



## Bench Cushion Care Guide



Bench cushions make any outdoor seating space instantly more welcoming with their complementary colours and comfortable upholstery. Though outdoor bench cushions are designed to be more hard-wearing than their indoor counterparts, they will still require regular cleaning to keep them looking in good condition.

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## Cushion Care

For well-kept outdoor furniture it's just as important to look after the cushion as it is the timber. Moisture, dirt, and mildew pose just as much of a threat to fabric as they do to wood and an immaculate garden bench is much more appealing with a fresh cushion to sit on.

### Cleaning

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#### *Equipment You May Need:*



It is always best to clean spills and dirt as soon as you notice them. This way, any permanent damage to your cushions can be avoided. Use a cloth or towel to dab up any spillages and use warm soapy water for tricky stains. It's always better to dab a spillage rather than rub it – as this can simply force the stain further into the weft of the fabric.

Depending on the type of seat cushion you have, the cover may be able to be machine washed and dried. Always check the label beforehand to avoid damaging your cushions. If your seat cover cannot be machine dried, allow it to air naturally. Always ensure your cushions have completely dried before using them again as any trapped moisture can cause mildew to grow.

To remove mildew that's already set in, laundry detergent can often be used in conjunction with warm water and cleaning products. It is always best to check with the manufacturer before using any cleaning product to ensure the fabric won't be marked or stained even more.

### Storing Your Cushions

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Most cushions designed for outdoor use come with waterproof or water-resistant covers that repel moisture. Despite this, seat cushions can be susceptible to mould if continuously kept wet. When you're not using your garden benches it's best to store the cushions inside a garage or shed where they can't get wet. Even if you keep your furniture outside and under cover, it's still best to store your cushions inside to prevent damp setting in.

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Storing your cushions inside a garage or shed can also prevent sun bleaching and ensures the colour of your cushions remains as bold as the colour of your timber.

Separating the covers from the foam inserts can also be a handy way of ensuring each of your cushions are fully dry. Hang the covers over a radiator and leave the foam to dry naturally to prevent mould or mildew building up on either surface.

Caring for your cushions in this way will ensure they last for many summers to come without becoming mouldy, faded, or worn out.



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