

Care and maintenance of furniture



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TIMELESS SINCE 1916

Care and maintenance of furniture

To ensure that you receive maximum pleasure from your new furniture, it is very important for you to read this instruction. Please note that the quality guarantee of Andersen Furniture is only valid when this maintenance instruction has been followed carefully.

Furniture for life

The furniture has been processed and treated very thoroughly, making it easy for you to look after it on a day-to-day basis. All furniture comes with a starter care kit and detailed care instructions, which will guide you through the process in simple steps.

When you have used up the care kit, you can purchase additional care products from Andersen dealers.

If you have any questions about the maintenance of your Andersen furniture, you are always welcome to contact your dealer, who will be happy to assist you with excellent advice and guidance.

We also refer you to the section about solid wood on the back of the leaflet.

How do you keep your furniture beautiful for many years to come?

- Maintain the furniture on a regular basis and in accordance with the instructions in this leaflet.
- Always wipe your furniture with a dry cloth, after cleaning it with a damp cloth.
- If you spill any liquid, you should always wipe it off as quickly as possible.
- If you use oilcloth or something similar, it should not sit there for more than 24 hours (this applies only to solid wood furniture).
- Always use hot pads/mats under hot and/or damp objects.
- Always use a firm pad when using sharp utensils.
- Protect the surface against scratches from china etc. using felt, for example.
- In order to maintain the colour of the wood, you should avoid direct sunlight as far as possible.
- Never place furniture close to wood-burning stoves, radiators etc.
- But if anything happens and damage occurs, contact your dealer.

The treatment instructions describe the care and maintenance of:

- *Soap-treated surfaces*
- *Oil-treated surfaces*
- *Wood Care-treated surfaces*
- *Lacquered surfaces*
- *Laminate surfaces*
- *Linoleum surfaces*

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Soap-treated surfaces

Daily care: wipe with a cloth, preferably one that has been wrung-out after saturation in a soapy solution.

REMEMBER: Never use washing-up liquid!

All soap-treated surfaces are, and must be treated with white soap flakes (with the highest possible oil content).

Soap solution: 2 tbsp. (1/4 dl.) white soap flakes to 1 litre of boiling water.

Allow the soap to dissolve and let the mixture cool – max. temperature 20°C. Before you start the treatment, stir the mixture thoroughly. For application use a sponge, saturated with soap oil. Apply generous amounts of the soap oil (as little water as possible) and allow it to sit for 3-5 minutes. If the soap dries out before wiping, apply more soap. Then wipe off any excess soap from the furniture.

NB. NEVER pour soap solution directly onto the furniture. The furniture only needs the soap oil, not the water. If you apply too much water, when the wood dries, cracks may occur. Never use steel wool or grease-removing agents.

You should treat the table for the first time 14 days after you receive it. You should then treat it as and when required. Even furniture, which you do not use that often, should be maintained regularly.

If the furniture is very dirty, it can be cleaned with a soap and water solution and the coarse side of a kitchen sponge, by scrubbing in the direction of the grain. Remove the dirty soap immediately. You can then treat the furniture as described above.

If the furniture is scratched, polish it first with sandpaper following the grain of the wood. Finish using a polishing sponge, before giving the table a soap treatment. When it comes to table-tops, you should also treat the underside to compensate for the tensions that can occur in the wood.

The first few times you treat the wood, the fibres of the wood may stick up, making the wood feel rough. Polish very gently with the polishing sponge.

Tip: Save the soap solution and store the sponge in the soap, kept in a tightly sealed container. If the soap gets too thick, dilute it with boiling water.

Oil-treated surfaces

Daily care: wipe with a damp cloth and then immediately wipe off, using a dry cloth.

For the maintenance of oiled surfaces we recommend the enclosed Kunos Oil No. 244 (dark woods) or No. 760 (light woods). Always clean* the surface before starting the oil treatment. Use a white, lint-free cloth.

If there are any scratches on the surface, polish with sandpaper (240 grit) or the enclosed sponge. Apply a little oil to the wood and smooth it in, following the grain of the wood. Immediately wipe with a dry cloth. Apply oil to the cloth and wipe the furniture so you distribute the oil in an even layer. Leave it to penetrate for 3-5 minutes. Then wipe off any excess oil, before polishing with a dry cloth. Repeat the treatment 2-3 times a year, as and when required.

* For cleaning the surface, use a cloth that has been wrung out after being saturated in a solution of 1 tsp. Trena cleaning agent to 1 litre of water. For particularly dirty surfaces, use 4 tsps. Trena to 1 litre of water. Always wipe off using a dry cloth. REMEMBER: Never use washing-up liquid!

Let the wood dry off for 12 hours, before starting the oil treatment.

Never pour oil directly onto the furniture and never use steel wool. Avoid washing oiled surfaces for the first 2 weeks after delivery. The biological oil needs time to harden. You should treat your table for the first time about 4 weeks after receiving it.

Notice: Please notice that the cloth used for oil treatment can ignite spontaneously if not stored safely. To avoid this, part with the cloth by cleaning it in cold water or keep it in an airtight container, made of metal or glass.

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Wood Care-treated surfaces

Wood Care is the perfect surface treatment for anyone who likes soap-treated or white-oiled surfaces.

Wood Care is an in-depth treatment, which is very easy to maintain.

Wood Care is a combined cleaning and care agent.

The care product cleans the surface, while leaving behind a thin protective film, providing the surface with a high level of resistance. The surface also remains light and fresh.

Daily care: In terms of daily cleaning and care, simply spray the cleaning/care product directly on the surface. Then wipe with a clean, dry cloth.

Particularly dirty surfaces: Spray Wood Care directly on to the surface and scrub with a scouring pad in the direction of the wood's grain. Then wipe with a well wrung-out damp cloth. Then spray Wood Care on the surface, before wiping with a clean, dry cloth.

If the wood has risen after treatment, it is a good idea to lightly sand the surface of the furniture using a fine sanding sponge.

Lacquered surfaces

Daily care: wipe with a damp cloth, and then immediately wipe off, using a dry cloth. For particularly dirty surfaces, use a cloth, well wrung out after saturating in a washing up liquid solution (1 tsp. to 1 litre of water). Wipe after with a dry cloth. There are no "correct" maintenance products for lacquered surfaces.

A coating of lacquer is the same as sealing a surface. It makes it more difficult for liquids, grime and the like to penetrate the wood. A lacquered surface is generally vulnerable. The small scratches, which will eventually appear on lacquered surfaces, cannot be removed.

Please be aware that lacquered surfaces require at least 4 weeks to harden, so be particularly careful in this period. Even after the surface has hardened, it will still be vulnerable to hot objects, alcohol and moisture penetration, which can leave white marks.

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Laminate surfaces

Daily care: spray laminate cleaner directly onto the surface, and then leave for a few minutes. Then wipe with a damp cloth, before wiping again with a clean, dry cloth.

For particularly dirty surfaces, repeat the above treatment.

High-pressure laminate is extremely robust and requires no special maintenance. With general use, it is easy to keep clean. Regular cleaning using laminate cleaner is generally sufficient to keep the surface nice and clean.

Remember:

- Laminate does not tolerate hot objects such as pots and pans, tea lights etc.
- Use the mildest, gentlest detergent possible.
- Never use abrasive cleaners such as scouring powder and steel wool.
- Wax, polish etc., which can seal in the dirt, must not be used.
- When using a cleaner other than laminate cleaner, you must then wash the surface with warm water.

Stains from:	Laminate cleaner	Methylated spirit	Benzene	Stain remover
Fingerprints	X	X		
Grease, oil, shoe marks	X		X	
Soot, nicotine	X			
Felt-tip ink, ink	X		X	
Coffee, tea, juice	X			
Crayon, ballpoint pen	X	X	X	
Felt tip	X	X	X	X
Paint stains, glue			X	X
Lipstick, shoe polish, wax	X		X	X
Nail polish			X	X
Chalk stains	(E.g. after vases), can be de-scaled using 10% acetic acid. Do not use other de-scaling products			
Rust stains	Citric acid can be used for particularly stubborn stains			

NB. Laminate cleaner is also suitable for cleaning chairs made from synthetic materials, plastic and high-gloss surfaces.

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Linoleum surfaces

Daily care: wipe with a damp, lint-free cloth and, if necessary, use a cleaning agent with a neutral pH value.

We recommend you to treat the surface with a linoleum care product a couple of times a month to make the surface resistant. Linoleum care is ideal for care and disinfection.

Linoleum has a warm, slightly elastic surface, which makes it pleasant to the touch. The matt finish adds a touch of luxury and elegance. Thanks to the water-based surface the material retains its attractive, silk-matt surface.

Linoleum is manufactured using natural material: linseed oil, resin, wood dust and environmentally friendly coloured pigments. The natural character lends any design an unbeatably stylish touch and is also a great choice in terms of both indoor climate and nature. Just like solid wood, the material acquires a beautiful patina.

In some cases the linoleum surface acquires a yellowish film. This is known as “seasoning bloom” or “drying room film” and will disappear when the surface is exposed to light, and will not return again.

Solid wood in general

Wood is a living material that requires proper care and maintenance. All wooden furniture has been dried down to about 8% wood humidity, which corresponds to a relative humidity of 40% at 20° C. The wood reacts in varying degrees depending on the humidity of the surroundings. That is why it is important for wooden furniture to stand in an environment, where the humidity does not fluctuate more than between 40 and 60%.

When winter sets in and it is time to switch on the heating, humidity may fall to below 40%. This can cause the wood to shrink a little, but it will expand again once the humidity rises. This comes about because of the evaporation, which is greatest through cross-cut timber. This is apparent, for example, when leaf tables gape at the sides of the assembly in winter and in the centre of the assembly in summer. Under these dry conditions you should make sure that furniture is treated as prescribed with either soap or oil. We recommend you to purchase a hygrometer to check the humidity in your home.

Generally speaking, solid wood is one of nature's finest materials. It is very durable and has a very long service life. When wood gets a good surface treatment, the product is also easy to look after and maintain, and matures more slowly and more beautifully.

Wood is a natural product, so the texture of the wood may include small knots and colour variations in the finished product.

Important: solid wood is affected by exposure to direct sunlight or direct heat: for example from a wood-burning stove. This may discolour and dry out the wood, causing cracks, for example in table-tops. Never cover solid wood with oilcloth or something similar for longer than 24 hours at the most.

Concerning solid leaves.

Solid wood leaves, which are ordered at the same time as the table, are individually customised for that particular table. Solid leaves ordered at a later point may contain differences in terms of size, colour and texture. When using leaves in dining tables, always use the supporting leg.



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