furniture prior to doing so.
- Contact Walters or your Dealer for information about custom-fit protective covers.



Laurel Collection

## Weathering.

Exposure to sun and rain over time will cause the teak wood to naturally patina to an elegant silver-grey. This quality is inherent to the material and cannot be prevented.

Differences in climate, such as humidity and sun exposure, will cause pieces to patina at variable rates.

Regular teak care and maintenance will delay the weathering process to keep your outdoor furnishings looking their best.

Exposure to moisture from natural sources including rain, fallen leaves, blossoms, berries, or bird droppings can result in stains or discoloration as these materials are absorbed into the wood grain.

## General Recommendations.

- We strongly suggest using outdoor covers to best protect furniture from outdoor conditions.
- Avoid allowing water to remain on the surface of furniture or fabric covers.
- Always try to remove natural debris, as well as spills from food and beverages, as quickly as possible to avoid stains and mold.
- Although Outdoor Dry Fast cushions may be used, we recommend that cushions are removed when covering the frames to prevent mold and mildew build-up.
- It's recommended to tilt even Outdoor Dry Fast seat cushions upright during periods of rain to facilitate drying.



Unfinished Teak - New



Unfinished Teak - 6 Months



Unfinished Teak - 1 Year



More Comfort Collection

### Cleaning.

- Use a soft brush to remove any dust or dirt, brushing in the direction of the grain.
- For stubborn stains, wash with a mild pH neutral detergent and water, using a microfiber cloth/sponge.
- Rinse thoroughly and allow to dry. Do not oil the wood, as it may cause mildew and stain the coloring.

### Repairing.

In the event that mold, mildew, or staining has occurred, we suggest sanding the surface until the layer underneath appears.

Always sand in the direction of the grain, starting with P80 and on to gradually softer grades such as P150 & P220. Leave the wood untreated for 1-2 weeks before applying a protective conditioner.

### Maintenance.

Teak has a dense grain and a high oil content, which is what makes it a great material for outdoor use. These natural oils prevent rotting and provide a layer of protection against termites and fungi.

As a natural part of the aging process, oils will rise to the surface of the wood. Oil content can vary between items, therefore oil surfacing may recur many times before it subsides over a few weeks to several months. Be mindful of the potential for oil staining during this period.

For this reason, cushions used on teak products are considered non-reversible. We would recommend against lightly colored fabrics that may be less resistant to staining, and encourage selecting specialty cleanable fabrics for these applications. Please see our *Cushion & Fabric Care Guidelines* for more information.

You can address oil surfacing by rinsing the frames with water and cleaning with Golden Care® Teak Cleaner when it begins. Upon air drying, any stains remaining can be lightly sanded using 120-grit paper. An application of Golden Care® Teak Shield will help the wood resist moisture and staining.

After having applied these products, make sure your furniture is protected from rain 24 hours to avoid additional staining. Do not put furniture covers on recently treated items.

Caution using varnish on teak, as it could cause irreversible damage including wood rot, blistering, and peeling.

### Solid or Laminated Teak.

Cracks/Splits:

Wood naturally splits and cracks due to contraction and expansion caused by moisture changes. This is not a flaw, but a natural process where wood adjusts to its environment, shrinking when drying and swelling when humid. This movement can be uneven, leading to cracks and splits, especially when wood shrinks more tangentially than radially.

Structural Integrity:

While cracks and splits can be visually concerning, they don't necessarily weaken the structural integrity of the wood in most cases. In fact, these checks can even release internal stresses, making the wood stronger.



### Product Recommendations

1. Golden Care® Teak Cleaner
2. Golden Care® Teak Protector
3. Golden Care® Teak Shield or Penofin UV Inhibitor (Brazilian Rosewood Oil)



OR



# Walters™

[walterswicker.com/materials](http://walterswicker.com/materials)