Maintenance of teak deck - Tectona Grandis

Why Teak?
- Beautiful and luxurious expression
- Durable and with a long life span
- Easy to maintain
- Quick-drying
- Natural anti-slip surface - even when wet
- Doesn't get unbearably hot in the sun
- Resistant against cracks and twisting

Due to these characteristics, teak has been the material of choice for marine use among sailors and boating people for the last 300 years.

General
Note that wood is a living material and, when not protected by the bark or artificial coating, swells and shrinks depending on surrounding environment.
The teak product is manufactured to be used out-doors during rather moist and stable conditions.
Keeping product in a too dry environment will result in drying, tensions and possible cracking.

Even though teak is the most durable of all woods and, through its natural oils, never rots - there is a small degree of maintenance required in order to avoid unwanted reactions from dust and pollution on the wood surface.
Every other time you rinse off the boat - simply wash the teak with a soft brush or sponge, mild soap and fresh or salt water. Try to wash cross grains. Make sure any soap used has a neutral pH-value.
NEVER use high-pressure cleaners. They will roughen the surface, blunt the features of the teak and considerably reduce the life span.

Let-it-be (Strongly recommended)
This is the absolutely preferred way to make your teak product live long, with a minimum of work.
Left alone the teak surface colour will change into silver-grey.
A very light sanding every, or every second season will keep the surface smooth and easy to clean. The original colour will then come back for some time.
An oscillating-/orbit hand sander works well. A rotating (+2000rpm) soft pad and #120 paper makes the job very easy if you are careful.

Oiling
Oiling keeps the natural colour but darkens over time due to repeated layers of oil + dust and pollution.
Cleaning can be done by using a "teak-cleaner" and brushing off with fresh water. The original colour will then come back.
When oiling and using teak-cleaners; follow manufacturer's instructions carefully and try on a small area first. Some solvents can affect the caulking adhesive.

Finishing the surface
By varnishing the teak you minimize future maintenance, but loose some of the unique teak features.
A teak deck may get slippery - which is the most important to consider when thinking of varnishing.
If not using water-based varnish, follow manufacturer's instructions and try on a small area first. Some solvents can affect the caulking adhesive.

Note: Any usage of chemicals and/or artificial treatment on EuroDesign products will be on the responsibility of the user.
How to remove stains?

Teak look good in its natural form and should be used as a contrast against the white fibreglass.

We suggest to not use varnish on the tables. You can use oil or wax but remember, it will not be protected completely from water stains.

If you do get stains from water, wine, food or chemicals, try to remove them with a sponge and soft liquid soap. If that doesn't work you can use scotch brite and rub against the grains.

If the stains goes deep you can use a fine sand-paper and sand it off.

Important! Always inform the customer that use of chemicals is on their own risk. There is a risk that the caulking could be damaged.
How to repair cracks?

- **If the crack are small or occurred in a not noticeable place**
  - Use fine sand-paper and sand on the crack to fill it up with dust
  - Apply superglue on crack (only) and sand again. Repeat if necessary
  - Can be a little bit darker

- **For bigger cracks or on a noticeable place**
  - Cut out the frame or slat piece
  - Order a new piece from us (for free). All pieces are exact since we use a router
  - Remove the old caulking, glue and clean the surface
  - Glue the new piece in place
  - Fill the seam with caulk and sand when it has cured