

How to Care For and Clean Wood

Nothing gives a home a more natural feel than wood furniture. Durably built and easy to clean, it's easy to see why wood furniture is often passed down from generation to generation. However, wood isn't immune to damage. To keep your wood furniture in the best condition possible, follow the instructions below.

General Cleaning & Care:

Do...

- Use a lint-free cloth to polish wood furniture on a weekly basis.
- Keep furniture away from heating and air conditioning sources to prevent loss of moisture.
- Keep furniture out of direct sunlight to prevent fading or darkening of wood furniture.
- Use felt backing on lamps and other accessories to prevent scratches and gouges.
- Rotate accessories so they don't remain in the same spot all of the time to prevent impressions.
- Use placemats under plates and hot pads under serving dishes.
- Use coasters under all beverages.

Don't...

- Place newspapers or magazines on wood surfaces. The ink from these items may bleed into the finish and could damage the wood.
- Use abrasives or harsh chemicals on wood furniture.
- Leave a glass of water sitting for long periods of time.

Spot Cleaning Wood:

- **To remove food stains:** Wipe up the spill immediately. Dab with a soft, clean cloth.
- **To prevent wood from drying out:** Rub surface with cloth dipped in solution of one tablespoon of vinegar mixed with one quart of water. Rub in the same direction as the grain until surface is completely dry. Follow with an application of furniture oil or polish that does not cause a waxy build-up or has silicones, such as Guardsman or Heritage.
- **To remove water rings:** Rub with a mixture of equal parts white vinegar and cooking oil in the same direction of the grain.
- **To remove candle wax or chewing gum:** Hold an ice cube over the wax or gum for a few seconds so it hardens. Be sure to wipe up water as the ice melts to prevent water spots. Remove as much of the wax or gum as possible with your fingers and then scrape away the remainder gently using the dull edge of the table knife. Rub the spot briskly with a cloth saturated in cream wax. Repeat if needed

Universal Cleaning Code

DC

Dry Clean Only.

E

Use a leather care kit (this includes a sponge, a cloth, leather cleaner, and leather protector cream).

N

Use a leather care kit (this includes a sponge, a cloth, leather cleaner, and leather protector cream).

N FBR

Natural Fiber Rugs - Immediately blot spills to remove excess liquid with a clean white cloth or plain paper towel. Blot again with a solution of one teaspoon mild detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in a quart of warm water. Do not saturate.

S

Clean only with a dry cleaning solvent. Do not saturate. Do not use water. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and dry-cleaned.

S/W

Spot clean with upholstery shampoo, foam from a mild detergent, or a mild dry cleaning solvent. Do not saturate with liquid. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and dry-cleaned.

W

Clean only with water-based shampoo or foam upholstery cleaner. Do not over wet. Do not use solvents to spot clean. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and dry-cleaned.

X

Do not clean with either water or solvent-based cleaner. Use vacuuming or light brushing only.

Wool

Tufted Wool Rugs - Blot spills up immediately with a clean white cloth or plain paper towel.