

7 QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK BEFORE YOU BUY TIMBER FURNITURE



Is your timber furniture made from teak?

Teak is unsurpassed as the premium timber used for outdoor furniture. Teak is a very dense and oily wood and the natural oil present within teak wood offers it protection from pests and inhibits rotting. Teak wood ages gracefully and can be left untreated outside. Teak will endure years of rain, wind, heat and cold. Teak has a golden honey colour when new which can be left untreated and after time naturally fades into a light grey patina. Alternatively, teak can be oiled to maintain the beautiful honey colour.

Is the timber sustainably sourced plantation timber?

Plantation teak is cared for by government controlled and protected forests under the banner of LVLK Indonesian Legal Wood. It is a requirement when importing timber products to Australia that the supplier can show the chain of custody of the logs used for manufacture. At East India Teak we only select premium quality LVLK plantation teak.

Does the manufacturer kiln dry the wood to 12-15% moisture content?

For outdoor use timber needs to be slowly and carefully dried to 12 to 15%. When timber is used in outdoor furniture it is subject to the extremes of the Australian climate. The wood will expand when wet and shrink when dry. The best timber to use for outdoors is teak as it has the least amount of moisture content movement. At East India Teak we make sure your furniture will stand the test of time by carefully drying the teak so your furniture will give you years of trouble-free service.

Are the fittings stainless steel?

It doesn't sound much but it's very important. Stainless steel ensures the fittings will last as long as the teak they are securing.

At East India Teak we have been in the furniture industry for over 30 years and understand the need to get the basics right. We insist on stainless steel fittings to compliment the care we take in manufacturing, ensuring your teak furniture will be maintenance free for a very long time.

How good is your guarantee?

Some manufacturers won't guarantee your timber furniture if it is not undercover. At East India Teak we encourage you to leave your teak furniture out in the weather after all it is outdoor furniture.

At East India teak our Quality Assurers work on the factory floor. We confidently guarantee your furniture for 3 years giving you peace of mind.

Is the Timber Furniture craftsman designed?

Craftsman designed furniture considers design and functionality. You should insist on craftsman design to ensure the furniture is a joy to look at and use.

At East India Teak all our pieces are created with both aesthetics and function in mind

What fabric has the manufacturer used for your outdoor furniture?

It is such an important question because cushions are one of the most important considerations when shopping for timber furniture. At East India Teak we only use solution dyed fabrics. The process of "solution dyeing" ensures that the fabric will resist fading over time. Most fabrics are woven into yarn and then dyed their colour after, which means the core of the yarn is white and the colour will eventually fade. Solution dyeing is when a liquid fabric solution is mixed with the dye colour before it becomes a yarn, meaning that the colour is true all the way through to its core. Our Fabric also a mildew resistant, quick drying, and water repellent.

About teak

Teak is a very dense and oily wood. The natural oil present within teak wood offers it protection from pests and inhibits rotting. Teak wood ages gracefully and can be left outside and can endure years of rain, wind, heat and cold. Teak wood has a golden honey colour when new, but after time it naturally fades into a light grey patina, the teak will develop some grain "checking" as evidenced in the picture below, this change is only cosmetic and does not affect the strength or durability of the furniture.



Caring For your Teak Furniture

If you have decided to leave the teak raw then the furniture requires minimal cleaning to remove sooty moulds and stains. This can be done with a normal household plastic bristled brush [not too hard] and some warm mild soapy water. Wash down afterwards with clean water. There are also proprietary cleaners on the market which can be used to clean off various deposits and accumulated dirt and stains.

We do not recommend the use steel wool or steel wire brushes as any residue left in the grain will rust and discolour the wood, you also risk leaving small sharp pieces of metal in the surface of the furniture.

If the furniture has some stubborn and heavily ingrained stains these can be removed by sanding with a fine grade of sandpaper, being sure to work only with the direction of the timber grain. After sanding stains away like this, if the furniture was previously teak oiled you may wish to re-oil, or if it had previously been left natural, the fresh teak colour exposed by sanding will soon mellow in with the existing furniture's silver-grey patina.

If you prefer the golden colour there are a couple things you can do to slow down the aging process. We recommend using a furniture oil with anti-fungal and sunscreen. Use as manufactures suggest. Some regular cleaning and recoating of the finish is also necessary to keep the furniture looking beautiful.