

# Ian Wood *design*

## CARE GUIDE

With the correct care your new furniture could last you a lifetime! Like all cherished possessions it will need a bit of TLC from time to time. Taking this extra bit of care will mean you can watch the wood age with grace.

It is always important to remember that wood was a living, natural material. Each piece is unique. Colour variations, differences in the grain and knots may occur.

## FURNITURE

### CLEANING

Use a warm, damp soft cloth to gently remove any dust. For a deeper clean use a slightly soapy cloth. Dry the surface thoroughly immediately after. Never use bleach, harsh chemicals, silicone spray polishes, abrasive sponges or scourers on the surface.

Specialist wood cleaners are our recommended cleaning products for all solid wood surfaces.

Although most spills will wipe away, you should always immediately wipe off anything that could stain such as coffee, red wine and vinegar. If left, the surface may need refinishing to remove the stain. Should this be the case we would always recommend consulting a specialist or contacting us directly for further advice

### RE- OILING

All wooden parts will need oiling every 12-18 months, depending on the usage. Tabletops will need Oiling every 6-12 months.

If you are unsure about the following steps or would like further information about the brand and colour of the finish used on your piece of furniture then please get in touch!

### OILING TOP TIPS

- Always make sure you are in a clean, well ventilated space free from dirt, dust and animal hair.
- Patience!
- Always use a clean white lint free cloth or specialist finishing sponge brush.
- Less is more! Layers should be really thin, there should never be any pools or drips of Oil.
- Don't pour the oil onto the furniture. You always want full control of the amount applied, applying small amounts using the cloth or sponge will prevent over-oiling of the table, which could damage it.
- Make sure the entire surface is coated, always check for drip marks down the edge. Any drips should be wiped away.
- Rub the Oil into the grain to get the finish into all the nooks and crannies. Then wipe the table in the direction of the grain to finish.
- Stir, stir and keep stirring that pot of Oil
- Never apply Hard Wax Oil to parts which are not solid wood (e.g. Plywood, Steel or fixings).
- Always use the same brand and colour which your piece was originally finished in, the final layer can be finished with a Clear (matt, satin or gloss) layer. If you are unsure of the colour of your finish then get in touch.

Caution! Oily cloths and sponges can spontaneously ignite, they must be kept and disposed of inside an airtight metal or glass container.

# CHOPPING BOARDS

We finish all these products using a food safe Mineral Oil, which is available to purchase from our online store. Boards should never be finished using a Hard-Wax Oil. Please follow the below advice using food safe mineral oil.

## OILING STEP BY STEP

- Clean thoroughly with a damp cloth to remove any dust or dirt then leave to dry.
- Stir the Oil thoroughly before and during application.
- Apply your Oil sparingly using either a clean, lint free white cloth or a finishing sponge. Never pour the Oil onto the surface.
- Once the entire surface has been lightly coated in a thin and even layer, wipe the surface in the direction of the grain.
- Allow 6 hours for the Oil to dry in warm, dry well-ventilated room.
- Once dry repeat this process, adding up to two more coats.

## SCRATCHES & MARKS

Sometimes furniture gets damaged. Light scratches and marks should be fixed prior to any reapplication of oil. These can be removed by lightly sanding the area in the direction of the grain using a sanding sponge of fine sandpaper (180 grit or higher). Finish using 240 grit sandpaper still in the direction of the grain. Clean away any dust thoroughly before refinishing using the Oiling process steps above.

## SUN/UV LIGHT

Daylight matures wood. Uneven exposure to sunlight could result in colour differences which are very difficult to remove. If your piece of furniture is placed in direct sunlight, you should avoid leaving anything permanently on the surface for the first 8 weeks to give the wood chance to initially mature.

## HUMIDITY/MOISTURE

Moist and humid conditions can cause the grain to feel rough. This is due to the wood absorbing the water, causing the grain to swell. Ideally, the relative humidity for solid wood furniture is between 30-60%. Water should never be left to stand on the surface of the wood and steel. Any moisture should be immediately wiped dry. Uneven release of moisture may cause warping and splits to occur.

## HEAT

Whilst the finishes are resistant to moderate heat from plates and mugs, this will degrade the finish faster and could mark the surface; we always recommend using coasters and placemats. Intense heat (e.g. hot pans) may burn the wood itself and burn marks can be difficult to remove.

Furniture shouldn't be placed too close to heat sources like radiators, wood burners etc. Strong heat sources or changes to the relative air humidity can cause uneven dry areas in the wood, resulting in cracking or openings at the joints.

## STEEL CARE

All steel parts which have a raw finish will need Waxing every 6-12 months (depending on the humidity) to protect the steel from Oxidation. Steel can be waxed using Clear furniture Wax. We would recommend .....

To re-wax your steel simply wipe down the steel with a dry cloth to remove any dust or dirt. Then apply a thin, even layer of wax following the direction of the grain using a clean, white lint free cloth. Leave for 30 minutes. Using a new clean cloth buff the entire surface.

For lacquered steel finishes please do not apply wax. These surfaces are already protected so will just need to be kept clean.

## STEEL CLEANING

Use a soft dry cloth to wipe away any dust or dirt away. Never use abrasive sponges or scourers on the surface. Any moisture should be immediately dried off of the surface.