



The Care and Maintenance of Your Cabinets and Countertops

Cabinets:

After installation, cabinet interiors and exteriors should be wiped down with a damp cloth to remove any dust or dirt. Complete a small area at a time and then dry. With any wood product, it is important to avoid excessive moisture. Never drape damp dish cloths or dish towels on wood cabinets to dry. Over time, the moisture can cause permanent damage. Cleaning up all spills and water marks as they happen is very important. Occasionally, it may be necessary to use a mild detergent for dirt that may be more stubborn. Avoid abrasive cleansers, scouring pads and powdered cleansers. Take extra precautions to prevent oven cleaner from coming in contact with your cabinets.

Hardware:

Occasionally, clean your door and drawer handles with mild soap and water. It is not necessary to lubricate hinges. Hinges can be cleaned or dusted using cotton-tipped swabs.

Countertops:

Plastic laminate countertops should be cleaned with a mild soap or detergent and warm water for daily cleaning. Avoid acidic or abrasive cleaners as they can damage laminate services. Knives and other sharp objects can cut your plastic laminate countertops. Always slice or chop on a cutting board rather than your countertop. Also, avoid hard blows or heavy objects from dropping on your countertops. Never place pots or dishes directly from the oven or burner on an unprotected laminate service; such extreme heat can cause cracking and blistering.

Natural Stone or Quartz countertops should also be cleaned with mild soap or detergent and warm water. A water-based spray cleaner or clear colored vinegar formula Windex can also be used. If a film, smudges, or streaks develop, use water diluted with vinegar (3 parts water to 1 part vinegar) and a soft, clean cloth to remove it.

Cultured marble vanity tops should be wiped with a soft cloth or sponge using a mild soap and water or use a non-abrasive foam cleaner. Do not use abrasive cleaners on high gloss surfaces; however, a very mild abrasive cleaner can be used on matte finishes.

Melamine Surfaces:

Exterior and interior melamine panels are extremely durable and designed to give you years of beauty and trouble-free service. They can be cleaned with most nonabrasive household cleaners. However, cleaners with acetone, acetate or ethyl alcohol should not be used. Harsh solvents and/or abrasives such as turpentine may break down bonds on the edge-banding and should also be avoided. Ammonia cleaners should be diluted. Certain waxes may lead to discoloration and are not recommended.

Glass Door Inserts and Mirrors:

In both cases, cleaner should be applied to a cloth, not directly to the mirror or glass, and should not be allowed to run or drip onto the wood frame or glass retainer. For mirrors, avoid cleaners that contain sodium hydrochloride, phosphoric acid, or sulfur (found in products to prevent mildew and fungus). Hair spray and other hair care products often contain chemicals that are caustic to silver and may cause damage to the mirror back. Do not use abrasives on glass or mirrors.