

Step-by-step



Restore furniture in three steps

TREAT

1 Apply a treatment to remove algae and grime. I've used Clearway

(☎ clearwaybyotech.co.uk) as it safely works without the need for follow up jet spraying or scrubbing. The formula is diluted 1:9 with water and sprayed onto wood to kill and remove algae and green mould.



SAND

2 This is one of those jobs you wish you hadn't started as it seems to take

forever, but it is worth it. To see fresh wood revealed is very satisfying. Use a power sander to speed things up, but you will need to get into nooks and crannies with a folded sand sheet. Use 100 or 120-grit sheets.



STAIN

3 Remove sanding dust by wiping down all surfaces with white spirit

before applying stains or paints.

Stains not supplied with an applicator are best applied with a rag. Be sparing when loading the rag to avoid streaks – starting at the bottom and working up will also help avoid this.



A/IPC

Wood furniture restoration

Don't let furniture ruin the look of your garden this summer, says **Kris**

YOU'VE SPENT much of spring setting up the garden for a summer display, planning beds and containers, filling them with colour, and it will soon be time to sit back and enjoy the results. But what are you sitting on?

If the answer is wooden furniture that has seen better days, it's worth setting aside a dry day in the garden to bring it back up to scratch ahead of all those summer parties you are looking forward to hosting.

I've neglected my teak furniture in recent years, leaving it out in all weathers without

any maintenance, and it shows! Instead of deep orange tones my furniture is dull grey and covered in algae (inset).

But teak wood is very forgiving and with a bit of hard work and elbow grease it's easy to get your table and chairs back to their former glory. Cleaning, sanding and staining will bring new life to even the most weathered wooden furniture. I have been amazed at the transformation it has made to my furniture – and to think I

was going to throw it out and buy a new set! My budget would not have stretched very far, nowhere near the quality

hidden beneath the grime on my furniture. Instead of hundreds of pounds I've brought my set back from the brink for under £50.

If your furniture is already in good condition carry out step one now to keep it looking good and step three at the end of the season before storing away.



In a hands-on survey, how many keen gardeners gave us the thumbs up?



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