

About Catalyzed Varnish Finishes

Catalyzed varnish is the most commonly used finish in the high-end furniture market. When properly maintained, the beauty of your furniture's finish will last for generations. To keep your furniture looking new, a few simple guidelines should be followed:

- Your new finish does not achieve its maximum performance properties for at least 30 days after arrival in your home. Please use extra care during this time.
- Catalyzed varnish offers superior resistance to foods, beverages, and other common household items but harsh, solvent based substances should not be allowed to remain on the surface.
- This finish offers mar-resistance but can be scratched or dinged. Placemats are recommended.
- Dyes and inks, such as those from newsprint and plastic bags, may penetrate into the finish when moist. Avoid prolonged contact with these materials.

Chemical Resistance Tests

Below are the results of subjecting our finish to the most common household chemicals:

<u>Household Chemical</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Result</u>
Water	24	No Effect
Coffee	24	No Effect
Ketchup	24	No Effect
Vinegar	24	No Effect
Lemon Juice	24	No Effect
Ethanol/Water	24	No Effect
Grape Juice	24	No Effect
Orange Juice	24	No Effect
Olive Oil	24	No Effect
Detergent	24	No Effect
Mustard	1	No Effect
MEK (100 = double rubs)		No Effect
Acetone	(2 minutes)	No Effect

Care Recommendations

For most cleanings, all you need is warm water and a soft cloth (not paper towels - they scratch). Then wipe dry.

Please do ...

- Treat your furniture with extra care during the first 30 days in your home until the topcoat cures completely.
- Use placemats to protect your table from scratches and excessive heat.
- Protect your table with a pad when writing on paper to prevent marring.
- Clean table with a soft cloth (not paper towel) and warm water and then wipe dry.
- Use a very mild soap to remove greasy or other stubborn substances.
- Use a water-based (not wax or silicone based) polish, sparingly, if you prefer an extra shine.

Please don't ...

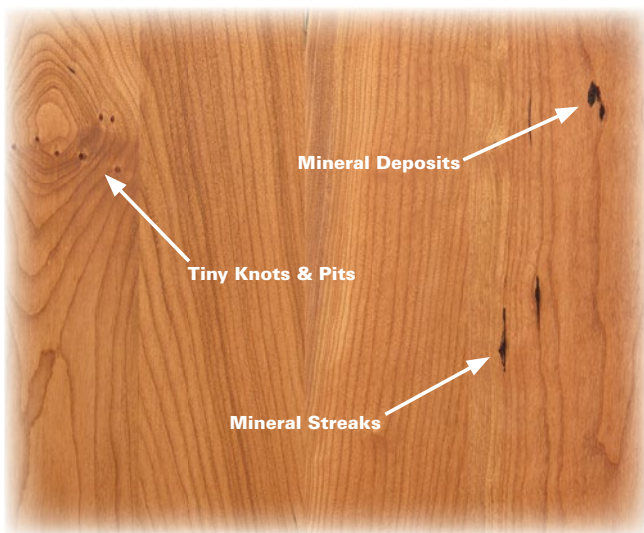
- Place excessively hot items like baked potatoes, coffee cups, and cookware directly on your table.
- Place items that will trap moisture such as pizza boxes, paper plates, or paper towels with hot food on your table.
- Use paper towels to clean your table as they will scratch the surface.
- Use harsh solvent-based, bleach, ammonia or abrasive cleaners.
- Allow water with high mineral or sodium content to remain on the surface longer than necessary.

Care of Fine Hardwood Furniture



The Natural Beauty of Fine Hardwoods

Natural variation - interesting grain patterns and rich coloring - contribute a great deal to the incredible beauty of hardwood furniture and ensure that no two pieces are exactly alike. Tiny knots, pits, mineral streaks and deposits, like those shown below, are typical, particularly in cherry, and should not be considered defects.



Lighter, natural-colored stains will show more variation, particularly between planks in a larger surface, than medium and darker finishes. Maple species often display dark and light streaking as shown in the image above. In general, cherry, maple, and hickory hardwoods will vary more in color than oak species.



Additional Guidelines

1. Placement

Avoid setting your hardwood furniture in front of radiators, heating vents, or stoves as dry air can cause wood to dry out, leading to warping or cracking. Avoid prolonged daily exposure to direct sunlight as ultra-violet rays will cause discoloring over time.

2. Humidity

Furniture should be placed in a controlled environment with an indoor humidity range of 35% to 45%. If the humidity is not kept within this range, hardwoods will expand and contract which can cause splitting in the grain pattern or joints between panels. Seasonal gapping or minor cracks in the grain pattern are considered normal and are not a defect in materials or craftsmanship.

3. Clean Up

Clean your furniture with a soft cloth and warm water following the grain pattern and wipe dry. Water-based cleaners and polishes are strongly preferred. Mild, non-alkaline soaps can be used occasionally. Avoid paper towels (as they scratch) and silicone or wax based polishes.

4. Table Protection

Avoid spilling nail polish remover, alcohol, or any other solvents on furniture surfaces. To avoid marring surfaces, consider using placemats or other protection, particularly under objects with abrasive bases or when writing on paper.

5. Leaf Installation and Storage

When opening leg tables to install or remove leaves, it is best to lift slightly to minimize strain on legs and joints. Leaves should be stored within the table when possible and always within a similar environment. Avoid storing leaves on end as this can cause them to warp over time.