

ETHAN ALLEN®

— THE INTERIOR DESIGN DESTINATION —

# Outdoor *buying guide*







# *how to choose* outdoor furniture

Patio, pool deck, garden, sunroom, lanai—a beautiful outdoor room is just as important as any indoor design. This outdoor furniture buying guide will teach you how to pick durable furniture and cushions, share tips on how to style outdoor spaces, and keep your outdoor spaces looking beautiful season after season.





# HOW SHOULD YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT OUTDOOR FURNITURE FOR YOUR SPACE?

The biggest difference between your indoor rooms and outdoor spaces is that Mother Nature is always a guest outdoors. Here are a few questions to ask yourself:



## Completely Surrounded

In spaces like sunrooms and pool houses, you have more control over the climate in which your furniture lives. That affords you more flexibility—you can even use indoor fabrics on your cushions and pillows.



## Covered Overhead

On covered patios, verandas, and lanais, your furniture won't be completely shielded, but you'll have better protection from rain, snow, and sun. Outdoor fabrics are best for these spaces, and with the proper furniture covers, you can even use fully upholstered outdoor furniture in these spots.



## Completely Open

Spaces under the sun—think poolside or in the garden—demand more effort to maintain. We don't recommend fully upholstered furniture in these areas; we also strongly recommend investing in furniture covers and always taking cushions indoors when you're not using them.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*



# HOW WILL YOU USE YOUR OUTDOOR FURNITURE



## For Lounging

Choose from outdoor sofas and loveseats, or group accent chairs to create a conversation zone. We even offer fully upholstered options that feel like living room seating outdoors.



## For Dining

Set out an outdoor table and chairs, complete with an umbrella, to enjoy your morning cuppa with a view—or design an alfresco retreat for grand gatherings.



## For Poolside

Outdoor chaises with cushions are comfy places for relaxing and sunning. Add a small table to keep your beverage close at hand.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





# HOW SHOULD YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT OUTDOOR FURNITURE FOR YOUR SPACE?

## Special considerations for certain environments:

**By the ocean**—Pick materials that can handle sun and saltwater, and buy furniture that's heavy enough to withstand high winds.

**In a humid climate**—Moisture is your nemesis, so choose fabrics that resist mildew and mold.

**Sunny and hot**—Take care with dark metal finishes, which can become extremely hot in the sun. Keep furniture covers on until right before you start using the furniture, and replace covers after use.

## Choosing the most durable outdoor furniture materials

### All-weather woven

All-weather woven materials can be used as woven panels—think a chair with a basketweave seat or a decorative woven panel on the side of a chair—or can be wrapped around a furniture frame. Look under the wrap and make sure the frame is made from something durable, like teak or powder-coated aluminum.



**SCAN HERE**

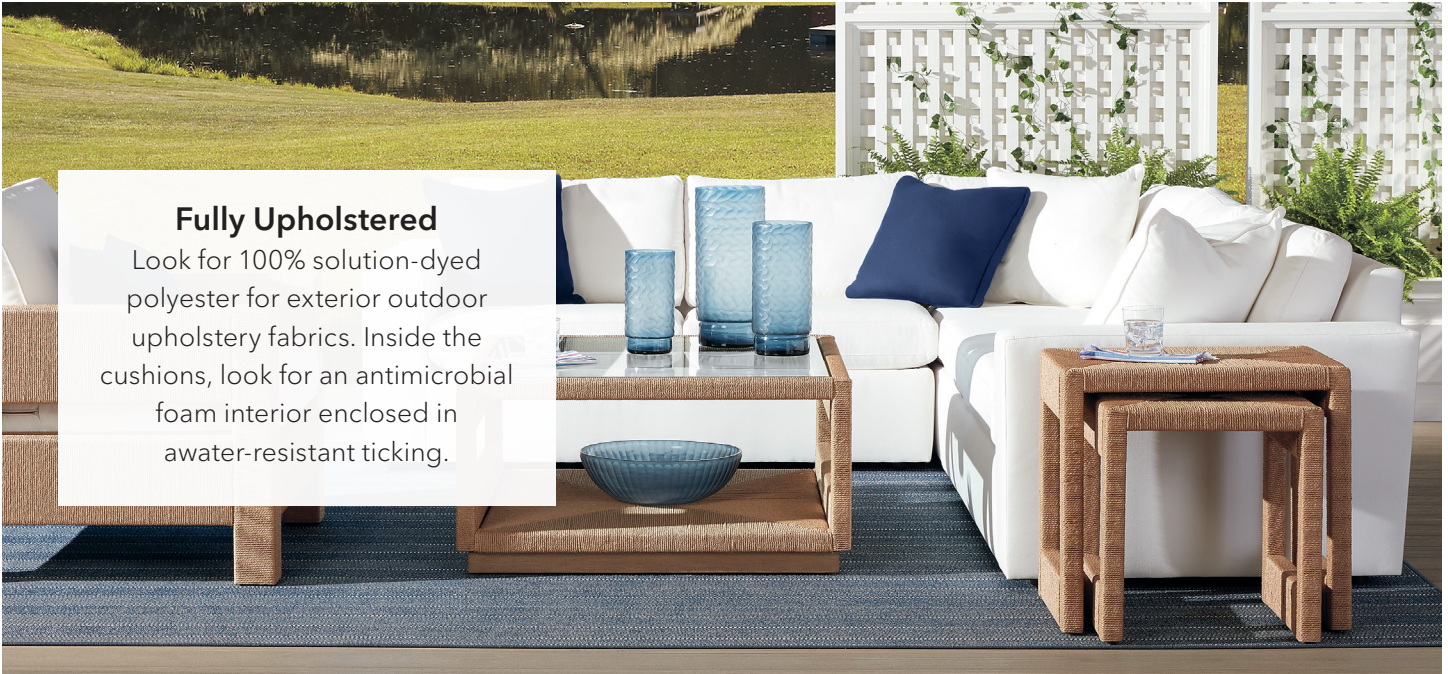
*Shop all outdoor furniture*





### Fully Upholstered

Look for 100% solution-dyed polyester for exterior outdoor upholstery fabrics. Inside the cushions, look for an antimicrobial foam interior enclosed in a water-resistant ticking.



### Teak

Look for sustainable, plantation-grown teak—you may see terms like “Grade A Plantation Teak” or “Perhutani teak.” Both of these are native to Indonesia, grown by a state-owned company recognized for environmental compliance and rigorous quality.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





### Aluminum

Look for powder-coated aluminum for extra resistance from the elements as well as easy cleaning. Powder coating is an electrostatic process—a negatively charged colored powder adheres to the metal and is then cured in an oven so that it melts, creating a corrosion-resistant film over the aluminum.



*Don't hesitate to mix & match* materials when you're planning your outdoor space; a woven chair can look great with a teak table. At the same time, if you prefer matching pieces, we offer coordinated outdoor furniture collections.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





## MOST OF THE FURNITURE YOU'VE SHOWN HAS CUSHIONS. HOW CAN YOU TELL IF CUSHIONS ARE WELL MADE?

The best outdoor fabric for a cushion is solution-dyed polyester; it's colorfast, UV resistant, and mold/mildew resistant. Inside the cushion, look for an antimicrobial foam core wrapped in water-resistant ticking that will protect the core from moisture.



*Did you know* your outdoor cushions can be customized with indoor-luxury features like contrast welting? That's because we hand-tailor them in the same workshops where we make our indoor upholstery.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*

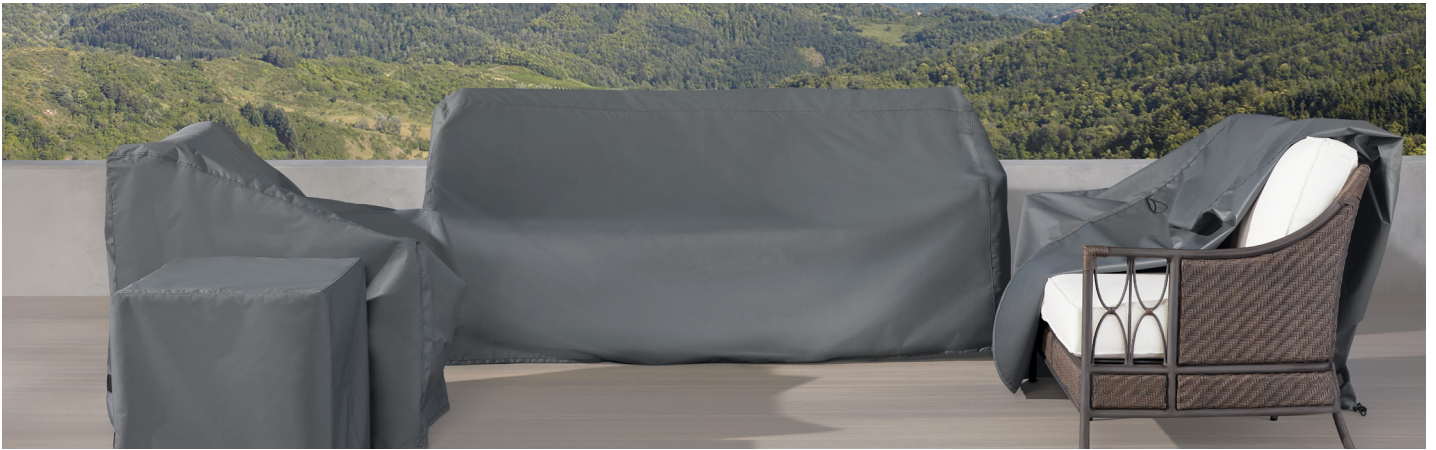




# HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN AND CLEAN PATIO FURNITURE?

Our furniture is built to last—but common sense is a patio lover's best friend. Because it's interacting with the elements, Ethan Allen's patio furniture does require more care than our indoor furniture.

## Take care of your cushions



We always recommend storing your cushions in a cool, dry place if you're not going to use them for a couple of days. If you notice standing water on your cushions, dry it up as soon as possible, and stand your cushion up vertically where air can circulate around it until it's thoroughly dry.

For minor spots, you can clean with mild soap and water, using a sponge. For tough stains, use a diluted bleach solution: 1 gallon warm water, 1 cup bleach, and 2 tablespoons of a natural soap. Spray it on the entire area and let it soak in; if necessary, scrub with a sponge or a clean cloth. Never unzip your cushion fabric and put it in the washer or dryer. It will likely lose its shape—and void your warranty.

**For the best protection, we've designed custom-fit covers for each piece of our outdoor furniture. Also made from durable solution-dyed polyester, each cover is double stitched and has a water-resistant backing, and the fabric is stable to -20°F (-29°C).**



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





## Keep your frames looking fabulous



### ALLUMINUM

Clean with warm water and mild soap and rinse with a hose. You can power wash to remove tough stains.

### TEAK

Most of our teak outdoor furniture comes with a painted finish; our Millbrook collection is left untreated. Over time, the finish will fade, exposing the teak's natural surface, forming a beautiful, sunwashed-gray patina.

As weathering occurs, you may see uneven coloration, streaks, and spots. Changes in temperature and humidity can also result in fine cracks and lifts in teak's grain. These are natural characteristics of teak and will not affect its strength.

For detailed teak care instructions, ask a designer or check our Use & Care guide.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





## ALL-WEATHER WOVEN

As you would with aluminum, clean with warm water and mild soap, and spray with a hose. You can power wash if you have tough dirt to remove.

## FULLY UPHOLSTERED

Care recommendations are similar to those for cushions: mild soap solution for spot cleaning, diluted bleach solution for tough stains.



*Mind the sunscreen, tanning oils, and insect repellents* when you're sunning outside—these products can stain your frames and cushions, and void your warranty. Be sure to place a towel between your skin and any outdoor furniture surfaces. If contact occurs, wipe off immediately.



**SCAN HERE**  
*Shop all outdoor furniture*





# HOW DO YOU MAKE AN OUTDOOR ROOM FEEL LIKE AN INDOOR ROOM?

Set up your outdoor spaces with how you want to use them in mind. Want conversation in your outdoor lounging area? Try a sofa in the back with two accent chairs on either side, angled at 90 degrees. Trying to divide up a big open space? Create zones for lounging and dining.

Remember to consider traffic flow and give people plenty of space to walk around your furniture. We recommend a minimum clearance of 18 inches to give people plenty of room to move.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*





## Accessorize, accessorize



### Pillows

Pillows add comfort and pops of color and pattern. We carry in-stock outdoor pillows in favorite looks, but we can also hand-tailor pillows in any of our 150+ custom outdoor fabrics.



### Rugs

Nothing makes an outdoor space feel more unified and inviting. Choose a rug that's marked indoor/outdoor; we recommend using them on covered patios or in sunrooms.



### Upholstered Ottomans

They're another way to add color and pattern and bonus: They provide extra seating. We make these in the same custom fabrics that we offer for our pillows and fully upholstered outdoor seating.



### Umbrellas

Select umbrellas made from sturdy powder-coated aluminum with 100% solution-dyed canopy. To keep umbrellas stable in windy environment, make sure it has vents and add a base to secure it. If you want to be able to angle your umbrella against the sun, look for cantilevered options.



### Fire Tables

These beautiful features add ambiance and help you extend the outdoor season by providing heat for chilly evenings. Our fire tables can connect to your natural gas line (professional installation is strongly recommended) or propane tank; our portable fire pits connect to a propane tank.



### Décor

We offer made-for-the-outdoors lanterns, garden seats, planters, and other accents to give your outdoor spaces some designer flair. You can even use indoor décor outside, but always remember to bring it inside after the party's over.



**SCAN HERE**

*Shop all outdoor furniture*