

OUTDOOR CUSHIONS

One of the best ways to keep your outdoor cushions looking great is to remove dirt, pollen, food, animal hair, etc. before it becomes embedded in the fabric and wipe up spills or clean as soon as possible after a stain occurs. Dirt, pollen, etc. may be brushed, vacuumed, or hosed off. To clean outdoor cushions, prepare a solution of $\frac{1}{4}$ cup mild soap (such as Dawn or Woolite) per gallon of lukewarm water. Use a soft bristle brush to clean, allowing the cleaning solution to soak into the fabric. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue and allow fabric to air dry. Although solution-dyed acrylic fabric does not promote mildew growth, mildew may grow on dirt and other foreign substances that are not removed from the fabric. Mold and mildew is caused by moisture, shade, and air movement. To remove mold or mildew, prepare a solution of 1 cup bleach and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup mild soap per gallon of water. Spray on entire area and allow to soak into the fabric for 15 minutes. Clean entire surface area with a sponge, clean towel or very soft bristle brush. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue. Air dry. (ALWAYS test cleaning solution in a small inconspicuous area first. Do not use bleach on printed fabrics).

Do not remove cushion covers from cushion cores! Outdoor cushions are made so that the fabric can be cleaned right on top of the cushion core. Do not store cushions in a plastic bag! This traps in the moisture and will cause mold and mildew.

TEAK FURNITURE

Before placing cushions on teak furniture remove any dust leftover from manufacturing with a damp cloth. Periodic cleaning is the only requirement to maintain your teak furniture. First, hose down the furniture with fresh water. Avoid spraying the teak with a high pressure hose, as high pressure can erode the surface of the timber. Next, scrub the wet furniture using a soft bristle brush and a solution of $\frac{2}{3}$ cup laundry detergent and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup bleach in 1 gallon of warm water. When finished, rinse the entire piece with more fresh water to remove any remaining cleaning solution. Teak wood itself will not mildew. However, mildew sometimes grows on dirt or other foreign substances that are not removed from the wood. Regular cleaning will help keep mildew at bay.

WOVEN FURNITURE

Wash the woven material furniture with a solution of mild detergent and water using a soft brush. After washing, rinse with fresh water until there are no soap bubbles remaining. Allow the furniture to air-dry. You may rinse the frame with fresh water using a high hose pressure. Be careful to avoid any teak details on the furniture as the high pressure can erode the surface of the timber.

SLING FURNITURE

To clean fabric slings, prepare a solution using 1 tbsp. liquid dish detergent and 2 tbsp. bleach mixed in 1 gallon of fresh warm water. Clean the fabric using a sponge or soft cloth dipped in the solution. Be careful to avoid getting this solution on teak or metal furniture frames. After cleaning, rinse the fabric thoroughly with fresh water and allow it to air dry.