

Furniture Maintenance

General

Any coating applied on wood is only as durable as the wood itself. As a natural product, wood will always need more care than some man made surfaces, such as laminates.

It must be borne in mind that even the best lacquer, correctly applied, remains a thin coat of protective material and may eventually break down. The life of the coating is beyond the control of the manufacturer and cannot be guaranteed.

Silicone polishes, such as wax polish or those delivered by spray cans, must not be used as these create a film on the lacquer which discolours when hot or damp implements are placed on it. The following basic instructions may help you or your customers prolong the life of our products.

Furniture frame finishes

- Chairs and table bases are finished with Acid Catalysed lacquers, which are medium duty and conform to BS6250 General Use.
- They offer basic protection against water, heat and abrasion.
- They are not synthetic finishes and can only offer a limited protection against damage.

The following guidelines should be followed when maintaining these products:

Chemical Cleaners should not be used. Use only warm water and soap and do not soak the surface for a long period (remove any excess water immediately). Silicone polishes such as those delivered by spray cans should not be used. Avoid dragging objects on the surfaces as this will result in scratching which may only be removed by refinishing. Clean all food or liquid spillage as they occur. The longer they remain on the surface the more potential damage could result.

Table top finishes

We offer table tops in veneered MDF, realwood laminate, wood effect or plastic laminate, Hush and glass. All veneered tops are finished with two coats of Acid Catalysed Lacquer. This is of Severe Rating (FIRA BS 6250) for contract quality. (Please note General, furniture frame finishes, point 1).

The following guidelines should be followed when maintaining table tops:

Chemical cleaners should not be used. Use only warm soapy water and remove any excess water immediately. For laminate tops, follow the same guidelines as above. For more stubborn stains, a mild detergent can be used. For the Hush finish, which is a thinly padded vinyl, a soft cloth and warm soapy water should be used. This finish is designed to be used with a tablecloth. Glass tops may stain or adhere to timber if spillages are allowed to dry. They can be loosened using warm water and cleaned using a glass cleaner.

Upholstery and fabrics

Always refer to the fabric manufacturers' instructions for specific information. Not all contract fabrics are Scotchguarded by the manufacturers. Upholstered cushions should be regularly brushed or vacuumed. Accumulated dust and grit can reduce the life and dull the colours of fabrics. Vacuum or brush upholstery regularly but never use a stiff brush as this could damage the fibres. Chemicals, detergents and fabric polishes should never be used on PVC as these can remove the plasticiser and cause cracking. The surface can be cleaned with a tepid solution of pure soap followed by rinsing and drying with a clean dry cloth.