



SHOREA (YELLOW BALAU) CARE & MAINTENANCE

TOUCH UP SEALER (if supplied) - This bottle of touch up sealer is supplied for self-assembled furniture with exposed dowel joints. Apply touch up sealer to a fabric cloth and rub sealer into the wood, (with the grain) to all assembled/sanded dowels and or other sanded wood surface area.

THE WEATHERING PROCESS- We have factory applied an oil based sealer to extend the natural looks of your new shorea (yellow balau) furniture. If you prefer this “new” look over the “aged” silver gray look, simply continue the use of an oil based sealer on your furniture. If a sealer is not re-applied, eventually, the weathering process will naturally age your furniture to a handsome silver-gray, leaving your furniture with a look of ageless beauty. This gradual aging process usually takes up to twelve months, depending on the amount of sunlight and rain exposure to the wood. After the wood has been exposed to moisture, the surface grain may rise slightly. The grain will return to its original smooth finish after the initial weathering process. You may even notice a few small lines or openings along the grain and at the ends of the grain, called “checking”. This is a natural weathering effect. The slight separation of the grain has no affect on the strength and longevity of the furniture. This “checking” is caused when the wood expands and contracts slightly when left outdoors. Water spots, natural oils or discoloration may also occur early in the weathering process. This spotting will eventually disappear as the shorea (yellow balau) wood ages to its uniform silver-gray color. To quicken this aging process, simply clean the furniture, see “annual cleaning”.

SHOREA (YELLOW BALAU) PROPERTIES – Shorea (yellow balau) is of the family Dipterocarpaceae. Shorea (yellow balau) is a very dense, tightly grained wood that is heavily laden with rich oils and resins. These oils and resins that remain inside the wood grain give shorea (yellow balau) its lasting durability. For centuries balau has been used for heavy-duty furniture, shipbuilding, heavy construction and coveted for its excellent strength and weather resistant qualities. Shorea (yellow balau) texture is very fine, even and smooth to the touch. Our shorea (yellow balau) hardwood looks very much like teak in color and appearance. A property comparison between the hardwoods will show balau is twice as strong as teak.

ANNUAL CLEANING- The only maintenance necessary for your furniture is a periodic cleaning with a soft bristled brush and soapy water (mild detergent) to remove accumulated dirt. Most dirt and stains will be removed. To eliminate any surface mold (black spots/color) add a half cup of household bleach to each one-gallon soapy water solution. Rinse well with clean water after washing.

STAINING-All hardwoods are a porous material and will absorb unwanted liquids and food oils that will cause staining. To reduce staining, immediately wipe off up any spills as soon as possible. Scrub stain with a wet sponge and let dry. For stubborn stains and burns, we recommend a light sanding in addition to cleaning. If previously sealed, follow sanding by resealing stained surface area.

WOOD SEALER- Should you prefer to keep the furniture a golden color use Semco Teak Sealer. This oil based sealer will maintain the color for approximately one year and can be reapplied as needed. Wood sealers will also aid in reducing staining. Avoid applying sealer in direct sunlight or extreme heat. Let dry for a day and buff with a clean towel.

CONTACT US- If you have any questions please, call Park Bench™ at (415) 479-8325, or your nearest Park Bench™ dealer.