

Cleaning Tips

Wood:

It's pretty rare to walk into a house without a single piece of Wood furniture. Wooden pieces add a cozy touch to a home. With their rich grains and sturdy designs. However, you won't be doing your décor any favors if your wood surfaces are coated with sticky residue or a fine layer of dust.

When cleaning wood furniture, never use all-purpose cleaning sprays, such as the kind used on kitchen tables, unless your furniture has a plastic coating. To keep wood furniture in its best shape, maintain frequent dusting. Dust can cause airborne deposits that eventually build up in a filmy layer and scratch the surface of wood furniture. Leaving dust on your furniture can also trigger allergies. Never use all-purpose cleaning sprays, such as the kind used on kitchen tables, unless your furniture has a plastic coating.

Metal:

One of the drawbacks of outdoor furniture is the exposure of pieces to the elements. Not only is this a problem for plastic and wood furniture, but it's troublesome for deck furniture made with metal. Knowing how to clean metal patio furniture not only keeps it from oxidizing and rusting but also ensures it maintains the same luster and appearance as it did the day you first bought it. No matter what type of metal your furniture is made of, always start with a basic gentle cleanser like dishwashing detergent. The initial step is to scrub away any loose dirt and debris using a soft brush or a clean cloth.

Make sure you get into all the small crevices. If you notice a build-up of grime or sticky substances on the metal, use a garden hose to spray off the metals before washing. The most basic cleaner for patio furniture requires no more than a little soapy water. A mild dishwashing soap or laundry detergent is perfect for all patio pieces, from wicker furniture to even the most challenging metals like wrought iron and cast iron furniture.

It's also a fantastic way to scrub clean any outdoor cushions if your chairs come with those. For a more intense clean of outdoor pillows, especially if you accidentally left them out in the rain, pop them in the washing machine.

Fabric:

Depending on the type of fabric, upholstered furniture may require varying levels of maintenance and care. If you have leather furniture, keeping it clean will be fairly simple. Here's how you can take care of your leather upholstery:

- Vacuum regularly to get rid of dust

- Use a soft, clean cloth to wipe it down

- Treat it with leather conditioner once or twice a year

- Use a dry cloth to wipe all spills immediately

- Use cleaning products that are suitable for leather

All types of upholstery need proper maintenance if you want your furniture to last a long time. One tip that goes for all fabrics is to keep the furniture away from direct sunlight as much as possible to avoid damage and fading.