

## **UMBRELLA CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

Market umbrellas have been made in Italy and the South of France for the past century. Over the years, they have been refined and updated. Giati Designs handcrafted umbrellas are considered to be the finest in the world, and are designed to withstand the rigors of exposure to the elements. Following a few simple care and maintenance instructions will ensure that your Giati umbrella will provide enjoyment for years to come.

### **Opening/closing market collection umbrellas**

Our Market Collection umbrella canopies are sewn with a closure tie. We recommend tying it closed every time the umbrella is put down. To open the umbrella without a hoisting system, gently pull two arms out from the pole until you can reach the lower hub. Push up on the lower hub to raise the umbrella high enough to allow you to place the brass pin in the highest possible hole. The canopy should be stretched taut when the umbrella is fully open. Failure to keep the canopy taut may cause the hubs to chip over time.

### **Opening/closing next century collection umbrellas**

Our Next Century Collection umbrellas are designed with an "arm locking" hub. When the umbrella is closed tightly, the arms will "lock" in place preventing the umbrella from opening easily. To open the umbrella, gently pull the arms out from the pole one at a time. When they are all released from the "locked" position, raise the umbrella by pushing up on the lower hub. Push up on the lower hub to raise the umbrella high enough to allow you to place the brass pin in the highest possible hole. The canopy should be stretched taut when the umbrella is fully open. Failure to keep the canopy taut may cause damage to the arms over time.

### **Wind exposure**

Umbrellas are much less vulnerable to damage from light breezes when they are fully opened and the canopy is fully stretched. To do this, open the umbrella fully and set the brass pin in the highest hole possible. This will ensure that the arms are allowed very little movement inside the hub sockets. All umbrellas must be fully closed during heavier winds to prevent damage.

### **WATER EXPOSURE**

Giati umbrellas are constructed to withstand water exposure on a regular basis. Our canopies are made from exterior fabrics that are either water repellant, or allow the water to pass through (unless a COM was provided). The end of our umbrella poles are soaked in paraffin to help prevent the pole

from absorbing water and swelling. A furniture lift is placed on the end of the pole to provide drying space in the base. Giati umbrella bases are designed with a weep hole to allow water to escape the base tube. When the umbrella has been dampened or soaked by rain, open the canopy as soon as possible to allow the fabric to dry. If left closed for a period of time while wet, mildew may appear on the canopy and frame. After heavy rains we recommend removing the pole from the base tube to ensure that the tube is dry. Allowing the pole to remain in a wet environment will increase the likelihood of the pole swelling over time.

## **CLEANING**

To maintain the appearance of your umbrella frame, simply wipe it down with a moist cloth occasionally to remove dust and other environmental debris. For your canopy, the cleaning instructions depend on what fabric was used. For Giati Fabrics(R), general cleaning can be done simply by spraying the umbrella with clean water from a garden hose. For more direct cleaning, open the umbrella fully and carefully lean it on it's side (resting on the opened arms). Gently scrub the canopy with soapy water and a soft bristle brush. Rinse with clean water from a garden hose. For more specific cleaning needs, please contact Giati for fabric cleaning instructions.

## **STORAGE**

When storing a teak umbrella, place wax paper between the canopy and the upper arm. This will prevent the natural oils in the teak from staining the canopy while in storage. If possible, all umbrellas should be stored upright.

## **replacement parts**

Replacement parts are available from Giati Designs. Please contact us at (805) 965-6535.