



# SEMPRE.LIFE

Let's share life together

## Maintenance guide

### 1. Wood

The Sempre Furniture Collection is handmade with old and new oak wood as well as reclaimed teak sourced from old houses, bridges, boats, railway sleepers,.... which can easily be 80 years old before it is used in our furniture.

Purchasing a wooden piece means accepting a crack or gap here and there, an irregular surface or wood structure, and the fact that the material lives. As a natural result of external influences each piece will age differently and over time develop its own unique character.

Our natural wood products are not lacquered or varnished in order to show their true beauty. Because the wood is not sealed it will absorb liquids from leaves, food (olive oil,...), drinks (wine, coffee,...), etc, which causes the wood to stain.

There are a lot of wood care products on the market. Our advice is to clean and nourish the teak from time to time with a small amount of natural glycerin-based soap . For indoor use we recommend Teak Protector Spray which covers the table with a thin protective layer. As this wears off over time, especially when the wood is used intensely, the treatment should be regularly reapplied.

Please note that teak fumé cannot be treated with TPS and should instead be polished or waxed. Oak can be treated with a humid cleaning cloth and a bit of decolorant followed by natural glycerin-based soap. Afterwards you can use a sanding sponge to polish the surface.

To minimize the risk of cracking the relative air humidity should be controlled and held at a constant 60 - 65%. Tables should remain leveled in order to avoid contortion and destabilization of the construction.

### 2. Stone

Belgian bluestone can be used indoors as well as outdoors. Its low porosity makes the material resistant to frost and pollution. The tops do not need to be covered in winter. Massengis and lapia stones can be used outdoors whereas carrara marble tables are best kept indoors and must not come in contact with acids.

We do not seal our bluestone, so its porosity does allow for liquids from leaves, food (olive oil,...), drinks (wine, coffee,...), etc, to enter the stone which will result in stains. When used indoors, we recommend TPS which covers the table top with a thin protective layer. As this wears off over time, especially when the top is used intensely, the treatment should be regularly reapplied. The layer prevents liquids from permeating the stone upon contact, but does not make it 100% impenetrable, so it is best to wipe off any liquid as soon as possible.

Stains are less noticeable on our darker, fumé finishes. These finishes are created by impregnating the stone with a color deepener which is available for purchase at Sempre. Always make sure to leave enough dry time between the different layers. If stains occur Sempre can suggest an appropriate treatment.

Outside, grease marks on the stones will eventually fade with exposure to the sun and rain. This can take anywhere from several weeks to several months depending on the nature and amount of the grease. For quicker results you can use water with 2 spoonfuls of ammonia or a good detergent.

Superficial micro-scratches are normal and will over time contribute to give the top a beautiful patina. To nourish the stone and reduce micro-scratches you may treat the top with natural glycerin-based soap diluted in water.

You can simply clean the stone by nourishing it from time to time with a small amount of natural glycerin-based soap.

### 3. Rattan

Our rattan is not treated chemically and is thus a natural product. Its natural color is light brownish. No special protection or coating is applied. Therefore, outside exposure will decrease the product's life span, shape and color, with the latter becoming more greyish over time. To reduce this process you may treat the rattan with oil or TPS. The treatment should be repeated after some time, depending on how often the product is used.

Rattan is a semi-outdoor material, which means that the product is designed for outdoor use during summer and should be taken indoors during the colder, wetter seasons. We do however recommend you place rattan furniture under a roof or lean-to at all times to enjoy a longer life span, even in summer.

Our rattan products as well as some of our leather products are woven by hand, so it is possible for the ends of the rattan or leather strings to come loose in which case they can be tucked in again or cut off.

### 4. Luxury glass

Each Sempre glass piece is individually mouth-blown using traditional glassmaking techniques. In keeping with our philosophy each piece is unique and no two are exactly the same. Variations in size, color and structure are to be expected and celebrated.

Because of the traditional production process our glassware can contain air bubbles and is sensitive to temperature differences. Fast cooling or heating may damage or even break the glass. We therefore advise extra carefulness, including during washing which we recommend doing by hand. Glass items that carry a seal are particularly sensitive to heat, so we strongly advise not to pour hot drinks or liquids in them. Our glassware is not microwave and dishwasher safe. Don't let candles burn too closely to the candleholder to prevent the glass from cracking.

Glass tubes/candle holders/antlers are glued onto their glass base. Please take into consideration that this glue is sensitive to temperature changes and can come loose. We therefore advise that glassware is always carried/supported at the base and never lifted solely by the tubes/candle holders/antlers. Should the glass come loose it can be glued back together with two-component (glass-to-glass) glue.

### 5. Candles

#### Indoor

Always read the warning labels and pictograms before burning our candles. Having an open flame means that there is risk of danger when used without caution. Using good common sense as well as following the burning instructions carefully can help ensure that you get the most out of our candles as well as prevent any potential danger.

#### Outdoor

Our outdoor candles are for outdoor use only. We are not responsible for any damage that might occur when used indoor. Always read the instructions and pictograms before use. Our outdoor candles are not resistant against direct sunlight, freezing temperatures or rain.