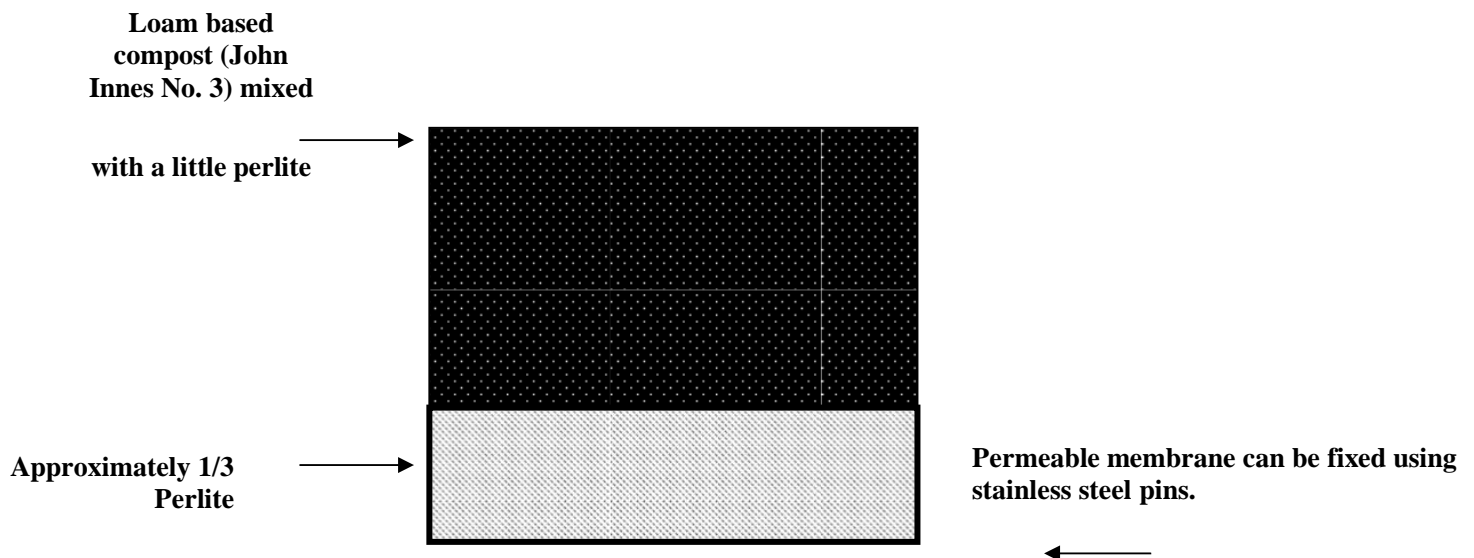




Tel: - 01608 683022 Mob:- 07765188725
Email: - info@oxfordplanters.co.uk; Website: - www.oxfordplanters.co.uk

Planting Advice
Please read carefully.

We suggest the following method is carried out when planting your planters to ensure optimum drainage, which will prolong the life of your planter.



Wood Products

In some circumstances wood, particular oak release natural tannins (also found in tea, wine and other fruits). **This is not a permanent condition.** If the planters or furniture are sited on stone surfaces this may cause a little discolouration. Tannin is water-soluble and the stain will fade naturally in time. However, it can be removed by pressure washing or a mild bleach patio cleaner such as Oxalic Acid which we are able to provide. Please consult your stone supplier before applying cleaning products to your stone.

As Oak and Iroko weather and age the products will turn a silver grey and there will be movement which is one of the beautiful characteristics especially with oak over other hardwoods and is not detrimental to the durability of the product. However, to slow down this process and the release of tannins we recommend using Osmo UV Protection Oil in a UV or non UV finish. The product is based on natural vegetable oils, with a preservative, is micro-porous, moisture regulating and may reduce natural swelling and shrinking. Natural oils penetrate deeply into the wood, keeping it elastic and healthy.

Adjusting to your garden:

With the changing weather, you may notice that your wooden garden furniture/ Planter is prone to change. Because timber is a natural product, the environment will influence the overall finish of your product making each product completely unique to its surroundings. Many people in the past have deemed that their furniture as faulty or defective, a conclusion that is reached because of the appearance of cracks, expanding and splits in the timber. But in fact, this is very rarely the sign of a defect – it is simply the timber naturally responding to its surroundings. Part of the charm of owning wooden garden furniture or features is its natural ability to change and suit its surroundings. Because it is a natural process, the cracking, expanding and splitting of timber cannot be totally prevented. However, if it is a concern for you that it is happening, the process can be slowed by applying a treatment, such as osmo oil, to the timber.

If you notice the boards on your Planter/ furniture have expanded in the damp weather please allow your planter/ furniture to dry out before contacting us as very often the timber will shrink back but please remember this is a natural timber product that needs to find its resting position while it weathers.

How to prolong the life of your product:

Your product is made from: Iroko, Oak, Accoya or Lead.

IROKO - Iroko is naturally a very oily hardwood timber which required less maintenance than the other timbers. However, to keep your planter healthy we suggest you change your soil every 5 years, to benefit your plants and check for any signs of wear on the inside of your planter. This will also provide you with the time to check and reapply the specialist liner coating on the internal walls of your planter.

Iroko is a natural timber and will biodegrade over time. This time will be determined by the care and maintenance given to each product. To slow this natural process, you are advised to position your Planter/product away from anywhere that pools water as the moisture will be absorbed into the legs of your planter/ products aiding the natural biodegrading process of your product. To slow this process, we also recommend allowing as much drainage through your Planter as possible – please refer to our planting advice above. Please always ensure your Planter/ product is level at time of planting/positioning to lessen the risk of strain to one side of your planter/ product. Remember, your planter will be expected to hold considerable weight therefore correct planting is of key importance. To clean the outside of your planter you may use a stiff brush to brush the sides of your product and remove and debris/ moss that has taken up residency on your product.

OAK– Oak is a naturally beautiful hardwood timber which characterises itself as it weathers and settles into its environment. Oak is renowned for its unpredictable movement that many love. However, if the timber movement is an issue for you, we recommend oiling your product to keep it from drying out as it weathers. To help keep your planter healthy we suggest you change your soil every 5 years, to benefit your plants and check for any signs of wear on the inside of your planter. This will also provide you with the time to check and reapply the specialist liner coating on the internal walls of your planter.

Oak is a natural timber and will biodegrade over time, to help reduce this process you are advised not to position your Planter/product anywhere that pools water as the moisture will be absorbed into the legs of your planter/ products aiding the natural biodegrading process of your product. To slow this process, we also recommend allowing as much drainage through your Planter as possible – please refer to our planting advice above. Please always ensure your Planter/ product is level at time of planting/positioning to lessen the risk of strain to one side of your planter/ product. Remember, your planter will be expected to hold considerable weight therefore correct planting is of key importance. To clean the outside of your planter you may use a stiff brush to brush the sides of your product and remove and debris/ moss that has taken up residency on your product.

Paint Finish

Occasionally when the painted product is first subjected to weather small pimples may occur especially after rain or heavy dew. Please do not pop them. They will go down in due course and in no way are detrimental to the finished paint products.

When choosing a light paint colour timber leaching may become noticeable through the paint if the plants are overwatered. Please follow the above planting advice and consider a liner if your planters will be linked to constant unmonitored irrigation.

ACCOYA & TRICOYA– Accoya and Tricoya are modified timbers with hardwood attributes. These timbers left natural require the least amount of maintenance due to the durability of the timber, please follow these links to find out more www.accoya.com & www.meditetricoya.com

However, here at Oxford Planters Ltd we offer Accoya and Tricoya as the timber for a paint application. Therefore, it is important that the paint finish is looked after and maintained. As with the timbers above we suggest positioning your products away from pooling water as too much moisture may compromise the paint finish. To help prolong the paint finish on your product we also recommend allowing as much drainage through your Planter as possible – please refer to our planting advice sheet. Please always ensure your Planter/ product is level at time of planting/positioning to lessen the risk of strain to one side of your planter/ product. Remember, your planter will be expected to hold considerable weight therefore correct planting is of key importance. To clean the outside of your planter you may use a sponge and tepid water to wash the sides of your product and remove debris/ moss that has taken up residency on your product.

Products with Copper:

Copper will turn a beautiful green hue as it weathers, to prevent this we recommend cleaning the copper with a micro fibre cloth and copper cleaner as and when required. Take care not to allow the copper cleaner to touch any paint work on your product as this may affect the paint finish.

The process in Lead weathering

Lead forms a series of oxides. The principal ones are PbO, a yellow oxide called litharge, and PbO₂, a reddish-brown substance called lead dioxide, Orange-yellow Pb₂O₃, while red Pb₃O₄, red lead or minium. In addition to these, there is Pb₂O, lead suboxide, a black, amorphous substance Basic lead carbonate, 2PbCO₃•Pb(OH)₂, when pure, is a brilliant white substance that makes an excellent paint pigment, called white lead.

Perhaps lead's best known property is its resistance to corrosion in various aggressive environments Lead's ability to give good service in such situations often gives the erroneous impression that lead is a passive metal. Lead is, in fact, a very reactive metal and it is this reactivity which enables it to be used in corrosive environments. In air, for example, a close fitting and adherent film of lead carbonate is formed by rapid reaction first between metallic lead and oxygen to form lead oxide followed by a second reaction between the lead oxide film and carbon dioxide, which is always present in air, to form a protective film of lead carbonate. Further contact with the metallic lead underneath is then prevented and corrosion ceases.

Lead patina is a layer of highly insoluble lead salts, including lead carbonate, which gradually form on the lead surface to eventually give the familiar grey lead appearance.

During the initial stages of the oxidation process, lead can display various colours including blue, bronze and green. It is probable that such films are extremely thin and in fact have no intrinsic colour but appear coloured due to an interference effect Similar interference colours may be observed when oil is present on a wet road. Lead is most likely to appear coloured when placed indoors or in protected locations.

When lead meets moisture, rainwater, condensation etc, at early stages, discoloration, spotting and white powdery deposits (usually basic lead carbonate) can form and may 'run-off'. The degree to which all these occur is governed by the environmental conditions, but with longer term weathering, the lead will take on its' familiar appearance.

Investigations have shown that the patina formation follows the route: lead, lead oxide, basic lead carbonate, normal lead sulphite, and normal lead sulphate. The 'run-off' stage occurs when non-adherent basic lead carbonate is formed, usually through contact with moisture. Each of the stages in patina formation is adherent, highly insoluble lead salts and in practice, as these salts develop with weathering, they stifle the basic lead carbonate release. The final patina is made up of approximately 30% normal lead sulphite, 60% normal lead sulphate and 10% normal lead carbonate. However, this can vary dependent upon location, time and airborne impurities.

If you require any further information regarding your product, please do not hesitate to contact us.

More about our products -

Oxford Planters make each of their products to order ensuring you are ordering exactly what you would like instead of just what is available. Therefore, if our suggested dimensions are not quite right for you, please let us know and we will be happy to re-price for your preferred dimensions.

Each product is hand crafted meticulously from the finest raw materials and assembled with scrupulous attention to detail by our highly skilled joiners. Every component is designed, developed and produced to the most exacting standards using only the best materials & FSC hardwood timbers available. For all natural finished products, we use either iroko or oak. For all painted products we use Accoya or Tricoya. For all lead products we use Accoya and code 4 lead. Accoya & Tricoya are modified timbers which outperform most natural hardwoods. We line the internal walls of all our Planters with a specialist coating developed by Oxford

Planters. This creates a barrier between the timber and the soil and will need to be reapplied after approximately 5 years to prolong the life of your Planters.

We make each of our products in bespoke sizes and match paint colours to any colour of your choice - please see our advice sheet on our website for paint care advice.

For all Oak and Iroko finished products we recommend applying a coating of Osmo protection oil - if you opt for a UV protection oil this will prevent the timber weathering and will need to be reapplied as required - if you opt for a non UV application this will still allow the timber to silver as it weathers. Please contact us to request an oil application price.

The slatted base is made of Balau. You will need a permeable membrane to lay in the base of the Planter to prevent the soil falling through the drainage slats. If you would like us to supply the membrane with your order, please contact us for a price.

All measurements are external measurements and exclude the finial height (if applicable). If your overall height must include the height of the finials. please let us know upon ordering.

We fit an Oxford Planters name plate to each of our products to identify us as the maker - if you would prefer not to have a name plate, please let us know upon ordering.

Please check there are no access or weight restrictions prior to ordering.

Full Terms and Conditions are available at:

https://oxfordplanters.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/OP_terms_and_conditions.pdf