

The Seasonal Living  $\rightarrow$  Spirals Teak Collection is manufactured from Planation Grade /harvested Teak. Teak is regarded as one of the world's most precious and durable woods. It effectively resists extreme environments and withstands weather better than any other wood.

As with all natural materials, the more the material is exposed to the environment, the more dirt and weathering it will receive. Subjected to nature's elements, the surface of the teak will gradually turn into a soft-silver gray as only the pigments on the surface layer begin to fade. This however, this will not in any way compromise the structural integrity of your furniture. During weathering, a slight lifting of the grain may appear on the tops of furniture arms and legs. It is normal for outdoor wood furniture to expand and contract in this way. It will not effect or minimize the durability/quality of the furniture.

#### HOW TO CARE FOR TEAK FURNTIURE

The short answer is that teak needs no special care or maintenance program Untreated, natural teak (without Teak oil) will weather to a handsome soft-silvery patina within a year or so, depending on the amount of sun and weathering it is being exposed to. The use of mild soapy water and soft brush or pad, will clean away any accumulation of dirt. Finish the process off by hosing the furniture down with water. Depending on the environment, you should have to do this more than twice a year. Over the years, your furniture would weather gracefully. For best results however, we recommend the use of a professional grade Teak Cleaner (be sure to read manufacturer's instructions carefully and test on an inconspicuous area before treating the entire piece of furniture).

To protect the furniture from stains and mildew and to keep the graceful silvery-patina of the weathered teak, we recommend the use of a good teak oil / protection shield which will help to form a protective shield over the areas applied on the furniture against spills such as red wine, coffee, olive oil. With quality teak from Seasonal Living, you also have the option of bringing it back to its original state simply with light sanding and a quick wash.

Normally, all stains that appear on teak wood will gradually disappear by themselves. For immediate removal, follow these instructions:1.) Simply wash the stains off with soap.2.) Scrub repeatedly with a non-abrasive brush or sponge.

3.) Rinse the entire piece of furniture with clean water and leave it to dry naturally

How often your furniture needs oiling really depends on the amount or degree of exposure it is subjected to outdoor conditions. If your furniture is under the shade most of the day, say under a patio cover or lanai, then it would probably be more than 6 months before you really need to thoroughly re-oil your furniture. If however, your furniture is placed in an open area, totally exposed to the weather (sun, rain, etc) then you would probably need oiling about once every 2-3 months. Except for the occasional annual oiling, if at all, 'oiled' teak furniture placed indoors or in an enclosed area (not exposed to direct sunlight or rain) is virtually maintenance free.

CAN TEAK WOOD BE PAINTED? One of the unique characteristics of teak is its inherent high content of teak oil. This distinctive property however makes it difficult for paint to adhere to its surface and over time, through changes in temperatures and the seasons, will crack and peel. Painting may also have a secondary impact on the teakwood itself. The wood surface may not have the ability to now "breathe", due to the sealing characteristics of the paint, but may start to develop mold and mildew in the areas where moisture is absorbed through the "cracks and peels" of the paint over time. This is why we do not recommend painting your teak wood furniture. Like paint, stain is another form of sealant, though there are types that would allow the teakwood to "breathe". Please consult a furniture wood paint specialist to ask a suitable type for your application, i.e. indoor or outdoor. More often than not, the use of a sealant such as

stain, oils or varnish, are better suited for indoor use where the furniture is not subjected to the effects of the outdoor environment.

### CARE OF SUNBRELLA® or OTHER 100% SOLUTION DYED ACRYLIC CUSHION COVERS

Sunbrella® is a 100% solution-dyed acrylic fabric manufactured by Glen Raven Mills. Sunbrella fabrics are highly regarded as the premier outdoor fabric in the world and are the recognized leader in the outdoor furniture industry.

Foam cushion cores are manufactured from *regular* foam (if you wish to leave your cushions fully exposed outdoors, ask us about upgrading to fast dry foam cushion cores). When not using your furniture, we strongly recommend that you purchase cushion / furniture covers to prevent the cushion cores from being soaked with rain water.

One of the best ways to keep Sunbrella fabrics looking good and to delay deep or vigorous cleaning is to properly maintain the fabrics. This can be accomplished by simply brushing off dirt before it becomes embedded in the fabrics, wiping up spills as soon as they occur or spot cleaning soon after stains occur.

For more information on Sunbrella fabric care watch this YouTube video: <u>http://www.sunbrella.com/en\_us/how/cleaning/</u>

Many stains can be removed from Sunbrella fabric with mild soap and lukewarm water. First blot the excess stain residue. Mix mild soap and lukewarm water and remove the stain with a sponge or soft bristle brush. Be sure to rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue and then allow the fabric to air-dry.

If the stain is still visible, blot excess stain residue. Mix 1 cup of bleach and ¼ cup of mild soap per gallon of lukewarm water and remove the stain with a sponge or soft bristle brush. Rinse thoroughly and allow to air-dry.

# General or light cleaning

1. Brush off any loose dirt.

2. Prepare a cleaning solution of 1/4 cup mild soap, such as Woolite or Dawn dishwashing liquid, per gallon of lukewarm water.

- 3. Use a sponge or a soft bristle brush to clean.
- 4. Allow cleaning solution to soak into fabric.
- 5. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- 6. Allow fabric to air dry.

# Spot cleaning

1. Apply a light mist of mild soap and water using a spray bottle.

2. Work the solution into the stain by lightly scrubbing the area with a sponge or very soft bristle brush.

- 3. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- 4. Blot excess moisture with a clean, soft towel or sponge.
- 5. Wet-vacuum or blot excess water.
- 6. Air dry. Repeat steps 3 and 4 until all soap residue is removed.

#### For removable Sunbrella fabric

Hand washing

- 1. Soak fabric in a solution of 1/4 cup mild soap per gallon of lukewarm water.
- 2. Use a sponge or a soft bristle brush as necessary.
- 3. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- 4. Air dry.

### Machine washing

Machine wash in cold water. Depending on wash load size, use normal amounts of mild laundry detergent and add 1 cup of bleach. Allow fabric to air dry. DO NOT place Sunbrella fabrics in drying machines.

# Heavy cleaning for stubborn stains and mildew

Sunbrella fabric does not promote mildew growth, however, mildew may grow on dirt and other foreign substances that are not removed from the fabric. To clean stubborn stains:

1. Prepare a solution of 1 cup of bleach and 1/4 cup mild soap per gallon of water.

- 2. Spray on entire area and allow to soak into the fabric for 15 minutes.
- 3. Remove stain with a sponge, clean towel or very soft bristle brush.
- 4. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- 5. Allow fabric to air dry.

6. If stain and/or mildew are severe, bleach quantities may be increased. View the Sunbrella stain chart -

http://www.sunbrella.com/en\_us/how/cleaning/stain-chart.php for removal of specific stains.

#### Re-treating the fabric for ease of cleaning

As part of the finishing process, Sunbrella fabrics are treated with a fluorocarbon finish, which enhances water repellency. This finish is designed to last for several years, but must be replenished after a thorough cleaning. Based on test results, Glen Raven recommends 303 Fabric Guard<sup>™</sup> as the preferred re-treatment product for Sunbrella fabrics. Fabrics should be re-treated after thorough cleaning or after five years of use.

# Applying 303 Fabric Guard™

303 should be applied to Sunbrella fabrics after each thorough cleaning, which typically removes the original finish and reduces the fabric's water repellency.

- 1. Clean Sunbrella fabric, using one of the cleaning methods.
- 2. Allow Sunbrella to completely air dry.

3. Apply 303 Fabric Guard in a well-ventilated area following instructions on the container.

4. Apply 303 in a thin, even coat and allow fabric to dry completely.

5. Apply a second thin, even coating of 303. (Two light coatings are more effective in restoring fabric water resistance than a single heavy coating.) Note: A 15-ounce bottle provides coverage of up to 50 square feet of fabric.

For more information, visit <u>www.303products.com</u> to learn about Fabric Guard

#### **Professional cleaners**

In evaluating the services of a professional firm, you should inquire about the firm's experience in working with Sunbrella fabrics and knowledge of cleaning and re-treatment requirements.

DO NOT dry clean Sunbrella fabrics.

# Helpful hints

Protect the area around your Sunbrella fabric when using a bleach solution – bleach may discolor non-Sunbrella fabrics. Always rinse Sunbrella thoroughly to completely remove bleach.

Please be aware of the environment when cleaning with bleach. Bleach can have harmful effects on the natural environment around you. We do not advise using bleach if you are surrounded by a body of water or other environment that could be affected.

Sunbrella fabric air-dries very quickly. Machine drying is not permitted. If fabric has some wrinkling, use an iron, if necessary, but only on the synthetic setting. As some irons exceed the recommended temperature on the synthetic setting, test a small inconspicuous area before ironing entire piece.

**DO NOT** use a steamer or iron set to steam setting.

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