

RAFT

style that doesn't cost the earth

Raft Product Care Guide

The following guide is to be used as a tool to aid in the upkeep of your product.

Reclaimed Teak Furniture

We reclaim timber for our furniture from various sources, houses, bridges, railway sleepers, your item has a history and it's most likely to be more than 70 years old. The blockings and indentations you'll find make up its character and charm, we do not try to disguise this and will include many features of its past life.

Please clean and dust your item once you get it home with a damp lint-free cloth as there may be excess saw dust from the workshop. If your item is in natural teak i.e. the lighter, unstained teak and you do manage to get water stains or other liquid soils on it then a light dusting with 'fine' grade sandpaper will take out most marks. Remember to work along the grain. You may choose to oil or wax unfinished teak, we recommend using only pure beeswax or a very light olive oil mixed with lemon juice. Drawer runners can also be waxed lightly on the insides of the drawer panel for a smoother pull.

The movement of wood is as natural as it knots. Within the first twelve months environmental changes can affect these woods. Any movement requiring restoration will be dealt with by our skilled restorers in your own home.

Finishes

Dark Reclaimed Teak

Raft sell small 100ml bottles of water based stain for touching up worn areas on dark finished reclaimed teak items. Always patch test the stain before use. Make sure that the area is clean and dry. Apply the water-based stain to a lint free cloth and work across the grain over areas that need attention. Apply more for desired look and allow 15 minutes drying time between coats. Remove any unwanted stains from clothing with luke warm water. Avoid contact with eyes and keep out of reach from children.

Natural Finish Reclaimed Teak - Fellipo Berio Olive Oil

Our natural teak products are not lacquered or varnished in order to show the true beauty of reclaimed teak. However, if you would like to treat the wood we suggest using a mixture of lemon juice and Filippo Berio 'Mild and Light' Olive Oil (Yellow label. This mixture has very little colour and will change the item less than beeswax). This oil is the easiest thing to use in order to seal the wood and prevent natural teak from staining. There are certain oils you cannot use on kitchen surfaces as they are toxic but this oil is 'food grade oil'.

To apply, mix 1 part lemon juice with 4 parts Filippo Berio 'Mild and Light' Olive Oil. Remove water stains or other liquid soils from the table surface with a light dusting of 'fine' grade sandpaper or by soaking a sponge with scourer in the lemon and oil mix and lighting scouring the table top. Then using the smooth side of the cloth, apply the mixture working over the surface along the grain.

Remove any excess liquid with paper towel and leave to dry. The true colour will appear in 1-2 days.

It is really only necessary to treat tabletops and surfaces which are exposed to food and liquid products, e.g. coffee tables, dining tables, console tables, bedside cabinets. As there is only a slight change to the colour of the surface you don't need to treat things like legs, chairs or drawers.

White ring marks

White ring marks on items are where moisture is trapped underneath the varnish. You can purchase a 'white ring remover' from any DIY shop or you could try combining olive oil and cigar ash if cigar ash is unavailable then substitute with paper ash, rub the mixture gently into the mark.

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Dinnerware

We recommend hand washing our dinnerware with care in warm soapy water, avoiding the use of harsh abrasive materials or cloths that may cause the surface to be scratched. However some of our ranges can be placed in the dishwasher and are microwave safe, please see the list below for more information.

Ribe Range

This range is dish washer and microwave safe.

Purete Range

This range is dish washer and microwave safe.

Mia Range

Hand wash only, not suitable for microwave use.

Tea Time Mugs

This range is dish washer and microwave safe.

Candles

Enjoy candles at their best - follow these tips to ensure your candles burn beautifully.

Never leave burning candles unattended and never leave children and pets alone with lighted candles. Always place candles in steady candleholders that will not burn, and keep them away from flammable materials such as curtains. Do not let candles burn in a draught or close to a heat source. Trim the wick down to a maximum of 1 cm, if the candle gives off sooty smoke, extinguish it and trim the wick before lighting it again. Each time the candle is extinguished remove charred pieces of wick, remains of matches, and other impurities from the melted wax round the wick. Remove all packaging and all labels before the candle is lighted. If melted wax spills on textiles, allow the wax to harden (in the freezer if possible) before removing it. The remaining stain can be reduced by ironing; place the spot between two layers of kitchen paper, place a cloth over the paper, and iron the spot with a hot iron to melt the wax, which will be absorbed by the kitchen paper. Then wash the textile normally.

Rugs

Our rugs are all woven from natural fibres on traditional hand operated looms. This gives each rug an unusual, charming, natural and textural character that is kinder to the environment too. Clean rugs regularly with a cylinder type vacuum. Dry spills quickly with absorbent paper, and remove potential stains by adding cold water, then blot (not rub) dry. If cleaning by 'dry extraction' methods, test on a small area first. Do not wash or dry clean.

With all top quality rugs it is recommended not to use a beating vacuum ie dyson but a cylinder vacuum ie henry.

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Leather Sofas

Our leathers are made from high quality European sourced semi or full aniline hides giving our sofas full durability and strength. You will find that our leather sofas age with grace providing you with a stunning and comfortable unit for years to come. There is a small difference between our full grain aniline and semi-aniline hides. Aniline hides are not coated allowing the natural markings to remain visible, it also enables the leather to 'breathe' easily and is comfortable in both hot and cold environments. Our semi-aniline hides are coated with only a very fine layer for those of us who want the leather to age naturally but without marking yet still with the same qualities as our aniline hides.

Leather sofas are low maintenance and generally don't need specialist cleaning, however you will need to dust and keep the leather free from dirt as this will act as an abrasive and cause the leather to wear more quickly. Keep your unit away from direct sunlight to prevent the natural colour fading over time.

Do not use detergents or strong household cleaning products on your leather sofa. Always protect from sharp objects. To remove light scratches and grime just use a slightly wet cloth, not rubbing too hard. Spills including oil spills should be mopped up with an absorbent cloth and allowed to dry - the marks will eventually be absorbed by the leather over time.

Fabric Sofas

We have a large selection of high quality fabrics from velvets, linen, chenilles, viscose and cotton mixes to jacquard weaves. We do not recommend spot cleaning your fabric sofa with heavy detergents as these generally make the blemish worse. Regularly vacuum and turn your cushions to help prolong the life of your covers. Most of our fabrics are dry cleanable only whilst others can be machine washed. Please contact our customer service department for advice on your individual item. If you have a fixed cover sofa that requires cleaning, there are specialist cleaning companies that we can recommend.

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Sunbrella Fabrics

Our new outdoor fabric cushion covers are made from 100% Solution Dyed Acrylic. The fabric is engineered for softness, comfort and its flexibility, and whilst certified by the GREENGUARD® Institute's Children and Schools standard as contributing to healthy indoor air by being a very low emitting interior product, it is also very easily maintained. Wash at a maximum temperature of 40°C.

One of the best ways to keep the fabric 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. Mildew grows on dirt, pollen and other organic matter, so simple routine cleanings will prevent mildew from forming.

General or light cleaning

1. Brush off any loose dirt.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution of 2 ounces (1/4 cup) mild soap per gallon of lukewarm water (less than 100°F/38°C).
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

1. Machine wash in cold water (less than 100°F/38°C). Depending on wash load size, use normal amounts of mild laundry soap and add 8 ounces (1 cup) of bleach.
2. Allow fabric to air dry.

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 mildew, or other stubborn stains:

1. Prepare a solution of 8 ounces (1 cup) of bleach and 2 ounces (1/4 cup) of mild soap per gallon of clean 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.

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5. Allow fabric to air dry.
6. If stain and/or mildew are severe, bleach quantities may be increased.
View the stain chart <http://www.sunbrella.com/cleaning/stain-chart.php> for removal of specific stains.

Re-treating the fabric for ease of cleaning

Sunbrella fabrics have a special finish that enhances water repellency. The finish is designed to last for several years of normal use, but may be refreshed after a thorough cleaning or extended use. 303 High Tech Fabric Guard™ is recommended as the preferred re-treatment product for Sunbrella fabrics.

Applying 303 High Tech 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. A 15-ounce bottle provides coverage of up to 50 square feet of fabric.)

For more information, visit www.303products.com.

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.

Sunbrella fabric air-dries very quickly.

Machine drying is not necessary.

If fabric has some wrinkling, use an iron, if necessary, but only on the synthetic* setting. As some irons exceed the recommended 100°F/38°C 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.

*Synthetic fabric heat settings normally do not exceed 150°F/66°C.