

Oxford Memorial Benches Ltd

"A Complete and Personal Service"

Treat or leave untreated?

The following information will help you decide on whether to have the bench delivered in it's natural state or have it treated with a water based treatment – please be aware that we offer no guarantee of durability on the finish. If you unsure about the treatment we advise you take delivery of the bench in it's natural state.

The following information is given in good faith according to our tests and experience.

- Iroko has a very high durability rating and treatments are mainly for cosmetic purposes; it is a dense hardwood and natural chemicals in the timber give it a slightly "oily" surface.
- Iroko timber should have a service life of at least 25 years.
- An Iroko bench left in its natural untreated condition will silver evenly in approximately 6 months and providing it is kept clean it should give a long service life.
- We recommend that the bench be given an annual wash down to remove dirt and algae
- Many authorities insist on benches not being treated.
- We do not recommend the application of any varnish, paint or stain of any make unless you are prepared to sand back the finish and reapply - this could be after only a few months.
- Checking/cracking of the end grain will be less severe when the bench is treated with "Iroko Protector".

If you are not able to maintain the finish we recommend that you specify the bench to be left in its natural state

"Iroko Protector" – a water based treatment

- Over the past 14 years we have tested most finishes/treatments offered by leading suppliers and currently recommend "Iroko Protector" as offering the best combination of durability and ability to retreat without the need to sand back the old finish.
- When reapplication is required then the surface does not need to be sanded back just given a thorough wash down/cleaning – this may be after only a few months.
- It is always best to apply a new coat sooner rather than later if you want to keep the bench looking at it's best.
- Reapplication of the protector is also very simple – wash the bench thoroughly, allow to dry and then apply the protector (approximately 2 hrs drying time).
- We recommend that if you specify the bench to be treated with the "Iroko Protector" that you also purchase a container of the protector so that you can apply yourself when required. We can send by post if you wish but there is a £ 5.00 P/P charge.
- When applying the treatment to bare timber then it is essential that the timber is thoroughly cleaned and degreased using cellulose thinners or methylated spirits (not white spirit) prior to applying the protector. This will help adhesion.
- Protector should not be applied until all traces of the solvent have evaporated.
- Do not allow the bench to become wet until the finish has dried completely.
- Do not apply in full sun as the treatment dries very quickly and it may be difficult to wipe out drips and splashes.
- Apply using brush and rag soaked in the treatment.
- Prevent the treatment from dripping/slashing onto unwanted areas.
- If the treatment is not continued then the bench will (usually) fade to a silver colour but may appear patchy.

Charges

Degreasing using cellulose thinners and application of 2 coats of "Protector" treatment.

1,2m Bench	-	£ 65	
1,5m	-	£ 70	
1,8m	-	£ 75	
2,1m	-	£ 80	
2,4m	-	£ 95	
1 litre can of treatment	-	£ 20	(£25 inc P&P)

Restorer

The restorer is an alkaline powder especially formulated to remove the degraded grey surface, grease and grime from weathered untreated hardwood furniture.

It can be used to prepare untreated timber ready for application of any treatment, including " Iroko Protector".

It is environmentally and user friendly.

1 box restorer	-	£10	(£14 inc P&P)
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