

## // INFORMATION ON THE MATERIAL

It is the moments with friends and family that make our lives so worth living – precious moments of togetherness in which the world holds its breath and exists only for us. It is precisely for these moments that we have created ÄRA. A homage to life, captured in each piece of furniture – carefully selected and crafted with exceptional craftsmanship to give your outdoor space a special elegance. ÄRA invites you to write your own stories, create memories and celebrate the joy of being together.

### MATERIALS

#### THE ÄRA MATERIALS

For our ÄRA collections we use lightweight aluminum in combination with the high-quality Hitex® fiber of the brand Rohleder (Q2). This fiber is an advanced fully synthetic high-tech fabric made of polyacrylic and polyester. Additionally, we use quick-drying foam for our lounge furniture.

For models with rope, it is made of 100 % polypropylene, a weather-resistant synthetic fiber surrounded by a core of thermoplastic elastic.

For the noble teak series we use untreated teak from Indonesia, imported to the EU with a FLEGT permit. This confirms to the licensing body in Indonesia that the exported wood products are of legal origin.

Our table tops for ÄRA are made of Dekton. Dekton is composed of 20 natural minerals. In a novel technological process, Dekton recreates in a few hours what nature takes several millennia to produce. Pressed at 25,000 tons, the material is compacted to meet the highest standards. Fiberglass reinforcement provides additional stability.

### ALUMINUM

#### FEATURES ALUMINUM

Due to its properties, aluminum is particularly well suited for outdoor use. Despite its low weight, it has a high stability and is easy to clean, weatherproof, heat-resistant, rust-free and recyclable.

#### CARE ALUMINUM

In the case of light contamination, it is sufficient to remove it with a soft cloth or sponge, lukewarm water and neutral cleaning agents (pH ~7). If a cleaner outside the pH range is used, it will attack the surface.

Never use:

- scratching or abrasive agents
- solvent based cleaners
- strongly acidic or alkaline solvents
- steel wool
- gasoline or thinner

Dry cleaning should also be avoided, as this can lead to scratches on the surface.

Due to the smooth surface, grease and oil adhere very well to aluminum. Please note that the use of suntan lotion may cause staining.

We recommend using our STERN Aluminum Cleaner & Protector 2 x a year. It cleans and removes dirt, stains, and corrosion residues. With regular use, aluminum retains its original appearance for a long time. In addition, it protects against environmental influences.

For minor paint damage, we recommend our STERN Touch-up pen. Touch-up pencils are not suitable for large-scale repairs. To prevent staining, never clean aluminum in direct sunlight. The surface temperature should never exceed 25 °C during cleaning.

## NOTES ALUMINUM

Water that may have entered the racks through screw holes can be drained by removing the foot caps. To prevent the water from freezing in the pipes, this procedure is recommended, especially before it freezes. To avoid staining the floor, you should do it on a non-sensitive surface.

Among other things, our aluminum furniture is equipped with black floor glides. They fit perfectly with the design of the furniture, are stable and have UV protection. However, like all plastics, our floor glides also have an abrasion that can strip can leave behind. Depending on the structure of the floor, this may vary in intensity. On light floors, this abrasion may leave visible streaks, which is not a defect in the product.

Vacuum your upholstered furniture regularly with the upholstery nozzle of the vacuum cleaner at the lowest suction level. Pay attention to edges and piping. In addition, you should wipe your upholstered furniture with a damp cloth several times a year.

Removable covers and pillowcases are washable at 30 °C on gentle cycle in the washing machine.

It should be noted here:

- Velcro straps can get caught in the cover material during washing or cleaning. To avoid this, please cover Velcro straps with fleece tape!
- Do not overfill the washing machine.
- Commercially available stain salt can be added to the detergent, which can be very helpful, especially for light colors
- The spin cycle must not exceed 800 revolutions

Basically, all stains (except solvent-safe writing instruments) can be easily removed with Q2. Try to remove stains immediately after they appear. To do this, use an absorbent cloth and dab the stain.

## Q2 FABRIC FEATURES Q2 FABRIC

Fabrics made of a mixture of polyacrylic (68 %) and polyester (32 %) have a pleasant cotton-like feel, so the fabric has a unique indoor appearance. In addition, they provide a pleasant seating climate and high comfort, without heat accumulation and moisture problems.

- Made in Germany
- Without chemical finishing
- Washable and easy to clean
- Skin friendly and medically tested
- High abrasion resistance
- Very good light fastness (6-7)
- Color fastness (4-5)

## CARE Q2 FABRIC

Like all objects of daily use – think here, for example, of your clothes or your carpet – your furniture is also subject to constant dust and contact soiling. It therefore goes without saying that regular care and cleaning of Q2 is essential and serves to maintain the value as well as the beauty of your upholstered furniture. Q2 is made of 100 % high-tech fibers, which allows easy care and cleaning of all household stains.

### a) normal household soiling containing fat and protein (e.g. chocolate, ketchup, milk, red wine, fruit juice)

Prepare a lye from warm water and mild detergent – for light-colored covers, the addition of commercial stain salt can be helpful – and wash the stain from the fabric over a large area and with plenty of water. Dried-on, encrusted and stuck stains should be softened a little beforehand.

### b) stains containing solvents (e.g. nail varnish, lipstick, felt-tip pen, ballpoint pen, shoe polish, etc.)

Stains of this type can be removed with the solvent acetone. Proceed in such a way that you first outline the stain with the acetone. In this way, you prevent the dissolving soiling from flowing further. Then sprinkle the stain directly with acetone and soak up the soiling with a white, absorbent cloth or kitchen paper. Repeat the process until no color change is visible. Then rinse the whole thing with plenty of clean water.

**c) Staining due to jeans and other clothing dyes**

Many clothing fabrics – especially dark denim – do not have sufficient color fastness, which means that dyes from the clothing textiles are transferred to the upholstered furniture and other textiles. This is particularly quickly visible with light-colored furniture covers. In extreme cases, a single contact of a clothing textile that is not colorfast with the upholstered furniture is enough to rub off onto the upholstered furniture.

Many clothing manufacturers now draw attention to this danger by means of special labels.

Please note: These discolorations are not comparable with normal soiling. They are extremely stubborn and can no longer be removed from most cover materials. This is by no means a defect in the cover fabric, but a defect in the clothing textile, which must be claimed at the clothing store. Due to its fully synthetic composition, Q2 offers the advantage that even discolorations of this kind can be removed by means of a bleaching process. Discolored cover parts can also be decolorized by a professional cleaning company.

Attention: Staining due to textiles is excluded from any manufacturer warranty claims!

**d) Pressure marks and seat mirror/use chandelier**

Pressure marks caused by mechanical action (e.g. by transport) can be removed by slightly heating this area with a hairdryer from a distance of approx. 10 cm and brushing the pile in all directions with a clothes brush to straighten it up again.

The hot nozzle of the hair dryer must not come into contact with the fabric.

A certain amount of seat mirror/use lustre is typical of all pile fabrics. You can counteract this with regular maintenance care and occasional brushing of the pile in all directions.

Attention: Seat mirrors/use chandeliers are a typical feature of chenille and fiber pile fabrics and are excluded from any manufacturer warranty claims.

**e) Electrostatic charge**

If electrostatic charging should occur with Q2, it is sufficient to wipe the fabric with a damp cloth and ensure sufficient humidity.

**Loop pulling**

For structured fabrics with high-low zones, snagging with sharp objects should be avoided, otherwise the fabric surface may be damaged.

**NOTES FABRIC**

- Do not use iron
- Do not bring hot liquids onto the fabric
- Do not apply hot water bottles, electric blankets, cigarette burns or other heat sources to the fabric
- Do not use a steam cleaner
- Soiling caused by solvent-safe writing instruments may no longer be able to be removed completely
- Do not scrape off encrusted stains, otherwise the pile may be damaged

A decrease in seat hardness is also unavoidable – depending on the intensity of use and load.

This optical change has no influence on use, function and service life and does not represent a material defect. The waves can be largely removed with the hands. They reappear when the furniture has been used.

Upholstered furniture is soft and malleable. They are designed for sleeping, sitting, lying, or relaxing and not for bouncing and jumping. Such point loads result in irrecoverable overstretching of the materials and damage. This also applies to placing the entire body weight on the seating surfaces.

Slight color deviations from dye lot to dye lot are unavoidable and customary in the trade and do not represent a defect in the product.

ROPE

## FEATURES ROPE

Our 13 mm rope made of polypropylene and a core of a thermoplastic elastic plastic is particularly durable, absorbs almost no moisture. It is very lightfast, abrasion resistant and can easily withstand temperatures down to -10 °C. With these properties, the fiber is excellent for outdoor use.

## CARE ROPE

In general, soiling or spilled liquids such as tea, coffee, fruit juice or wine should be removed immediately, as a longer exposure time increases the cleaning effort.

To remove heavier soiling, we recommend the use of our STERN Outdoor Fabric Cleaner.

Heavier soiling should be treated immediately. Please soften dried, encrusted and stuck stains a little beforehand. Please never rub the fiber. Allow the product to dry in the air, in the shade.

TEAK

## FEATURES TEAK

Due to natural deviations in the wood, each product and each finish may vary slightly.

Teak wood is very robust and weather-resistant, and offers great strength and hardness. It experiences little warpage even in changing climatic conditions and is comparable to oak. The wood is well protected by the oils stored in the teak itself, making it extremely durable.

At the beginning of use, color pigments stored in the wood can be washed out by rain, which can lead to water stains on the teak and stains forming on the ground. In particular, if you have light tile floors, sandstone floors or other open pore floor-coverings, we recommend washing the furniture vigorously several times on an insensitive surface before use, to help the color pigments wash out more quickly.

Wood is a natural product. Small cracks may form under the influence of rain, temperature fluctuations and light. The formation of larger gaps between individual strips is also a characteristic feature for this product. As time goes on, the wood acquires a silver-gray patina on the surface. These typical features do not affect the quality of the wood and its performance characteristics.

## CARE TEAK

We recommend using our STERN Teak Detergent at least 1 x annually to remove dirt and undesired patina. To counteract the patina and refresh the look of the wood, the furniture should be treated with our STERN Teak Protector after cleaning. Please ensure you like the color before use.

Always work in the direction of the wood grain when cleaning, sanding or applying care products, and observe the care instructions on our care products.

Humidity can penetrate more easily at so-called end-grain spots, places where the wood is cut across the grain and the annual rings are visible. Cracks of various widths may form at these points.

Grease stains are best removed gently with a fine abrasive paper. Then wipe down with a damp cloth.

Mold stains may form on the surface if the furnishings are exposed to constant humidity. These are caused by stubborn dirt deposits from the air, improper care or lack of ventilation if the furnishings are covered incorrectly. In order to remove these stains, brush the furniture dry with a scrubbing brush. They may also be sanded off with sandpaper. Please remove such spots promptly so that the black stains do not penetrate the wood any further.

DEKTON

## FEATURES DEKTON

Its properties make Dekton a unique material in the world, which has the highest quality and the best technical characteristics:

- high scratch resistance
- high UV resistance
- frost and dew resistance
- high color fastness
- abrasion resistance
- high stain resistance
- high form stability
- high fire and heat resistance

## CARE DEKTON

Thanks to the virtually complete absence of pores, the tabletops have a highly durable surface that is both resistant to household stains and resistant to chemicals.

For cleaning, we recommend the use of water and a neutral detergent. If stubborn stains are caused by products that cannot be removed by conventional cleaning or if the surface has been in contact with staining substances for a long period of time, special cleaners such as gentle scouring milk, acetone or other universal solvents should be used.

Under no circumstances should metal sponges be used or polishing work be carried out on the surface.

## NOTES

Due to the different color textures of Dekton, there may be differences between the sample, the display piece, and your new tabletop. This characteristic typical of goods is not a reason for complaint but emphasizes the natural look of this material. Our samples are a cutout and not 100 % representative of a larger slab.

## PRECAUTIONS

Despite the impact-resistant surface, knocks and bumps on corners and edges should be avoided at all costs. Avoid direct exposure to very high temperatures from fireplaces or grills, etc.

Cutting on the surface with a ceramic knife should also be avoided, as they have a similar hardness to the plate.

We recommend the use of a STERN protective cover and storage without the risk of snow and ice breakage to prevent damage from falling icicles. The cover should be sufficiently ventilated to prevent condensation from forming. A plastic wedge is suitable as a spacer for this purpose.

When lifting or transporting, never lift the plate by the outer end faces, but always with four hands by the long side edges.

The plate may only be transported vertically. If moved horizontally, the tabletop is subject to vibrations. This can lead to cracks and breakage of the plate.

## SITNESS FUNCTION THE SITNESS FUNCTION OF TIL

Every person spends about eight years of their life sitting. A lot of time, therefore, that should not be spent in bad chairs, because this leads to incorrect posture as well as back pain.



The patented Sitness® technology in our TIL armchair ensures three-dimensional sitting. The 3D movement joint, which connects the base frame with the seat surface, keeps your body permanently in motion through slight

micro-movements while sitting, thus exercising your back and spine.

With TIL you will experience home office in the open air. The armchair allows long comfortable sitting.

## OTHER ADVANTAGES

- trains the back and spine and relieves the intervertebral discs
- guarantees freedom of movement
- invigorates blood circulation
- improves the ability to concentrate and increases the willingness to perform

Due to the gas spring system, the chair is height adjustable and rotatable.

## STORAGE OF THE ÄRA PRODUCTS

For winter storage outdoors, we recommend covering the furniture with a STERN protective cover. You can obtain this from a specialist dealer.

The cover should be sufficiently ventilated to prevent condensation from forming. Simple wooden or plastic wedges or similar are suitable as spacers.

For removable pads, storage in a dry room is preferable.