

Wood Cabinet Care and Maintenance

Cleaning Instructions

With any quality wood surface, your cabinetry should be treated carefully and cleaned and maintained with quality materials.

To keep cabinets looking their best, follow best basic care practices. Immediately clean up any spills, splatters, or water spots with a soft cloth. The sooner you spot clean, the less chance of staining or discoloring the cabinetry. Grease and food particles also become more difficult to remove over time.

DO NOT allow water, chemicals (detergents, ammonia, vinegar, etc.) and hot or acid food spills to set on your cabinets. ALWAYS immediately wipe up spills as quickly as possible so they won't damage the wood.

DO use a soft cloth. DO NOT USE coarse or abrasive cloths or materials as they may dull the finish or leave scratches that cannot be removed. DEFINITELY AVOID soap pads, scouring pads and brushes.

DO use soapy water, made from mild soap. DO NOT USE ammonia, products that contain ammonia, strong solvent cleaners, mineral spirits, paint thinner or any other harsh cleaning chemicals.

DO NOT USE wax, oil soap or a polish that contains silicone. Wax builds up on the surface and causes yellowing; silicones smudge and highlight fingerprints, and can be removed only with extreme measures.

Leaving cleaning solutions, water and moisture on the cabinet surfaces for an extended period of time will harm the finish and will not be covered under the cabinet makers limited warranty.

Humidity, Dry Air, Moisture and Heat

Please do not place coffee makers, tea makers, rice cookers, etc. where the escaping steam will directly come in contact with cabinet surfaces. Do not drape wet or damp towels over cabinet doors or drawers. Dry off the damp areas as soon as possible. Heat producing appliances should be positioned to make sure the heat is directed away from the cabinet surfaces.

Humidity from steam and heat affects all types of wood cabinets by causing them to expand and contract as the level of humidity in the room increases and decreases. This temperature swing changes the shape, structural rigidity and even the physical dimensions of wood.

If wood cabinets have the chance to absorb the excess moisture in the air, homeowners should do all they can to dry the wood out, either by increasing the airflow to the area before cooking or bathing and helping to circulate fresh air. Use of dehumidifiers and fans are also a good idea in kitchens and bathrooms that generate their fair share of humidity and heat. We encourage homeowners to take precautions to protect your wood cabinets from water or moisture damage the same way you would treat wood furniture.

Moisture due to steam, humidity, water sitting on cabinet surface will weaken and damage the painted or stained surface if the area is not dried immediately. When bathing if there is steam on the mirrors then there is steam on your wood cabinets. We suggest you run the exhaust fan before bathing and after until all moisture is removed from the air. We also suggest you leave the bathroom doors open to facilitate the moisture evaporating. When drying the cabinets blot the entire area including tops of drawers or cabinet doors with a clean soft towel.

When mopping your floors avoid touching the quarter round as the cleaner will damage the finish and cause peeling and chipping of finish. Use a damp cloth to remove any debris or dust from the quarter round.

If the finish is weakened due to repeated exposure to moisture the finish will begin to chip or peel which is considered water damage and is not covered under the warranty.