



USER MANUAL



IMPORTANT

Please read this manual carefully before using your Image'In Bench with Storage.

We assume no liability for any damage caused by improper use or failure to follow the instructions contained in this document.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON RECEIPT



It is important to unpack the goods and check that they are not damaged as soon as you receive them, in the presence of the delivery person. Any reservations regarding any defects found must be clearly noted on the delivery note.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Image\In storage benches are custom-made in fiber cement.

Dimensions

The storage boxes and their lids are manufactured to the dimensions specified by the customer.

Storage box material

15 mm HD NT fiber cement compliant with EN 12467 (Category A, Class 4):

- Non-combustible A2-s1,d0 (MO);
- Rot-resistant;
- Freeze-resistant.

Two-component high performance epoxy assembly.

Finishes

Liquid paint: two-component polyurethane primer + paint + varnish.

This automotive-style system creates a closed surface film that minimizes dirt buildup and simplifies maintenance. It offers greater hardness than single-component systems and is UV-resistant.

Colors: all standard RAL colors (excluding pearlescent, glitter, and fluorescent finishes).

Finish varnish: matte, satin, gloss, or micronized.

Material of lids / seats

For benches with removable wooden seats, the top is made of raw exotic wood slats. species vary depending on availability (Ipê, Itauba, Cumaru ...).

For watertight storage boxes, the lid is made of 3 mm aluminum, lacquered as is the chest.

HANDLING

The bench chests are delivered on pallets to be transported as close as possible to the final installation site. During installation, they must be handled with care. Much like pottery, our fiber-cement garden chests are susceptible to impact. Therefore, they must not be dragged across the ground, and placing onto the ground must be cushioned.

ON-SITE INSTALLATION

 For optimal protection, do not remove the packaging until the storage bench has been permanently installed.

FLOOR INSTALLATION

Storage benches must be installed on a perfectly flat and level floor, to prevent cantilever and distribute the load evenly. The bench rests on its perimeter; as an option, the base can be equipped with invisible adjustable pedestals concealed beneath the bottom of the bench. These allow for height adjustment of up to 15 mm but are not suitable for correcting a slope. **You must ensure, before use, that all leveling feet are in full contact with the floor.**

 The height of the levelling feet can be set by screwing them in or out.

 They may **facilitate occasional movement** of the storage bench by sliding, provided the floor is **hard and perfectly smooth**. Otherwise, you must lift the storage bench to move it and its landing on the ground must be cushioned.

THE FIBRE CEMENT STORAGE BOX

The "ICO" storage compartment is made of fiber cement, a durable material ideally suited for outdoor use. Fiber cement is **frost-resistant** and **rot-proof**. It is also highly **resistant to saline and chlorinated environments**, a major advantage for seaside locations and poolside installations.

This **fairly heavy** material isn't always easy to handle, but it offers **perfect stability even when exposed to strong winds**.

Fiber cement is also a rigid material and may therefore be susceptible to impact damage.

Installation on adjustable pedestals slightly raises the storage box above the ground (minimum clearance of 1 cm) helping to reduce dirt accumulation on the base and facilitating maintenance by allowing water to circulate freely underneath.

 Since the bottom of the garden chest is slightly raised, you should expect a **loss of usable interior** height of about 6 cm with the aluminum lid and about 10 cm with the wooden lids.

WOODEN SEAT CLOSURES

 Chests with wooden lids provide a comfortable seat and are the best choice for **"bench-style" use**.

Our wooden lids are **not watertight**; they are **removable and separate from the chest** (without hinges).

Exotic hardwood is very dense and therefore **quite heavy**. For this reason, this storage bench is best suited for storing items that **require only occasional access**.

Indeed, the wooden tray is removable and can be taken out to provide access to a storage space. This solution is ideal for storing your moisture-resistant items.

 Alternatively, moisture-sensitive items should be pre-packaged in waterproof containers, or a storage box fitted with an aluminium lid should be selected.

Wood is a natural, noble, and particularly warm material, prized for its strength and aesthetic qualities. It is also a living material whose **appearance inevitably changes**. Temperature, humidity, sunlight and wind gradually alter its colour, leading it to develop a natural silver-grey patina. We have chosen to use **exotic hardwood** species for their inherent qualities of **stability** and **durability**. The type of wood used may vary depending on availability.

Our exotic woods are Class 5 hardwoods, with a density of between 900 and 1,050 kg/m³. Their color ranges from yellow-brown to olive green, offering a magnificent palette of warm hues. Over time, wood takes on a light gray hue and develops a luminous silvery patina.

IOP-ASSBE - RECESSED WOODEN SEAT

In this configuration, the wooden top is recessed within the fiber-cement storage box, revealing a lacquered border around its entire perimeter. Grip notches can be incorporated to facilitate handling the wooden lid (presence, number, and position according to your specifications).

IOP-ASSBD - WOODEN SEAT EMERGING ON THE SIDES

In this configuration, the wooden tabletop opens at the end, making it easier to handle. To create a longer seat, you can place several bench chests side by side, maintaining a sense of unity.

IOP-ASSBR - WOODEN SEAT OVERLAPPED ON THE TOP

In this configuration, the wooden top completely covers the surface of the storage box. The lacquered edges of the box are well protected, the wooden top is easy to handle, and several storage benches can be placed side by side to create a continuous seating area while maintaining a uniform appearance.

THE WATERPROOF ALUMINUM LID

Our garden storage boxes with lacquered aluminum lids, "IOP-COUV", offer **watertight storage** for all your moisture-sensitive items.

The bottom of the box is draining to ensure proper ventilation and allow condensation to escape.

The aluminum lid **is separated** from the storage box and must be placed next to it when opened. Lightweight, it is **easy to handle** for regular use. The lid is made of 3 mm thick aluminum. This closure provides sufficient rigidity to **serve as a seat, provided that the number and weight of the people are proportional to the size of the storage box**.



It is not advisable to stand, jump, or dance... on the lid, as such more intense and occasional loads may deform the aluminium sheet.



The lacquered surface of the lid, like all paint, is susceptible to abrasion and scratches. Contact with rigid objects, such as pocket buttons, should be avoided when the lid is used as seating.

MAINTENANCE



To clean the storage boxes and aluminum lids, use a soft cloth (microfiber type) water, and soap. Rinse with clean water and dry with a dry cloth to avoid leaving limescale marks. Since the storage benches are lacquered, do not use solvents or abrasives.



In the case of the matte finish, which is more fragile and delicate to maintain: It is important not to rub the surface too much, as this risks polishing the varnish and creating shiny areas.



Maintenance of the Wooden Seat Slats

Our wooden slats are supplied untreated. Choosing untreated wood means respecting the natural character of the material. It also means accepting that wood is a living, evolving material. Untreated wood offers an authentic and natural appearance that blends harmoniously with its surroundings while gradually developing new tones over time. Over time, wood naturally develops a bright silver-grey patina. However, if you wish to preserve its original colour, applying a wood restorer and protective oil once or twice a year will help restore its original appearance.



To maintain the appearance of the wood, avoid using a pressure washer. High-pressure cleaning may roughen the surface, cause splintering, and accelerate the return of the natural grey patina. Instead, use a brush and warm water to gently clean and preserve the beauty of your wooden seat.

GUARANTEES

The statutory warranty of conformity (resulting from Art. L211-1 and those following it in the consumer code) and the warranty against hidden defects (resulting from Art. 1641 and those following it in the Civil Code) apply to Image'In storage benches.

The guarantee does not, however, cover :

- Damage caused by a failure to observe the limitations described in these instructions;
- Any consequences resulting from use of the product for other purposes than those for which it is intended;
- Damage caused by failure to follow the instructions in the user manual;
- Products that have been modified (e.g. drilling);
- Damage caused by knocks, scratches or falls occurring during storage, transport, handling, installation, maintenance, etc.
- Any consequences arising from the product being used for a purpose other than that for which it was manufactured;
- Changes resulting from the natural ageing of materials (such as greying of the wood);
- Damage on the lids caused by excessive loads or unconventional use of the seat;
- Damage caused by excessive loads in the storage area.

As manufacturers, our liability does not extend to our suppliers where manufacture of products or components is sub-contracted. The sizes, colours and weights of certain materials are subject to natural variations or those inherent in their manufacture and these minor variations are therefore considered acceptable.

For any questions, please contact us by email at contact@ateliersogreen.com or by post to CJCJ, 9 Rue Pierre et Françoise Allaire, ZA La Canterie, 37800 Sainte Maure de Touraine, FRANCE.



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