

Maintenance tips for outdoor fabric



Want to **protect**
your outdoor fabric
and give it a fresh,
like-new look?

sunbrella®

DICSON®

Why should you **take good care** of your fabric?

One of the best ways to keep your Sunbrella® fabric in perfect condition and postpone the need for deep cleaning for as long as possible is to give your fabric a quick hosing or brushing (with a soft fabric brush) on a monthly basis. This will eliminate most surface dirt before it penetrates deep into the fabric.

➤ **Mould: causes and solutions**

In recent years, many factors have contributed to the development of mould on outdoor marine covers:

- Increased air pollution.
- Increased restrictions on the use of certain chemicals in fabric treatments (fungicides - environmental standards).

- Increased window surface areas (by more than 50% during the past 5 years), considerably reducing ventilation (the crystal material is completely air-tight, unlike other materials).

Thanks to the rot-proof synthetic fibres used to make Sunbrella® fabrics, bothersome mould is much less likely to develop. However, mould can develop if the fabric is not well cared for. The following four elements are required for mould to develop: **humidity, heat, spores and nutrients.**

By eliminating any one of these 4 elements, the development of mould can be avoided.





What is the best way to take care of your fabric?

Some easy, practical advice:

➤ Quick basic cleaning

- **Brush** the fabric to remove surface dirt.
- **Spray** the fabric with cold water.
- **Prepare** a mixture of soap and water.
- **Rub** the mixture onto the fabric with a soft brush.
- **Allow** the mixture to act on the fabric.
- **Rinse** thoroughly with clean water until the cleaning solution is completely removed.
- **Allow** the fabric to dry in the open air.

➤ More intensive cleaning to get rid of mould

- **Prepare** a solution with 1/10 bleach, 2/10 soap, 7/10 water.
- **Scrub** the fabric with the solution and a soft brush.
- **Allow** the solution to act for 15 minutes.
- **Remove** the solution using a sponge or a clean towel.
- **Rinse** thoroughly with clean water.
- **Allow** the fabric to dry in the open air.
- **Re-treatment** of fabric for water and stain resistance will be necessary.

Other fabrics that are not Sunbrella® may not be able to withstand bleach. Make sure to protect them. To protect the environment, when using bleach, make sure to collect the dirty water which could be harmful to plants or animals.

Which products are best for **maintaining** your fabric?

TEX'AKTIV
recommended by



Outdoor fabrics receive a carbon-fluoride waterproofing treatment during the manufacturing process which makes them more resistant to moisture and various types of dirt (dust, plant particles, oily deposits, etc.) and limits the development of mould. Over time, the initial treatment can become less effective. That's why it's important to clean and treat your outdoor fabric on a regular basis. Consistent maintenance will keep your fabric in excellent condition and make it last much longer! Depending on how dirty your fabric is, Tex'Aktiv can restore up to 80% of its original beauty.

TEX'AKTIV CLEAN

Fabric cleaner

- Deep-acting
- Powerful stain-remover



TEX'AKTIV CLEAN removes stains and eliminates bad odours on marine fabrics (e.g. deck chairs, cushions, and covers such as biminis, sprayhoods etc.).

The use of **TEX'AKTIV CLEAN** reduces fabrics' beading effect. After each cleaning, apply **TEX'AKTIV GUARD** to restore your fabric's waterproof properties and protect it against dirt and stains.

TEX'AKTIV GUARD

Fabric water-proofing

- Stain protection
- Beading effect



TEX'AKTIV GUARD protects fabric from dirt and stains.

This product is perfect for use on marine, outdoor furniture and solar protection fabrics. It prevents grease and water from penetrating into the fabric.

Its colourless beading effect preserves and restores your outdoor fabric's original beauty!

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Some **smart tips** and practical **advice...**

➤ **Advice**

- **As consistently as possible, clean your fabric on a monthly basis:** spraying with a hose or rubbing with a soft brush (such as one used on clothing) will eliminate most dirt. This will prevent the need for premature deep cleaning (generally recommended every 2 to 3 years depending on the environment).
- **Before folding or putting away your marine cover (biminis, sprayhood, etc.),** make sure it is completely dry and clean to avoid the formation of mould while in storage.
- **Avoid cooking under your marine cover (bimini, sprayhood, etc.)** because smoke, gas fumes and steam from cooking contain micro-nutrients that can promote the formation and development of mould on the fabric.
- **Make sure to always keep your marine cover well ventilated,** insufficient ventilation for evacuating

accumulated interior moisture will encourage the development of mould (favourable threshold: over 65% humidity). Above all, do not put a totally air-tight PVC tarpaulin over your marine cover or obstruct lateral ventilation screens that maintain proper ventilation.

- **Do not use** solvents, detergents or abrasives, or clean your Sunbrella® fabric with a high pressure machine or a washing machine.

➤ **Tips**

- **If your Sunbrella® fabric has a few wrinkles, you can iron it,** but only using the synthetic/delicate fabric setting (do not use any steam whatsoever).
- **Did you know that you can use Sunworker® fabric** to create well ventilated areas, ideal for rear enclosures and winter covers?



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