

META SURFACES



CABINET CARE GUIDE

Care For Your Cabinetry

With a little effort and a few precautions, you can keep your cabinetry looking as good as new for many years.

Stained Wood, Painted Wood and MDF Surfaces

Wood furniture of all types requires routine care and attention.

- Dust frequently using our [dusting cloth](#). It is more efficient and convenient than spray dusting products. Feather dusters scatter the dust particles into the air only to resettle back onto your furniture.
- Polish approximately once per month. The oils nourish and revitalize the finish, while the emulsifiers dissolve dirt, dulling films, and sticky fingerprints.
- Never apply water to your cabinetry.

Protect your wood cabinets

- Clean spills and splatters immediately; prolonged exposure to spills food or liquids may discolor your cabinet finish.
- Never wipe your cabinetry with a used dishcloth since it could contain traces of grease or detergents.
- Never use abrasive sponges, abrasive cleaners, scouring pads, harsh detergents, ammonia solutions, glass cleaners, water, or powder cleaners on wood surfaces.
- Treat your cabinetry as if it were furniture. The cabinets are constructed with the same grade of wood as your furniture. They require the same care in order to reward you with long-lasting beauty.
- Never apply excessive weight, nor excessively pull down on the doors as this may cause them to split at the hinge area and sag.
- Never place more than 75 pounds of weight into any drawer as this may cause the bottom to sag or the drawer slides to work improperly.

Glass Doors and Mirrors

- Use 99% isopropyl alcohol, citrus, or vinegar-based cleaners on a clean, non-abrasive cloth or paper towel to clean.
- If heavy stain is present and does not come clean using the suggestions above, use isopropyl alcohol with a Magic Eraser by gently scrubbing until the mark is removed.
- Never use abrasive cleaning pads such as metallic sponges, solvents, strong detergents or other chemical agents when cleaning glass doors
- Use a glass cleaner applied directly to the cleaning towel

- Never spray directly on glass area since drips and overspray may reach and harm the wood surfaces of the door and/or surrounding cabinets.
- Avoid glass cleaners that contain sodium hydrochloride, phosphoric acid, or sulfur.
- Use caution when using hair spray and mousse around mirrors. These products generally contain chemicals that are caustic to silver, which could damage the mirror backing.

Door and Drawer Hardware

- Door and drawer hardware should be cleaned only with mild soap and water.

Laminate Cabinetry

Matte Laminate and High Gloss Laminate Surfaces

- The protective film of the panels must be removed once installation is complete or a maximum of 6 months after delivery, in order to ensure that no adhesive residue remains on the surface. We recommend waiting 24 hours after peeling off the protective film before cleaning.
- Avoid spraying products directly onto the surface, as it may leave stains and marks.
- For cleaning, it is recommended to use a microfiber cloth moistened with soap and water (maximum 1% solution).
- Dry the cabinets immediately with a clean, dry, soft cloth after cleaning. Failure to dry your cabinets may result in finish damage and possible damage to the underlying wood.
- Under no circumstances must harsh chemicals be used such as solvents, alcohol, ammonia, etc.

Laminate, Embossed Melamine, and Heavy Textured Melamine Surfaces

- To clean the surface, use a damp microfiber cloth or sponge and a mild soap or detergent.
- Acidic or abrasive cleaners can damage laminate surfaces; do not use them
- Steel wool and other abrasive pads will damage plastic laminate. Don't use them for cleaning.

Element Designs' Aluminum Door Program Cleaning Instructions

To ensure proper cleaning and care of your product, please follow these simple suggestions for our materials:

Glass Doors

- Use 99% isopropyl alcohol, citrus, or vinegar-based cleaners on a clean, non-abrasive cloth or paper towel to clean.
- If a heavy stain is present and does not come clean using the suggestions above, use isopropyl alcohol with a Magic Eraser by gently scrubbing until the mark is removed.
- Never use abrasive cleaning pads such as a metallic sponge, solvents, strong detergents, or other chemical agents when cleaning glass doors.

Backpainted Glass Doors

- Follow instructions for Glass Doors for the gloss and/or satin surface of the glass, opposite the painted side.
- For the back painted water-based coating, we recommend using a mildly damp (water only) on a nonabrasive cloth to gently clean the coated side of the glass.
- Never use abrasive cleaning pads such as a metallic sponge, solvents, strong detergents, or other chemical agents when cleaning back-painted glass doors.

Aluminum Doors

- Use a clean cloth with a mild detergent to clean.
- Never use abrasive cleaning pads such as a metallic sponge, solvents, strong detergents, or other chemical agents when cleaning aluminum doors.

Cleaning Accessory Kits

- Plastic and wire kits can be cleaned with mild soap and water
- Never use abrasive cleaning pads such as a metallic sponge, solvents, strong detergents, or other chemical agents when cleaning accessory kits.

Things That Can Damage Your Cabinets

Sunlight

To limit the fading effects of ultra violet (UV) rays, furniture should not be placed in direct sunlight. Blinds, curtains and UV furniture polish help protect wood furniture from UV rays.

Humidity & Temperature

Wood Cabinetry and Furniture should be placed in moderate temperatures (60-80 degrees F) and moderate humidity (30%-60% RH). Why?

- All woods are subject to temperature & humidity changes in that they will expand and contract with changes in weather conditions. Joints in the face frames, doors, and in certain accessories have a tendency to open up or form fine cracks due to the natural expansion and contraction in wood items. This tendency is more noticeable in painted finishes than in stained finishes but can be noticed in both.
- High humidity levels cause wood to absorb moisture and swell or expand. This can prevent butt doors from closing properly and cause doors and drawers to stick, and door panels to expand, creating joint separations.
- Low humidity levels cause wood to release moisture and shrink or contract causing joint separations.

Accessories

- Heavy accessories may cause distortion to the top of the finish. Use cork or felt pads under accessories, not rubber or plastic. Lift objects rather than dragging them across the furniture surface. Rotate objects several times a year.

Place Settings

- To limit damage to wood finishes, replace vinyl and plastic tablecloths or placemats with linen. Cloth placemats should not be left on furniture for extended periods of time.
- Use pads, cloth or felt to protect surfaces from plastics, rubber, hot dishes, beverages, bookends, flowerpots, and vases.

Wood & Water Don't Mix

- Always wipe up spills, splatters, water spots, and moisture from your cabinetry with a clean, soft cloth as they occur, give special attention to areas around the sink and dishwasher. Water left to puddle or stand can dull or mark the finish, create a water ring, and if the exposure is extreme, can even warp wood.
- Open a window or your exhaust fan to help control steam buildup in bathrooms. Always wipe up water on your countertop, this is especially important around the edges and at the seams where your countertop joins.
- Do not drape damp or wet towels over cabinet doors. Over time, this moisture can cause permanent damage to your door and its finish.

- When mopping your floors, don't use mops dripping with water. Excess water could be absorbed by your toe kick or cause finish damage to cabinetry legs and/or feet.
- Treat your cabinets as you would fine furniture, use coasters, pads, cloths, or runners to protect against spills and water rings.

Excess moisture is an enemy of any finish.

Ovens, Ranges, and Cabinetry

- Do not allow the oven cleaner to touch any part of your cabinetry.
- Self-cleaning ovens use intense heat as a cleaning agent, if the oven heat gasket is damaged or does not seal properly, this intense heat can cause damage to your cabinetry.
- Wellborn recommends the use of heat shields to help minimize the risk of damage during cleaning cycles. We also recommend that you remove the doors and drawers from cabinets that are above or adjacent to a self-cleaning oven. Heat cycles may discolor cabinetry

Coffee makers and toasters that mount beneath cabinets

We strongly recommend that you do not use these heat-producing appliances beneath cabinets. Both the excessive heat and moisture from these appliances can damage cabinetry.

Dishwasher & Cabinets

- Do not open your dishwasher during a cycle. Excess water falling out of the dishwasher could be absorbed by your cabinet's toe kick.
- Wait until your dishwasher has finished cleaning and the heat and steam have dissipated before opening.

Drawers

- Never place more than 75 pounds of weight into any drawer as this may cause the bottom to sag or the drawer slides to work improperly. Also, the weight of what is stored in each drawer should be evenly distributed for the best durability.
- Never use a drawer as a step as this may cause the bottom of the drawer to sag or the slides to warp.

Never attempt to repair severely damaged surfaces without the proper materials or professional help.

