



## General Furniture Maintenance

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### General Instructions:

- When lifting furniture at any time, do not lift by the slats or they may pull off the frame. Hold the metal frame when lifting, not the slats.
- Inspect daily & clean all furniture surfaces regularly (at least weekly) using slightly soapy warm water and soft cleaning cloth.
- Do not use chemicals or abrasive compounds to clean surfaces as this may damage the surface coating.
- NOTE: Food scraps, soft drinks, juice spills etc, if left on surface can be harmful to surfaces of any kind.
- *Clean it, keep it looking good!*

### Hardwood Slats

It is recommended to re-finish the slats every 12 months to preserve the timber and keep them looking new. When furniture is in an exposed location, the effect of the weather on the finish and the timber substrate is very harsh, not only with UV but also expansion and contraction from the effects of heating /cooling cycles and wet/dry cycles. Other elements the timber comes in touch with (graffiti removal or chewing gum removal, cleaning, acidic rain, acidic drink spills like orange juice or fizzy drink etc to name a few) all contribute to a breakdown of the finish. Weathering of finished surfaces is normal and is not a warranty issue.

For refurbishing outdoor timber slats, we recommend a timber protection oil such as CUTTEK CD50. Available from most paint, timber and hardware stores, Cuttek timber oils penetrate and nourish the timber for long term protection from moisture reduces cupping, warping and splitting. The manufacturer's instructions must be followed for refinishing of existing clear coated timber furniture. (The original varnish may need to be stripped and sanded off completely if it is not Cuttek).



### **Timber Leaching**

Despite the kiln drying process for hardwoods with a moisture level at industry standards, sometimes leaching can still occur which is the release of natural tannins from the timber. When this occurs, it is usually visible as a brown stain most often on concrete surfaces. It is imperative to wash this off as soon as possible with undiluted bleach such as 'Domestos' on the affected area. Scrub it in and let it soak for 20mins then wash it away thoroughly with warm water and a broom.

### **Recycled Composite Slats**

Composite slats are made from a plastic and wood fibre combination creating a tough and maintenance free timber-look slat. The colour of composite slats is throughout the full material thickness which means that any scratches or stains can be sanded off. No ongoing maintenance, refer to 'General Cleaning Instructions' above. *When lifting furniture at any time, do not lift by the slats or they may pull off the frame. Hold the metal frame when lifting, not the slats.*

### **Powder Coated Finish**

Powder Coated surfaces should be kept clean – refer to 'General Cleaning Instructions' above. If the coating is broken through physical damage, it must be touched up immediately after suitable surface preparation to protect it from corrosion setting in.

### **Anodised Aluminium**

No ongoing maintenance – refer to 'General Cleaning Instructions' above. Natural mill finish aluminium as used with leg support frames etc, can develop a natural white oxidisation over a period of time. This is a superficial surface development and is not a defect with the material.

### **Stainless Steel**

Stainless Steel is a very low maintenance material. Refer to 'General Cleaning Instructions' above. Solvents can be used where necessary, following the manufacturer's instructions. Brushed finish stainless that gets light scratches can be re-polished with a plastic scourer pad taking care to follow the direction of the original grain. Professional polishing is required for heavy scratches or mirror finish stainless steel. In heavily corrosive environments, stainless steel colour can change to a light brown rust colour called 'tea staining'. This may look unsightly as far as aesthetics are concerned but does not affect the structural integrity of the material.

### **Hot Dipped Galvanised Finish**

No ongoing maintenance – refer to 'General Cleaning Instructions' above. Galvanised surfaces originally have a bright motley silver finish but can develop an oxidisation called white rust due to the high-quality sacrificial corrosion protection that zinc-rich coatings provide over the substrate. This will over time change to a dull grey finish and is a perfectly normal process. In the unlikely event that the surface is broken through physical damage (or grinding/cutting), hot dipped galvanised surfaces can be touched up with zinc-rich cold-gal paints.

### **Fasteners**

Check all fasteners regularly for tightness. Use Loctite 243 Adhesive Threadlocker to help prevent vibration loosening of fasteners.

### **Replacement Parts**

If the need arises, replacement parts and fasteners are available from Area Safe Products. Often these will be in stock although a cost and lead time may apply.

### **Warranty**

The Area Safe furniture range carries a 12-month structural guarantee of workmanship excluding wear, tear and abuse and is not applicable to any metal products within 1km of salt water.