

**HARVIA**

Sauna & Spa

# Instructions for sauna care and maintenance, and guarantee terms



## Treatment of wooden surfaces in the sauna

### Before using the sauna

Before using the sauna make sure that ventilation has been built according to the current standards. You can find additional information for example from Harvia's instructions for installation and use and from Harvia's website.

In a family sauna, it is not necessary to protect the wall surfaces with any substances. If you want to ease cleaning, treatment should be done with substances which are recommended and suitable for the sauna. Do not use lacquer inside the sauna.

We recommend you protect the benches for example with paraffin oil. It reduces the absorption of moisture and dirt into wood and extends the benches' life. Repeat the treatment 1–3 times a year, depending on how often the sauna is used. Paraffin oil treatment also highlights different tones of wood. Harvia provides a Harvia Sauna Care Set which is designed for taking care of the wood surfaces in your sauna. Among other things the package includes a bottle of paraffin oil (500 ml).

A door frame and wooden handle can be treated with moisture and heat-tolerant special sauna protection coat or water-dilutable lacquer.

### Use of the sauna

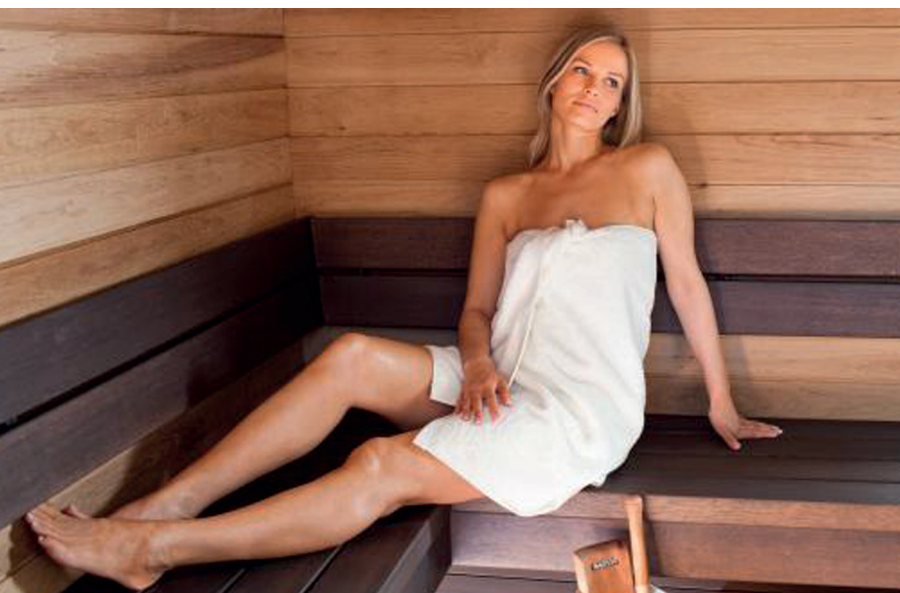
Wash yourself before using the sauna. Always use a bench towel to protect the benches. Wooden surfaces can effectively tolerate moisture which drains from clean skin and usually this does not leave any marks. Try to avoid watering wooden surfaces besides when cleaning the sauna.

Be careful not to smear wooden surfaces when using sauna scents, sauna honey or other body care products. Also remove leaves from sauna whisks from wooden surfaces as soon as possible.

### After bathing in the sauna

Remove the bench towels and bucket from the benches and wipe away water drops. Use a damp cloth for cleaning. Make sure that the sauna is completely dry after use by leaving the stove on for a while (about 10 minutes). It is also recommended to dry water drops from the heater surface.

Open the ventilation hole and leave the sauna door ajar. If necessary, use the stove's dehumidifying function, if it is fitted with one.





### Harvia's sauna tips

- ✓ Make sure that your sauna is properly ventilated.
- ✓ In a family sauna, it is not necessary to protect wall surfaces with any substances. If you want to protect wooden surfaces, choose substances which are recommended by specialists and are suitable for the sauna.
- ✓ We recommend you use protection treatment for benches.
- ✓ Harvia Sauna Care Set includes all you need to take care of the wooden surfaces in your sauna.
- ✓ Wash yourself before going to the sauna and cover the benches with bench towels. Dry and ventilate the sauna room after use.
- ✓ Thorough cleaning 1–3 times a year is enough if the sauna is for normal family use. Use detergents which are suitable for the sauna.

### Basic cleaning

A family sauna should be cleaned 1–3 times a year with a reasonable amount of water and detergent. Suitable detergents are slightly alkaline (pH 8–10) products, such as Harvia Sauna Cleanser. In addition, a light sanding with a fine sandpaper can be performed. After cleaning, make sure that the sauna is completely dry by turning the heater on for a while and ventilating.

### Harvia Sauna Care Set

The Harvia Sauna Care Set package is designed for taking care of the wooden surfaces in your sauna and cleaning the sauna and washing facilities. The Harvia Sauna Care Set includes a bottle of sauna cleanser (500 ml), paraffin oil (500 ml), a sponge for cleaning and spreading the fluids, as well as protective gloves and sandpaper. The bottle of paraffin oil is sufficient for treating an area of about 5 m<sup>2</sup>.

### Instructions for use

Wash your sauna with a solution of 30 ml sauna cleanser and 5 litres of warm water. Wash the wooden surfaces with the sponge using the protective gloves. If dirt is embedded in the benches, you can sandpaper it in the direction of the wood fibres using the sandpaper provided in the package. After washing, rinse the wooden surfaces with water and dry them carefully. Heating up the sauna speeds up the drying process.

Protecting the wood surfaces with paraffin oil reduces the amount of moisture and dirt absorbed by the wood and enhances the shades of the wood surfaces. Paraffin oil is suitable for all wooden surfaces, but particularly recommended for heat-treated wood and alder. Test the oil on the under-surface of a bench first to see how the wood shade changes and whether the new shade is what you want. Wood is always unique, and end result can be affected by things like the age, porosity and the original shade of the surface.

The wood surfaces must be completely dry before you start the treatment. Put the gloves on to protect your hands, pour the paraffin oil onto the sponge and apply evenly. Make sure you treat the end parts of the benches extremely well, as this is where water absorption is greatest. Let it stand for 30 minutes – 1 hour and then wipe the surface dry if necessary. Heating up the sauna speeds up the drying process.

## Stones

Due to large variations in temperature, sauna stones disintegrate with use. Pay special attention to the gradual settling of the stones. Be sure that the heating elements do not appear over time. The stones settle most rapidly within two months of piling.

Rearrange the stones at least once a year or even more regularly if the sauna is in frequent use. At the same time, remove any pieces of stone from the bottom of the heater and replace any disintegrated stones with new ones. By doing this, the heating capability of the heater remains optimal and the risk of overheating is avoided.

## Wood is a living material

Wood is a living material that reacts to changes in ambient temperature and humidity. In dry conditions, wood dries and shrinks, and when humidity is higher, it absorbs humidity and swells. Dry indoor air may cause small cracks on wooden surfaces, but as the humidity level increases, the cracks often disappear. This is perfectly normal and cannot be affected during manufacture. This is why our products have been designed to permit this type of natural changes as much as possible.

Wood tones and grain patterns vary depending on where the tree grew. Every piece of wood is

unique. You won't find two pieces that are exactly the same. We pick material for our solid-wood products to be as similar as possible, but there are always some small differences. Solid wood of certain species also contains knots. They are, however, integral elements of wood, and part of the design in our products. The above are therefore wood properties, not manufacturing faults, so no cause for complaints.

Any glass elements must be checked after installation, also ensuring that the fittings are tight enough. This, too, is quite normal, and is the responsibility of the customer.

## Guarantee

The guarantee does not cover any faults resulting from failure to comply with use or maintenance instructions.

- Guarantee for visible parts of benches: Oil treatment performed at the factory, six (6) months. Oil treatment performed by the customer, three (3) months. Without oil treatment, no guarantee.
- Guarantee for public/commercial saunas or saunas used in institutions is three (3) months.
- Guarantee for frame parts of benches is one (1) year.
- Colouring of the Harvia sauna benches is performed at the customer's own risk.
- The guarantee does not cover weathering, mildewing, or cracking caused by insufficient ventilation or dehumidification of the sauna.



P.O.Box 12  
Teollisuustie 1-7  
40951 Muurame, FINLAND  
+358 207 464 000  
www.harvia.com