

Furniture Care for Lacquer Finishes

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about

The craftsmen of these collections use a clear, low-sheen, non-toxic lacquer coating. These finishes are formaldehyde-free, eco- friendly and contain no or low volatile organic compounds (VOCs) upon delivery. VOCs are harmful to the atmosphere and, when present in a finish, produce off-gasses which can result in adverse health effects for those with particular sensitivities.

You may have also opted for a water-based lacquer instead of our standard lacquer finish. This finish is cared for in the same fashion as our standard lacquer.

your new furniture

Set up is clean and simple with lacquer-finished furniture. A quick dusting will ensure your furniture is ready for use. Your dusting equipment should consist of one item: a clean, lint-free cloth. Slightly moistening the cloth will not only clean your furniture more effectively but can prevent against dulling of the surface.

a lifetime of care

This low-sheen, matte finish is very durable and easily maintained. It is proven to resist damage from common household liquids and moisture. The lacquer finish does not require oiling. It is very durable while showcasing the natural beauty of the wood: a logical choice for families with young children.

Although it is not necessary, you may feel free to use commercial polishing products on furniture that has a lacquer finish. If you choose to do so, be sure to use the same type of polish consistently. Your furniture may appear cloudy or streaky if oil-based and wax-based polishes are interchanged. We recommend a product we carry called <u>Lyndon Furniture Wood Cleaner</u>. For minor scratches, you may use a product called a <u>Tibet Almond Stick</u>.

items of note

variations

Quality control allows blemishes, knots and less than perfect color in places not exposed to view after assembly. These do not affect the integrity or beauty of the finished piece of furniture. There also may be variations in the color and darkening of individual pieces of wood. Our craftsmen make every effort to match grain and color within each piece of furniture, however, we cannot guarantee they will match perfectly as they age.

sunlight and cherry

New cherry wood is quite light in color, similar to maple. When it reaches maturity, cherry furniture darkens to a rich red/brown hue. It is important to know the natural darkening of cherry wood is an oxidation process, catalyzed by sunlight. For this reason, objects placed on the surfaces of new cherry furniture will leave a shadow of light when they are removed. For the first three months it is best to not place objects on cherry surfaces for prolonged periods of time. To correct a shadow, leave the spot uncovered and the color will "catch up" to the darker surroundings.

humidity

Wood is very sensitive to changes in relative humidity. As the weather changes, so does the relative humidity in your home and in the moisture content of your furniture. This means that the wood is constantly expanding and contracting. Wood does best in moderate conditions of around 70°F-72°F and a relative humidity of about 50-55%.

Prolonged exposure to excess heat and dryness can cause wood to split and crack but this is most likely to happen when the surrounding climate changes suddenly from hot and humid to cool and dry. If possible, place furniture away from all heat sources, for example radiators, heat runs or fireplaces. If you must put furniture near an air duct, use a shield or guard plate to direct heat away.

Use a humidifier in winter and an air conditioner in summer for best results. When air conditioning your home, it is best to keep the intake of outside humid air to a minimum. Humidifiers or vaporizing units can be added to a heating/air conditioning central system to help stabilize the humidity level. Dehumidifiers need to be used during wet, rainy times and in damp rooms to remove excess moisture from the air. Wood can best handle temperature and relative humidity changes if they occur gradually. Abrupt changes (closing or opening a vacation home, for example) can cause serious stress to your furniture.

If furniture is to be stored, it generally does better in an unheated environment because the relative humidity will fluctuate within a narrower range. Furniture ages more quickly if stored in a basement, attic, garage or warehouse. Store table leaves as close as possible to the table so they adjust to the same humidity conditions.

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