

August 2020

# Outdoor Teak Care Guide



# General Info

- Teak has been used for centuries in outdoor construction and is an inherently hard wood that holds up over time making it perfect for outdoor furniture
- When exposed to the elements and UV radiation, teak will acquire a silver/grey patina over time. This is a purely aesthetic change that does not affect the integrity of the furniture
- All aging timelines are dependent on weather variables and exposure as some climates or settings may speed or slow the aging process
- Our factories follow correct protocols of controls for consistency and longevity by adhering to curing times and having on site finish technicians



# Washed Brown & Weathered Grey



Washed Brown & Weathered Grey

# Overview

- The Washed Brown and Weathered Grey finishes are a finish application which is applied on top of the teak, as opposed to a teak oil or stain that is absorbed by the wood
- These finishes are appealing in that from the start the product/finish mimics how the teak will age over time. They mirror the aging process with wire brushing and grey undertones so that the weathering affect that will take place over time is similar to the original look
- The finish will wear through over time and reveal the underlying teak.
- Being that these are fully painted and sealed finishes, they will have a slower aging transition compared to a natural teak
- These finishes will go through a transitory phase where the customer will end with a weathered piece



# Finish Aging within 1<sup>st</sup> Season

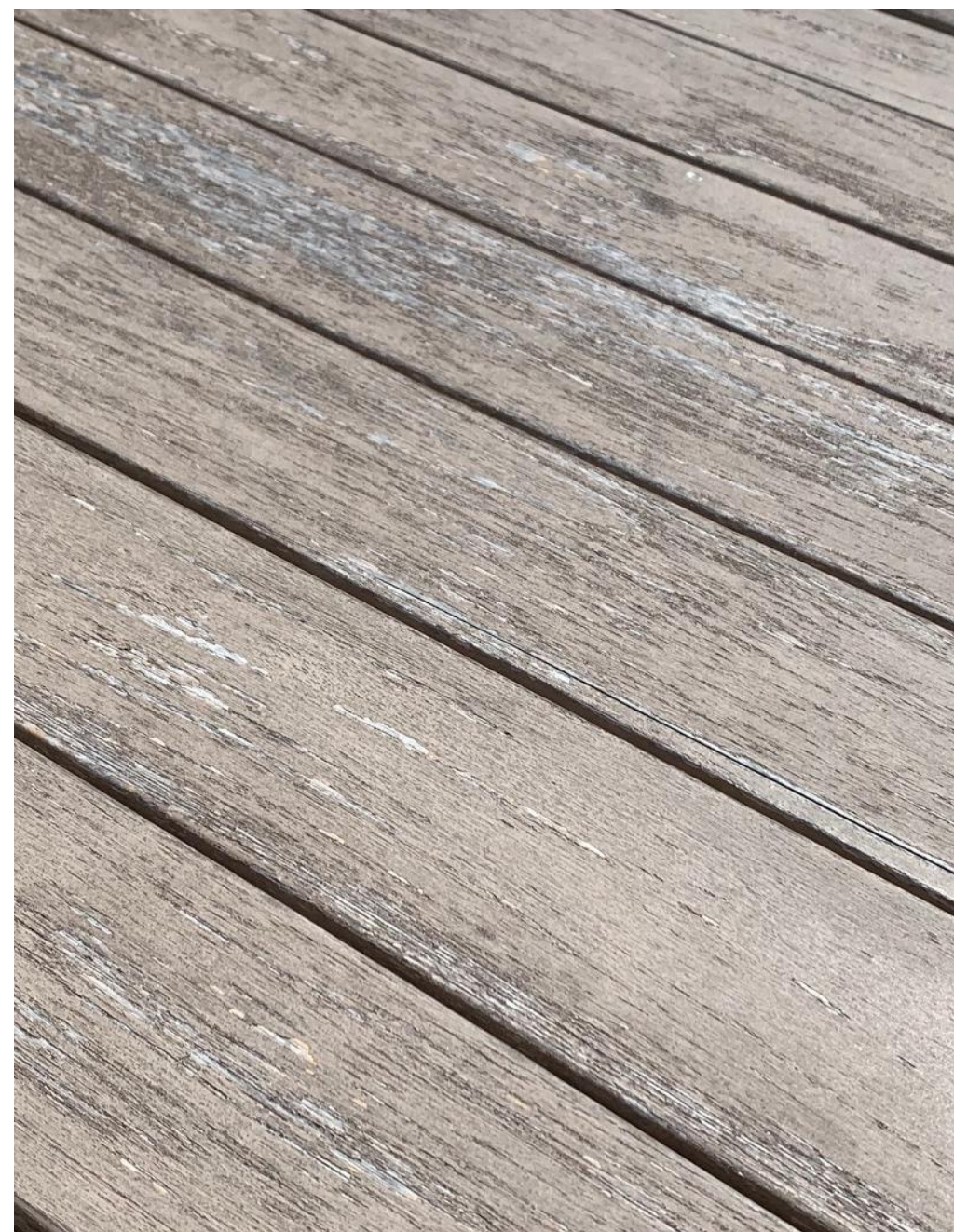
- As the finish ages, and the furniture continues to see exposure to the elements, small patches of raw teak will appear, which will begin to silver in 1-3 months (depending on weather variables) and begin to blend back into the finish.



Washed Brown & Weathered Grey

# Finish Aging after 1-2 Seasons

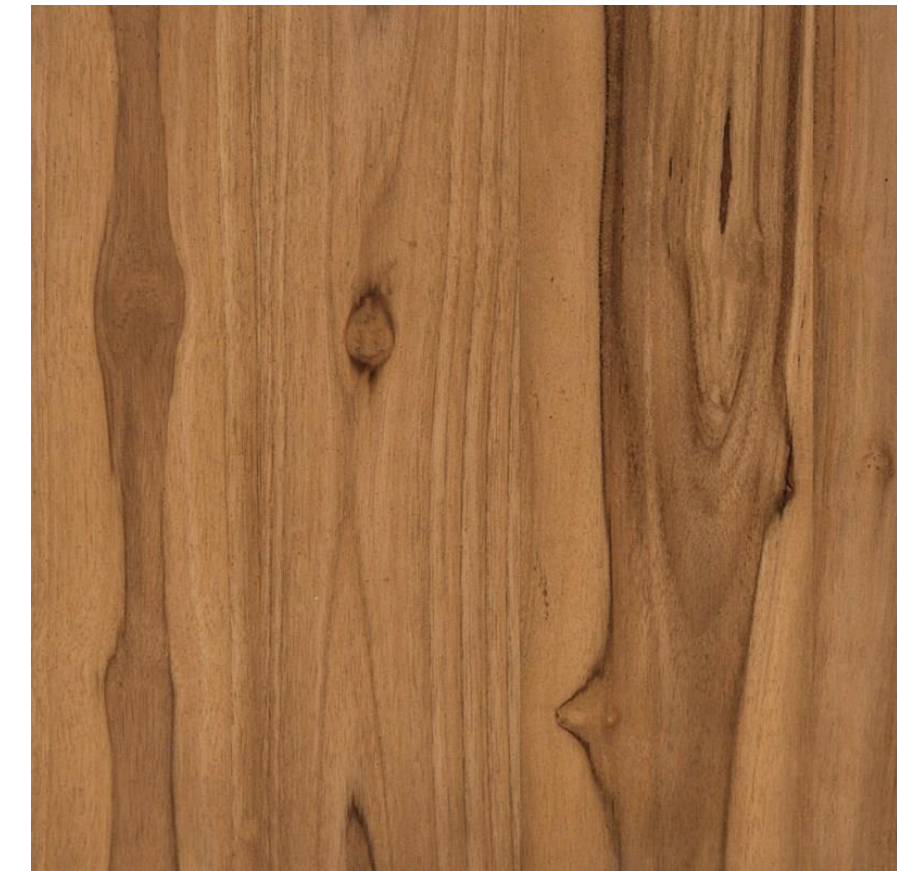
- Finish continues to wear away exposing raw wood initially that will turn to grey



# Care Recommendations

- Gently clean with a *soft* natural bristle brush in the direction of the grain to remove finish that has begun to peel away. This will expose raw areas of wood that will silver in 1-3 months and blend back in
- Clean with warm soapy water, then dry with a clean soft cloth.
- Avoid the use of harsh cleaners and abrasives.
- Avoid letting water stand on the surface of your furniture.
- Wipe spills immediately with a clean soft cloth.
- Cover when not in use with a well-ventilated cover, and only cover once thoroughly cleaned and dry. If possible, store in a dry place when not in use
- Keep items in well ventilated areas as mold can occur when left in damp spaces

# Natural Teak





Natural Teak

# Overview

- A Natural finish highlights the inherent beauty of the grain pattern of the teak, showing the highs and lows of the heartwood mixed with sapwood
- Natural teak finishes have a water based finish applied that once exposed to UV radiation will begin to break down allowing the teak underneath to silver in 1-3 months depending on exposure



# Progression of Patina

- The first signs of silvering will be apparent within 1-3 months. Timeline of full silvering is dependent on elements and exposure



# Care Recommendations

- Clean with warm soapy water, then dry with a clean soft cloth.
- Avoid the use of harsh cleaners and abrasives.
- Avoid letting water stand on the surface of your furniture.
- Wipe spills immediately with a clean soft cloth.
- Cover when not in use with a well-ventilated cover, and only cover once thoroughly cleaned and dry. If possible, store in a dry place when not in use
- Keep items in well ventilated areas as mold can occur when left in damp areas
- As the teak ages, you may hire a furniture technician to lightly sand and oil the product to bring back the natural color, though this would have to be continually performed as the teak will continue to patina

All Finishes

# Forms of Aging

- In addition to finish wear and silvering, there are additional signs of aging such joint expansion/contraction, peeling/bubbling and hairline cracks that can be expected results of natural aging and moisture changes. These are not a product defect



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# What are other brands saying?



# RH

- *Natural Teak* – Our Natural finish highlights the beauty and grain of solid teak. Due to natural variations in the wood, each product and finish may vary slightly. When exposed to sun and rain, the color of Natural teak will soften to a handsome silvery-grey shade depending on the amount of sun exposure.
- *Finished Teak* – Our finished teak is created using a wire brush with a pigment-based finish. Imperfections such as hairline cracks may develop over time. If left uncovered, the finish will fade and wear through, exposing unfinished teak to the elements. Exposed teak will begin to acquire the beautiful silvery-grey patina that is typical of untreated teak. We recommend that these pieces be protected from incremental weather by our furniture covers.



Natural Teak  
(new)



Natural Teak  
(at 6 months)



Natural Teak  
(at 1 year)



Finished Teak - Weathered  
finish (new)



Finished Teak - Weathered  
finish (at 5 years)

# P O T T E R Y B A R N

## **WHAT TO EXPECT**

As typical of outdoor wood, teak will age to a silver gray as the finish weathers and the wood is exposed to the elements. Hairline cracking and/or peeling is inherent in stained outdoor woods and may occur over time and is not considered a defect.

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

To maintain outdoor hardwood and wicker furniture for years of enjoyment, we recommend the following care tips:

- For daily care, wipe with a soft, dry cloth.
- Wipe spills immediately with a clean, dry cloth.
- Avoid the use of harsh cleaners and abrasives.
- Store indoors during long periods of inclement weather.
- Make sure furniture is completely dry before storage.
- Cover furniture with outdoor covers (sold separately) when left outside during inclement weather or when not in use.
- Use a proper outdoor cover that allows for adequate ventilation without trapping moisture.

Grade A teak can be left outdoors to weather naturally. Untreated, teak will slowly attain a natural silver-gray patina. This is a purely cosmetic change and will not affect the integrity of the furniture. Note, as teak naturally contains moisture-resistant oil, expect some of the oil to bleed out following the first few rainfalls. To protect cushions from stains, remove the cushions before the furniture gets wet. Once the furniture attains a natural silver-gray patina, the furniture oil will no longer stain the cushions.

## LONG TERM CARE

If you wish to maintain the original color of the wood, you can apply a teak oil or sealer. Teak oils do provide some UV protection; however they require periodic refinish applications – once or twice per year depending on the amount of exposure to the sun. After sealing, covering the furniture or bringing it indoors is still recommended during inclement weather or when not in use.

# BERNHARDT

## Teak

- Our teak furniture has a hand applied polyurethane finish to achieve a weathered look and feel. A six-step process is used applying multiple layers of PU stains, hand sanding and a final artisan dry brush finish, giving this furniture its desirable aged appearance.
- Like natural teak, our finished teak will slowly change color over time. After one to two years of exposure, the finish will give way to the natural silvery patina of aged teak.
- Although our teak furniture is finished, it does require cleaning and maintenance.
- To clean the finished teak, use a mild soap and water solution applied with a soft cloth or brush. Rinse thoroughly.
- To prevent water, moisture and food stains from penetrating into the teak, Golden Care Teak Shield can be applied to the surface. Prior to application, be sure to let new furniture sit outdoors for two weeks to allow the natural oils in the teak to be drawn to the surface.
- Imperfections, such as hair-line cracks, are natural to the teak aging process.
- When not in use or during inclement weather, store indoors or under cover using our protective furniture covers.



# Thank You

