

Castelfranco Veneto, 13 / 07 / 2018

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS – HARDWOOD

Hardwood is naturally tough, robust and hard and thanks to these characteristics it is a very important element for the construction of outdoor products.

The hardwood that we use in our street furniture's products comes from forests submitted to state constraints that control deforestation and it is FSC certificated.

The only treatment that this kind of wood receives is a transparent acrylic based polish.

Hardwood is an "alive" element, which keeps changing aspect with the passing of time.

It needs an accurate and periodical maintenance, in order to remain impeccable for several years.

Hereinafter a few indications:

- 1) A delicate cleaning : a first expedient is to maintain the wood as clean as possible, in order to avoid the deposit of dust and dirt, which are hard to remove once encrusted. Invasive procedures on hardwood are to be avoided : a soft damp cloth is sufficient to remove dust and dirt;
- 2) Drying of the wood : following a delicate cleaning (see point 1), it is necessary that the wood dries perfectly, in order to avoid a natural absorption of humidity, directly responsible for the formation of moulds.
- 3) Sanding of the wood : this procedure is only necessary whether the first two maintenance instructions have not be followed. A light sanding, with a very delicate sandpaper, can be helpful when wooden parts start to have little shards or cracks: the action must be on the very surface and only remove the most external damaged part of the wood. As alternative, an oil can be applied.
- 4) Specific products for hardwood : wooden parts must be checked twice a year, and the consequent application of a protective oil suitable for this kind of wood is necessary. As well as protecting the wood from strong weather conditions (rain, snow, hard sun...), making it waterproof and avoiding the formation of moulds and bacteria, the oil gives the wood a natural and alive colour and aspect. The periodic coating (every 6 months approximately) with the protective oil preserves the wood and avoids the need of paper sanding it. The oil must be chosen depending on where the bench is installed and the weather conditions it is exposed at.

HELIOS srl

La Direzione- Alessandro Girolametto