



# PERPETUAL LIGHT WEIGHT CONCRETE & TEAK COLLECTION PRODUCT CARE

#### **UPDATED JANUARY 2016**

# WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND USE OF HIGH QUALITY FURNITURE COVERS

The Seasonal Living® Perpetual Collection of furniture and planters is designed for full in or outdoor use. Our products are made from a combination of Portland Cement®, special hemp-like grass and natural sands. We do not include any resin and or fiberglass in any of our construction of any of these products. All products in this collection are totally biodegradable.

## HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR LIGHT WEIGHT CONCRETE PRODUCT

Please follow these basic steps in assembling and protecting your product:

- . 1) Be sure to read all assembly and related information, which is shipped with your product. DO NOT ASSEMBLE THE PRODUCT IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN INTENDED BY THE MANUFACTURER. If you cannot locate your assembly instructions, please contact us for additional copies or visit our website at <a href="https://www.SeasonalLiving.com">www.SeasonalLiving.com</a> and visit each specific product page for which you require assembly instructions.
- . 2) Always seek the assistance of another physically capable adult to assist you in assembling your products. Never try to assemble products on your own, you may hurt yourself and damage / break your product.
- . 3) Never use the product in a manner not intended e.g. do not stand, sit or jump on or off any table, doing so may cause injury and harm to you and to others around you as well as damage or break products
- . 4) Use the item as described a stool is for sitting on or using as an accent table, but a table is intended to be used ONLY as a table to support other items and NOT human weight.
- . 5) NEVER pick up any Perpetual Table that is in excess of 60 inches long / 150 CMS without one person on each side lifting the table top together at the same time. Failure to pick up the table top at the same time can cause fracturing / cracking of the table top
- . 6) If you need to move a table, DO NOT move the table and base together. Remove the top from the table pedestal base(s) and then move it to the desired location
- . 7) When you receive your Perpetual Collection merchandise, we recommend that you immediately protect the surfaces of all concrete materials by following these simple instructions. Failure to do so will result in staining of the product and any claim against your product being void.

#### **GREY CONCRETE PRODUCTS:**

Remember: Concrete is a porous product and is prone to absorption of oils, acids and chemicals. Follow these steps to protect your product and maintain a good protective seal

YOU MUST USE EITHER A PRODUCT SUCH AS Johnston's FLOOR WAX OR

OTHER WAX STONE SEALER OR USE THE SEALING SPRAY THAT SEASONAL LIVING CARRIES TO SEAL ALL OUTER SURFACES OF THE CONCRETE MATERIAL. IF YOU FAIL TO DO THIS, YOUR TABLE IS PRONE TO STAINING AND IS NOT WARRANTED BY OUR MANUFACTURER'S LIMITED WARRANTY

Depending on where and how often you use your Perpetual Collection product, we recommend more regular sealing (especially for outdoor use or heavy soiling from acid based and or oil based foods and liquids <u>at least 3-4 times per year</u>.

For stronger protection, we recommend that you seal the grey concrete with a stone floor wax sealer – apply liberally with a soft non abrasive cloth and working quickly rub the wax into the product – sometimes applying the wax with a pre moistened wet rag will help the wax be applied more easily. DO NOT ALLOW THE WAX TO REMAIN ON, DRY AND HARDEN – THIS MAY DAMAGE THE PATINA OF THE CONCRETE – We recommend you work in sections, massage the wax in for a quarter or half of the product and then buff it to a nice luster or shine with another clean, soft dry cloth and then continue with the remainder of the product.

We recommend that you leave the product to absorb the waxed / buffed product for at least 4-5 hours. After this time, we recommend you use the sealing spray offered by Seasonal Living and spray or pour a reasonable amount of the sealer on to a cloth and working quickly coat all sides of your product. Allow the merchandise to dry fully for 24 hours before using. Finally, after 24 hours re-apply a light coat of the floor wax and buff to a low shine. Your table will now have a good base of protection but is not totally sealed. See below regarding spills.

#### FOR IVORY-WHITE CONCRETE PRODUCTS:

Remember: Concrete is a porous product and is prone to absorption of oils, acids and chemicals. Follow these steps to protect your product and maintain a good protective seal

WE RECOMMEND THAT FOR ALL IVORY-WHITE CONCRETE PRODUCTS YOU ONLY USE THE PROTECTIVE SEALING SPRAY PROVIDED BY SEASONAL LIVING AND IF YOU CAN OBTAIN A CLEAR OR CREAM BASED (NO DYES OR COLORS IN THE WAX – THIS MAY STAIN YOUR PERPETUAL CONCRETE MERCHANDISE) WAX FOR APPLICATION TO STONE AND OR CONCRETE SURFACES.

Depending on where and how often you use your Perpetual Collection product, we recommend more regular sealing (especially for outdoor use or heavy soiling from acid based and or oil based foods and liquids at least 3-4 times per year.

For stronger protection, we recommend that you seal the ivory-white concrete with a no dye / color stone floor wax sealer (test this wax on an area that cannot be easily seen to make sure it does not stain the ivory- white concrete patina) – apply liberally with a soft non-abrasive cloth and working quickly rub the wax into the product. DO NOT ALLOW THE WAX TO STAY ON, DRY AND HARDEN – THIS MAY DAMAGE THE PATINA OF THE CONCRETE – We recommend you work in sections, massage the wax in for a quarter or half of the product and then buff it to a nice luster or shine with another clean, soft dry cloth and then continue with the remainder of the product. We then recommend that you leave the product to absorb the wax for at least 4-5 hours. After this time, we recommend you use the sealing spray offered by Seasonal Living and spray or pour a reasonable amount of the sealer on to a cloth and working quickly coat all sides of your product. Allow the merchandise to dry fully for 24 hours before using. Finally, after 24 hours re-apply a light coat of the same floor wax and buff to a low shine. Your table will now have a good base of protection but is not totally sealed. See below regarding spills.

#### PROTECT AGAINST SPILLS AND NATURE

Because Concrete is a porous product, while your sealing efforts will provide a good barrier, you must still protect your merchandise by being vigilant and we recommend that you follow these steps:

- . A) If you spill any type of oil, grease, staining and or acidic-based juice or sauce (e.g. tomato sauce, lemon juice, vinegars etc), wipe it up immediately. Do not allow the liquid to remain on the surface of the product. Concrete by its pure nature is a natural product and as such is prone to absorption. Act immediately and you will be able to enjoy your furniture for years.
- . B) When not using the product (e.g. furniture) we recommend that you protect the surface by using a professional grade furniture cover. This will help to ward off stains from trees, pollen, bird or other animal urine or fecal matter. Contact Seasonal Living for recommendations on covers.
- . C) If you live by the ocean or a salt-water environment, do not allow salt spray to build up on your product. Wipe it off or hose it down on a regular basis. Salt can

- corrode your concrete product. Remember to regularly seal the product for more protection.
- . D) The Perpetual Collection includes a Planter series. Follow same steps for your concrete planters. NOTE Included with your concrete planters are zinc liners. Over time, your zinc liners will be prone to rusting. We recommend that you regularly inspect the zinc liners and when you notice rusting starting to occur, we recommend that you purchase from your local hardware store a silver paint such as Rustoleum® or similar spray paint and apply this to the zinc liner in the manner advised by the paint manufacturer. Do not spray the zinc liner while it is in the concrete planter

#### PERPETUAL CONCRETE AND RECLAIMED TEAK CARE

This Collection is a combination of the light weight Perpetual Concrete and reclaimed teak. "Reclaimed Teak" has the rich color, tight grain, and legendary durability only found in Asian teak. Much of our reclaimed or recycled teak comes from old growth teak. Lumber that once formed structures to a house, fishing boat and warehouse. Age, environment and decades of human use have seasoned this wood with a weathered silver-grey patina. Once re-milled, the wood reveals a rich range of color, from muted golds and coppers to warm tans and browns. New teak simply cannot compare to reclaimed Asian teak in either looks or durability. Typically, the reclaimed teak species is: Tectona Grandis. Character: Mixed grain with nail and other fastener holes, oxide stains, seasoning checks, insect scaring, occasional mortise pockets up to 6" wide and occasional sound tight knots. No 2 pieces are identical. Finish: Comes unfinished.

Follow these practical care tips to keep your reclaimed teak looking great for years to come:

While reclaimed teak has been used (and re-used), it is still a living material. As such, am understanding of caring for reclaimed teak goes a long way to years of enjoyment.

 Regular dusting with a soft cloth is recommended. An old cotton T-shirt or lintfree dishtowel works well. Wet the cloth lightly, wring out so it's just damp, and wipe down the furniture. Turn the cloth often so you're picking up the dust, not just moving it around on the surface. Spray "furniture polish" is not recommended. These products often build up a residue and actually attract dust.

- 2. Rustic tabletops or bases with several pieces of wood placed side-by-side can gather crumbs or dirt into the cracks. Brushing the surface off first with a soft brush will make it easier to clean the overall table with the cloth.
- 3. Give your furniture lots to drink during winter season. Set a cup of water in the room or better yet find a good humidifier to enhance the humidity. It's not only good for your furniture, but your own health as well. And try not to place wood furniture near heating vents or a fireplace. It tends to dry the wood even more than the dry cold winters of Canada.
- 4. The best care for wood furniture is a stable environment. Abrupt changes in humidity are what cause problems with wood joints, cracking, and splitting. In cold, dry winter environments, any steps you can do to minimize these effects, the better. As hard and durable as teak is, it is still sensitive to stains and damage. Keep flames, chemicals and even black-soled shoes away from the wood's surface to prevent irreparable damage.
- 5. Avoid placing indoor furniture in direct sunlight. Teak is an exceptionally strong hardwood that can live outside with no problem. However, the sunlight does change the color of the wood from its original soft, honey brown tone to a silver grey. If that is not the look you are after, use curtains to regulate the sunlight falling on your furniture inside
- 6. What is too hot? You can use a trivet or hot pad under hot dishes from the oven or the teakettle if you like, but in fact, the wood is remarkably heat resistant
- 7. Some customers wish to maintain the golden and coppery tones of teak and wish to seal the teak. We advise against this. Teak naturally silvers / ages over time and this natural patina is part of the beauty of teak wood. Should you wish to seal your tea, understand that our product warranty does not warrant sealing. Additionally, we strongly recommend that you read (or better yet), we recommend that you have a furniture polisher apply the sealer for you.
- 8. Prevent water stains. Immediately sweep the whole surface of the furniture equally (not just the area that's been spilled) with a wet cloth. Finish off with a dry cloth to absorb more of the water. Use a coaster underneath glasses or coffee cups on tables if you don't want a water ring to form.

#### **CLEANING UNTREATED TEAK WOOD**

- 1. Treat the wood with general care and attention. As hard and durable as teak is, it is also sensitive to stains and damage which can permanently mar its surface. Keep flames, chemicals and even black-soled shoes away from the wood's surface to prevent irreparable damage.
- 2. Spray the surface with water or wet it with a cotton towel to clean the teak's surface of loose dirt and grime, using only specialized teak cleaners. There are a number of high quality teak cleaners on the market. Use a cleaner like Amazon

teak cleaner to do a thorough cleaning. Dilute the cleaner as directed by the label and then use a non-metallic brush to scrub the cleaner into the wood. Rinse the surface thoroughly afterwards.

- 3. Let the teak dry for 24 hours. If the teak is the color you want it after cleaning then move on to the next step. If the color is too dark then give the wood another cleaning
- 4. Finish the process with a teak oil. Teak oils are specially designed products to keep the teak strong and beautiful. Use an oil such as Teak Guard or Amazon's Teak Oil to treat the teak with oil. Apply the oil to a clean and dry teak surface by wiping the wood with a rag soaked in the oil. Apply as many coats as the label of the product directs or until the teak has acquired the color you want.

#### SPECIFIC STAIN REPAIR TIPS

Follow these steps for removing various stains from the wood.

# Grease or Oil Spills

- 1. If grease or oil spills on the wood, it's best to take care of it right away. Immediately pour salt directly on the oil. Wait until the salt absorbs the oil. Wipe the salt away and repeat if necessary.
- 2. Then wet down the whole area with a cloth first so a water ring doesn't form. Finally scrub the remaining oil stain with a mixture of 1 litre warm water and 50 ml (1/4 cup) white distilled vinegar. Wipe again with clear water.
- 3. The longer the oil remains on the wood, the deeper it gets soaked into the pores.
- 4. If you find the oil remaining, you may need to sand the stain down with fine grain sand paper. Rub in the direction of the wood grain. Rustic finished wood seems to absorb the oil even more than smooth finish.

#### Rings and Water Marks

To remove water stains from the wood, rub non-gel toothpaste into the stain with a soft cloth. Wipe it dry. This works surprisingly well on both rustic and smooth finish wood.

### Red Wine

First of all, make the whole area damp so no water marks form. Cover the red wine stain with a layer of baking soda. Add a spoonful of white distilled vinegar to the baking

soda. It will bubble and foam. Stir it into a thick paste and leave it on the stain for 15 minutes or so.

Take a stiff brush and rub that into the wood in the direction of the grain. Don't be afraid to really scrub the stain. It seems like it's not coming out, but when it's dry the stain should be reduced quite a lot. If not, repeat the process.

This may dull the color of the wood in the treated area. You might want to wax over the surface of the wood afterwards. Or, just let it blend back into the overall color as time goes on.

Proper care of your recycled / reclaimed teak wood furniture, whether unfinished or not, will assure you years and years of enjoyment.

#### WINTER STORAGE & PROTECTION

While your concrete merchandise can withstand severe cold (Maximum cold resistance 5 degrees Fahrenheit or minus 15 degrees Celsius), you must follow these steps to further protect your merchandise:

- A) Ideally, we would recommend you be able to move your concrete furniture into a sheltered location. If this is not possible, we recommend that you cover the furniture with a professional grade furniture cover. DO NOT ALLOW WATER TO BUILD UP BETWEEN THE COVER AND THE FABRIC DURING FREEZING CONDITIONS. If you cannot purchase a good cover, consider adding a layer of polystyrene foam between the table and your cover. Your goal must be to avoid a wet furniture cover coming into contact with the concrete and freezing. (A good source of custom furniture covers: http://www.koverroos.com/
- . B) For all Planters, we recommend you making sure that the planter has a good drainage hole so that water can drain out of the concrete base. We also recommend that during long winter periods that you elevate your planters off the ground (e.g. by adding a few bricks underneath the planter DO NOT BLOCK THE DRAINAGE HOLE Elevating the planter will help water to drain out of your planter
- . C) If your product is in a location where the base of the product will regularly come into contact with snow and ice, we recommend that you try raising the base of

the product a few inches off the ground. Seek the assistance of someone else who can help you to either raise the product or make sure that base is protected from ice and snow build up

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