

Bamboo Furniture Use and Care

All indoor and outdoor bamboo furniture need to be cared for and maintained to ensure the quality and life span of the products. All bamboo furniture, bamboo screen dividers and bamboo furnishing products require a certain amount of care. You'll see that with some simple, periodic up keep your bamboo furniture will last for years. Our guarantee only covers our bamboo furniture and furnishing products when proper care and maintenance is carried out by our customers.

Preventative maintenance is the key to keeping your indoor bamboo furniture looking like new. Dust it regularly and wash it every now and then with a mild soap and water. Should you spill water or other liquids on your furniture, make sure you blot it dry immediately in order to prevent staining. Try to avoid using chemicals around your bamboo furniture as most chemicals can and will leave stains. Dry indoor heat can cause the bamboo to crack. Wiping your furniture with a cool, wet sponge can help prevent this.

To clean your bamboo furniture, start by dusting, brushing or vacuuming any dirt or dust that's accumulated onto the surface. Once all the visible dirt is removed, wash using a soft brush or sponge dipped into a solution of 2 or 3 teaspoons of ammonia to a half gallon of soapy water (a mild dishwashing liquid – one that doesn't have bleach or alkalis – works fine for this purpose). Rinse well using a sponge and cool water and allow to air dry outside or use a hair dryer. To keep your furniture looking new, it's a good idea to dust or vacuum in this manner on a regular basis.

Outdoor bamboo furniture needs extensive care. Try not to put your furniture in a shaded area, where moist and wet conditions will cause mold. Damp conditions are the number one enemy of bamboo. Move the furniture indoor during off season, or protect it with a good water proof cover. A coat of outdoor sealant will help too.

Bear in mind that bamboo is not really weather resistant. If you have a piece of bamboo furniture that's been left in the garden too long, begin by cleaning with a solution of mild soap and water such as the one mentioned above. If the bamboo has cracked, sand with a fine grit sandpaper until smooth and then rub with paste wax. This should restore the piece back to its original color and shine.

It's a good rule of thumb to never sit on wet bamboo because the wood will eventually become soft and damaged as well as lose its shape. In fact, it's a good idea to wait a few days after you've cleaned it to use your bamboo furniture again. Once the bamboo is dry, feel around for rough spots and smooth with a fine grit sandpaper. If you're air drying the bamboo, leave it out until the surface is dry and then bring it inside. Try not to leave it out overnight or for a prolonged period of time.

You can restore your bamboo furniture's shine by rubbing the piece periodically with linseed or other furniture oil. Furniture oil recommended specifically for bamboo is your best bet. If you'd like the furniture to maintain its golden color, you can do so by applying a colorless lacquer to preserve it from dirt, wear, and other harmful conditions.

It's always a good idea to protect your investment with proper maintenance and care. Take note, it is very difficult to paint your bamboo furniture, you first have to sand off the outside skin of the bamboo, clean it and then paint it. It is hard to get an even color on the bamboo, because of the differentiation in the bamboo fiber.