

Guidelines for Covered Outdoor Use

Since 1899, Old Hickory furniture has been used in a multitude of settings. In the early days Old Hickory was sold as “Lawn & Garden Furniture” and was used primarily out of doors. Today, most of our furniture is created for and used indoors, however many customers still enjoy the rustic comfort of Old Hickory furniture in their outdoor spaces (both covered and uncovered). Below are guidelines for use and maintenance of Old Hickory furniture being used in outdoor spaces including but not limited to porches, verandas, gazebos, decks, and patios.

- ❖ Items listed in the Covered Porch section of our price guide include “Outdoor Finish”. The “Outdoor Finish” is liberally applied to the hickory frames and table tops. Items not in the Covered Porch section do not include “Outdoor Finish” unless specified.
- ❖ We recommend using our “Tahoe” bark texture (smooth) which allows the finish to seal the wood more completely.
- ❖ We recommend using solid cedar plank tops to allow expansion and contraction of the boards and allow moisture to seep through the gaps.
- ❖ We recommend using our synthetic weave options for seat and backs of chairs and/or barstools (DuraWeave, DuraCane Natural, DuraCane Chocolate). Other (natural) weaves can be used, but may crack or break sooner.
- ❖ In addition to the synthetic weaves mentioned above we also recommend hickory spoke or twig spoke design for the backs of chairs and barstools.
- ❖ Loose, tie-on seat cushions can be provided with outdoor foam (reticulated) and fill.
- ❖ We do not recommend using any casegood items with drawers or other items with metal hardware in outdoor spaces due to moisture and rust that will occur.
- ❖ All furniture used in outdoor spaces will have some checking and cracking, however, this is a natural characteristic of the wood and will not affect the structural integrity of the furniture.
- ❖ We recommend covering the furniture or bringing it inside when not in use and/or over the winter months.

Product Warranty

Old Hickory warrants to the original purchaser that each piece of furniture will be free from defects in materials and workmanship given normal indoor residential or commercial use for a period of one year. This warranty does not cover outdoor use due to variables such as weather, maintenance, pests, and other elements that are not under our control. Flaking finish, mold growth, broken cane and cracking wood due to exposure are not warranted. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our product warranty at info@oldhickory.com.

Guidelines for Maintenance

Most wood furniture used in outdoor settings will require periodic maintenance to keep it strong and looking fresh. The degree to which it is exposed to the elements will determine the frequency of the maintenance. In general, annual cleaning and re-finishing is recommended. Below are the steps for refinishing:

- ❖ Inspect the item carefully for areas of excessive wear and tear. If an area looks to be structurally deteriorating do not use the item and contact a repair person or the factory for assistance at info@oldhickory.com
- ❖ Using a soft bristled brush and mild cleaner, clean the furniture and allow it to dry completely.
- ❖ If mushrooms and/or mold are starting to grow use a 10-1 water-bleach mixture instead of the mild soap. Brush off these areas and allow to dry completely.
- ❖ If the item needs to be refinished please follow the steps below.

Refinishing Your Old Hickory Furniture

As mentioned previously, Old Hickory furniture used in outdoor settings will require periodic maintenance and refinishing. When the finish appears to be flaking off please follow these steps for refinishing:

- ❖ Inspect the item carefully for areas of excessive wear and tear. If an area looks to be structurally deteriorating do not use the item and contact a repair person or the factory for assistance at info@oldhickory.com
- ❖ Using a stiff bristle brush and mild soapy water thoroughly clean the item and allow it to dry completely. We do not recommend using a high pressure sprayer for cleaning.
- ❖ Using fine grit sandpaper (150-220 grit) sand all areas of the wood to remove the old finish and smooth the areas for refinishing.
- ❖ Wipe item clean with tack cloth or other method of removing the sanding residue.
- ❖ Using a paintbrush, foam brush or spray can liberally apply a new clear exterior wood varnish such as “General Finishes Exterior 450 Clear”.
- ❖ Allow the item to dry completely indoors, then bring it outside to enjoy again.