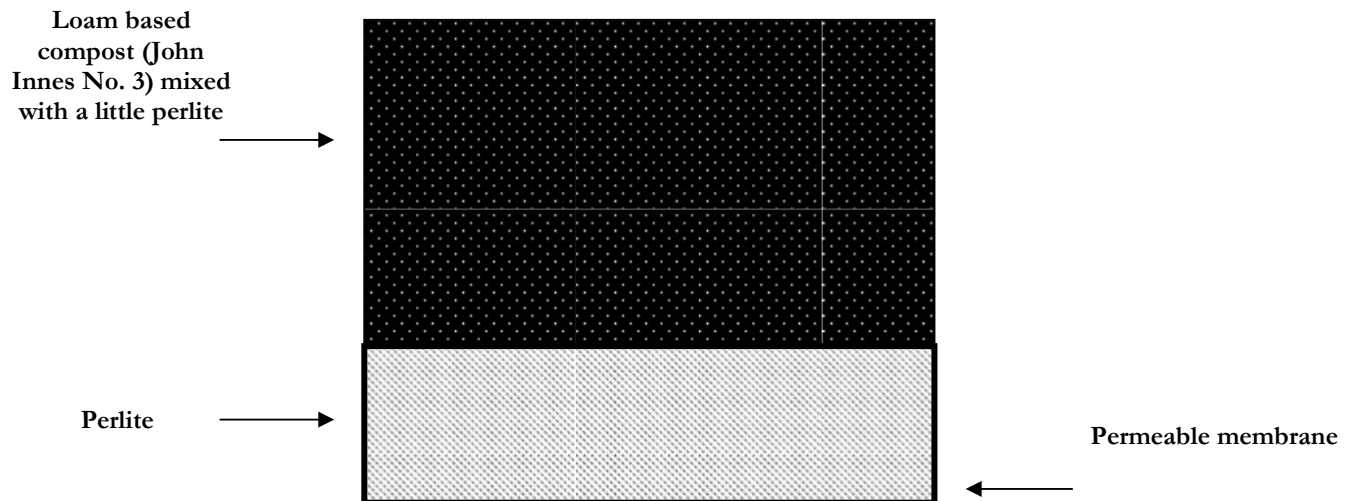




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Planting Advice and Care Guide

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



Wood Products

In some circumstances wood, oak in particular, can 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 discoloration. 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.

As Oak and hardwoods 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 Extra in a satin matt clear finish and we are able to supply this product. The product is based on natural vegetable oils, with a preservative, is micro-porous, moisture regulating and should reduce swelling and shrinking. Natural oils penetrate deeply into the wood, keeping it elastic and healthy.



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More about our products -

We hand-craft each of our products to the highest quality using only the best 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 hardwood's. Please follow this link to find out more about Accoya www.accoya.com and www.meditetricoya.com We are able to make each of our products in bespoke sizes as well as being able to paint our painted products in any colour of your choice. As well as making each of our products to order we are also able to make to your own designs. For all Oak and Iroko finished planters we recommend protecting each product with Osmo UV protection oil. The slatted base is made of a timber called Balau, which is also durable. You will need a permeable membrane to lay in the base of the Planter to prevent the soil falling through the slats – please see above.

All measurements exclude the final height

Full Terms and Conditions are available at:

<https://oxfordplanters.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Terms-and-conditions-2023.pdf>

Appreciating, understanding and looking after your timber product:

At Oxford Planters Ltd we take great care and pride in the manufacturing of each one of our products. We individually hand craft our products using only the best FSC timbers and materials.

Each of our products comes with a minimum 5-year workmanship guarantee

In the most unlikely event that your Oxford Planter product does not match up to our standard we will take corrective action.

Please note that natural wear or accidental damage will not be covered by our workmanship guarantee. However, should you find that your product requires a little maintenance please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to provide a quote for any maintenance or repair that is required

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.



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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 Tricoya if made in timber/hardwood or Lead and Accoya if made from 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 reapply the black rubberized paint on the internal walls of you planter.

To reduce the weather impact on your product 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 and placing the legs on hard standing clear of stones/ gravel to allow for air flow and water flow – 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 characterizes 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 reapply the black rubberized paint on the internal walls of your planter. To reduce the weather impact on your product 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 and place the legs on hard standing clear of stones/ gravel to allow for air flow and water flow – please refer to our planting advice above.



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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 debris/ moss that has taken up residency on your product. **Oiling your planters – if an oiled finish is requested the hue maybe different from the sample. The reason for this is because of the grain in the oak being different shade across the planter.**

ACCOYA & TRICOYA – Accoya and Tricoya are engineered 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 and place the legs on hard standing clear of stones/ gravel to allow for air and water flow – 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 sponge and tepid water to wash the sides of your product and remove and debris/ moss that has taken up residency on your product.

Paint Finish Care

Occasionally, when the painted product is subjected to weather pimples/ blisters 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.

Cleaning – when cleaning your product do not use cleaning products/ chemicals on the paint as a chemical reaction may occur and compromise the paint finish. If pressure washing an area next to your products, please protect your product from the spray and do not clean your product with a pressure washer. All chips, cracks, splits in the paint work must be touched in to prevent moisture getting behind the paint.

When choosing a light paint colour timber leaching may become noticeable 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.

Touch Up Paint

Touch up paint is supplied with each painted order from Oxford Planters, please store this where it will not freeze as the paint will not adhere after freezing. New paint can be ordered through Oxford Planters.

Products with Copper:

Copper will turn a beautiful green hue as it weathers, to prevent this we recommend cleaning the copper with a micro-fiber 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.



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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.