

This guide covers the care of your teak bar leaner. Your bar leaner is crafted from A-grade teak, and depending on the model, may be paired with a powder-coated marine-grade aluminium frame, a ceramic leaner top, or be solid teak throughout. A little regular care keeps it looking its best for years of outdoor entertaining, whatever the New Zealand weather throws at them.

What your bar leaner is made of

Teak with aluminium frame	A-grade teak top + powder-coated marine-grade aluminium legs
Solid teak	Solid A-grade teak throughout
Teak with ceramic/stone top	A-grade teak frame + ceramic (stone-look) leaner top

1 Caring for Aluminium Frames & Ceramic/Stone Tops

The marine-grade powder-coated aluminium frames and ceramic leaner tops used across this range are low-maintenance by design — they won't rust, rot or fade, and only need a simple clean to stay looking new.

1 Dust or rinse first

Remove loose dirt, leaves or grit with a soft brush or a rinse from the hose before washing.

2 Wash with warm soapy water

Wipe down the aluminium legs and the ceramic or stone-look leaner top using warm water and a mild dish soap, applied with a soft microfibre cloth.

3 Rinse and dry

Rinse off any soap residue with clean water and dry with a fresh microfibre cloth to prevent water spotting on the leaner top.

Avoid: abrasive scourers, steel wool, bleach and harsh solvent-based cleaners — these can dull the powder-coat finish or scratch the ceramic surface. A soft microfibre cloth and warm soapy water is all that's needed, every 2–4 weeks or as required.

2 Understanding & Caring for Your Teak

A-grade teak is naturally rich in protective oils, making it one of the most durable timbers for outdoor furniture. Left untreated and exposed to the weather, teak will gradually change from its original golden-honey colour to a silver-grey patina — a natural process many people love for its relaxed, weathered look. If you'd prefer to keep that fresh, golden-honey colour, regular treatment with the right teak care products will slow this process and keep the timber protected.

Option A — Natural silver-grey patina	Option B — Maintain the golden-honey colour
Do nothing. Occasionally clean with the Teak & Hardwood Cleaner to remove dirt, mould and staining, and let the teak weather naturally to an even, silver-grey finish.	Clean with the Teak & Hardwood Cleaner, then apply Teak Shield or the Honey Brown Teak Protector to lock in the colour and protect against moisture and staining.

Either way, a light general clean with warm soapy water and a soft cloth or brush between treatments helps prevent dirt and organic buildup — just be sure to always brush or wipe in the direction of the wood grain.

3 Recommended Teak Care Products — Golden Care

We recommend and stock the Golden Care teak care range — purpose-made products developed specifically to clean, protect and preserve teak and other hardwoods. The three products below cover everything your bar leaner needs, from routine cleaning through to long-term colour protection.

Golden Care Teak & Hardwood Cleaner

STEP 1 — CLEAN

Use for: Removing dirt, grime, mildew and grey discolouration from teak, restoring the timber before any protective treatment is applied.

How to use: Dilute as directed on the bottle. Apply to the damp timber and scrub gently along the grain with the green scrubbing pad (or a soft-bristled brush), working in small sections. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and allow the leaner top to dry fully before applying a protector.

Frequency: As needed to remove staining, and always as the first step before applying Teak Shield or Teak Protector.

Golden Care Teak & Hardwood Shield

STEP 2 (OPTION) — PROTECT THE GREY LOOK

Use for: Choose this if you like the natural, weathered silver-grey patina and simply want to protect it. Shield is invisible and transparent — it makes the timber water- and dirt-repellent and helps prevent staining while keeping the natural grey patina look.

How to use: Apply to clean, dry teak with the application cloth, working thin, even coats along the grain. Allow to dry fully between coats as per the product instructions.

Frequency: Every 6–12 months, or when water no longer beads on the surface.

Golden Care Honey Brown Teak & Hardwood Protector
STEP 2 (OPTION) — RESTORE & MAINTAIN THE GOLDEN COLOUR

Use for: Choose this if you want to keep or restore that original golden-honey teak colour rather than letting it grey off. It's an easy-to-apply, water-based protector that maintains the warm honey-brown finish while also protecting against moisture and dirt.

How to use: Apply evenly to clean, dry teak with the application cloth, following the grain. Two coats are generally recommended for new or freshly cleaned teak, allowing the product to dry between coats.

Frequency: Every 3–6 months (more often in harsh coastal or high-UV conditions) to maintain an even, golden colour.

Tip: Golden Care also make application tools — hard green scrubbing pads for cleaning teak, and soft application cloths for applying Shield or Protector — which make the process quick and even.

4 At-a-Glance Maintenance Schedule

Wipe down aluminium legs / ceramic top	Every 2–4 weeks	Warm soapy water + microfibre cloth
General dust / rinse of teak top	Every 2–4 weeks	Water, soft cloth or brush (with the grain)
Deep clean teak (remove grime, grey staining)	Every 3–6 months, or as needed	Golden Care Teak & Hardwood Cleaner
Protect teak (grey patina look)	Every 6–12 months	Golden Care Teak & Hardwood Shield
Protect / restore teak (golden-honey look)	Every 3–6 months	Golden Care Honey Brown Teak Protector

5 Quick Do's & Don'ts

Teak & Aluminium Bar Leaner Care & Maintenance Guide

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DO

- Do clean spills promptly, especially oil, wine or acidic foods, to avoid staining the teak.
- Do always work in the direction of the timber grain when cleaning or applying products.
- Do use coasters or a bar mat under glasses and bottles to avoid marking the leaner top.
- Do allow the leaner top to dry fully before applying any Golden Care protector.

DON'T

- Don't use steel wool, wire brushes or abrasive scourers on aluminium or ceramic surfaces.
- Don't use bleach, ammonia-based or solvent cleaners on teak, aluminium or ceramic finishes.
- Don't use a pressure washer directly on the teak — it can strip fibres and roughen the surface.
- Don't cover the bar leaner with a non-breathable cover for long periods while damp, as this can trap moisture.

Golden Care Teak & Hardwood Cleaner, Teak & Hardwood Shield and Honey Brown Teak & Hardwood Protector are available in-store and online from Design Concepts NZ. For full Golden Care product information, ingredient safety data and video guides, visit [golden-care.com](https://www.golden-care.com).

Questions about caring for your bar leaner? Call us on 0800 468 836 or email sales@designconcepts.co.nz — we're always happy to help.