

Lounging around

When it comes to relaxing in the sun, what could be better than spending a lazy afternoon lying back on a lounger, drink in hand? There are many loungers on the market, so bear in mind your requirements and look for models featuring a number of adjustable positions for true flexibility. For added comfort you should also invest in machine-washable cushions made from shower-resistant fabrics.

Those with a lack of storage may wish to consider an all-weather frame. Although traditional iron or timber loungers tend to be solidly built, most can still be moved around the garden. However, if you're worried about the weight of loungers, then choose models featuring wheels for ease of mobility. Alternatively, opt for lightweight aluminium frames, which often feature synthetic fibres woven into classic period styles. >



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1 Inspired by the 1920s, this all-weather chair has five reclining positions and is woven from durable synthetic fibres. Lodge steamer chair, £1,230, Garpa.

2 Made from teak with an acrylic seat and back, this gently curving sunlounger has a choice of back positions, plus rear wheels for easy positioning. Latitude sunlounger, £250, John Lewis.

3 Designed in 1903 and originating from the American mountain range of the same name, the famous Adirondack is designed for comfort. Set of two oak Albany Adirondack chairs and footstools, coffee table and cushions, £399, all Neptune Classics.

4 Completely weatherproof and easy to clean, this stylish woven chaise longue can be left outside all year round. Natural finish Landsing chaise, £599; cushion, £225, both Holloways.

5 Styled along Lloyd Loom lines, the use of lightweight aluminium frame ensures this weatherproof lounger can be easily moved. Woven wicker sunlounger, £289, Ingarden.



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Pick a parasol for privacy and protection from the sun

FROM LEFT Gold nirvana garden sun umbrella, £170, The Indian Garden Company; paradis parasol, £120, Heal's; Chinese parasol, £50, John Lewis



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Cook up a feast with the best barbecues around

FROM LEFT Panama three-burner gas barbecue, £399.98, B&Q; bucket charcoal barbecues, £15 each, John Lewis; Turin kettle charcoal barbecue in bright pink, £19.99, Homebase