

HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR COUNTERTOP

PROBLEM	DESCRIPTION	CAUSE	TO REPAIR
END CHECKS	SEPARATION OF THE JOINTS ALONG THE END OF TOP OR BLOCK	EXCESSIVE DRYNESS, NOT OILED FREQUENTLY ENOUGH	MELT A 1:4 MIXTURE OF PARAFFIN AND MINERAL OIL AND FILL ALL CHECKS. MAKE SURE PARAFFIN SEAL THE CHECK THOROUGHLY. CONTINUE OILING
SPLITS	SEPARATIONS OF JOINT ALONG FULL LENGTH OF TOP	EXCESSIVE DRYNESS	PROCEED AS ABOVE TO SEAL SPLIT. IF CONDITION CONTINUES FOR AN EXTENDED TIME PERIOD, CONTACT YOUR SELLER
WIND SHAKES	SMALL PORTION OF WOOD GRAIN LIFTING UP FROM TABLE TOP	GRAIN SEPARATION, EXCESSIVE DRYNESS	CLEAN AND DRY TOP. APPLY SMALL PORTION OF WHITE GLUE TO PIECE OF PAPER. SLIP PAPER UNDER THE SHAKE AND REMOVE, LEAVING SOME GLUE FOR ADHESION. PLACE HEAVY WEIGHT ON AREA OVERNIGHT AND LET DRY. REMOVE ANY EXCESS GLUE USING LIGHT SANDPAPER OR FINE STEEL WOOL. WORK ONLY THE GRAIN AND NEVER AGAINST IT
WARPAGE	TOP CUPPING OR BOWING	IMBALANCE OF MOISTURE CONTENT BETWEEN TOP AND BOTTOM SURFACES. OILING ONLY ONE SURFACE	APPLY OIL LIBERALLY TO CONCAVE SIDE. IF NOT CORRECTED WITHIN 2 WEEKS, TAPE PLASTIC (I.E. PLASTIC LINERS, DRY CLEANING WRAP, ETC.) TO THE CONVEX SIDE AND OIL THE REVERSE SIDE EVERY DAY. TOP WILL ADJUST TO NEW HUMIDITY AND CORRECT ITSELF
RAIL EXPANSION	ONE RAIL RAISED ABOVE BALANCE OF TOP	RAISED RAIL EXPANDING AT FASTER RATE THAN OTHER	CONTINUE OILING AS INSTRUCTED FOR REGULAR MAINTENANCE. TOP WILL ADJUST TO NEW HUMIDITY AND CORRECT ITSELF
STAINS	WATER SPOTS, FOOD STAINS, ETC.	ALLOWING FOOD TO REMAIN ON TABLE TOP TOO LONG NEEDS PARAFFIN OR WAX	USE LIGHT SANDPAPER OR FINE STEEL WOOL ON STAIN. CONTINUE REGULAR MAINTENANCE. STAIN WILL DISSIPATE IN WOOD GRAIN.
DAMAGE	NICKS, GOUGES, DENTS, ETC.	EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT	IF TOP IS OILED, SIMPLY SAND AND RE-OIL. IF TOP IS LACQUERED, LIGHTLY SAND AND REFINISH WITH LACQUER OR ANOTHER COMPATIBLE FINISH (CONSULT A LOCAL FINISHING STORE.)
MINERAL STREAKS	DARK STREAKS IN THE WOOD	NATURAL DISCOLORING OF THE WOOD DUE TO MINERAL DEPOSITS IN THE TREE	NO REPAIR NEEDED - ADDS TO INDIVIDUALLY OF YOUR BUTCHER BLOCK

IMPORTANT! IF YOU MAKE ANY CUTS OR ALTERNATIONS IN YOUR BUTCHER BLOCK, BE SURE TO REFINISH THE EXPOSED EDGES WITH MELTED PARAFFIN AND OIL OR LACQUER SEALER. HOLES OR NOTCHES THAT HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN THE TABLE TOP MUST ALSO BE REFINISHED. IF YOU DO NOT REFINISH THESE EDGES, YOUR TOP WILL CRACK DUE TO DRYNESS.



SWANER HARDWOOD
SINCE 1967

RECOMMENDED TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY GUIDELINES

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From the US Dept. of Agriculture Wood Handbook, Wood as an Engineering Material

Humidity Recommendations range from 30% - 50% in a building.

Temperature recommendations range from 60 to 80 degrees in a building.

If you stay within the recommendations range, the amount of expansion and contraction is limited

		RELATIVE HUMIDITY %																	
		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90
TEMPERATURE (°F)	30	1.4	2.6	3.7	4.6	5.5	6.3	7.1	7.8	8.7	9.5	10.4	11.3	12.4	13.5	14.9	17	18.5	21
	40	1.4	2.6	3.7	4.6	5.5	6.3	7.1	7.8	8.7	9.5	10.4	11.3	12.4	13.5	14.9	17	18.5	21
	50	1.4	2.6	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.3	7.1	7.9	8.7	9.5	10.3	11.2	12.3	13.4	14.8	16	18.4	20.9
	60	1.3	2.5	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.2	7	7.8	8.6	9.4	10.2	11.1	12.1	13.3	14.6	16	18.2	20.7
	70	1.3	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.4	6.2	6.9	7.7	8.5	9.2	10.1	11	12	13.1	14.4	16	17.9	20.5
	80	1.3	2.4	3.5	4.4	5.3	6.1	6.8	7.6	8.3	9.1	9.9	10.8	11.7	12.9	14.2	16	17.7	20.2
	90	1.2	2.3	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.9	6.7	7.4	8.1	8.9	9.7	10.5	11.85	12.6	13.9	15	17.3	19.8
	100	1.2	2.3	3.3	4.2	5	5.8	6.5	7.2	7.9	8.7	9.5	10.3	11.2	12.3	13.6	15	17	19.5

Example: If conditions in a warehouse are 60% relative humidity at 50 degrees Fahrenheit Dry wood will pick up moisture until 11.2% is reached, regardless of wood species and initial moisture content.

Your Butcher Block was kiln-dried to an initial moisture content of 7.6%. In order to maintain the beauty and integrity of your Butcher Block, it is recommended that special care be taken to keep the relative humidity and temperature within your home or warehouse in the highlighted range. This will limit the amount of expansion and contraction in your natural wood product and minimize the risk of environmental damage. Environmental damage does not constitute defective product. Allowing your Butcher Block to acclimate to the environment for at least 72 hours prior to installation, following recommended installation practices that allow your Butcher Block to move with the conditions and controlling the environment itself are all key factors that determine the life of your product.

It is important to note that as winter temperatures drop, so does relative humidity in the air. The heaters come on which further dries the air. Keeping the area humidified to an acceptable level usually becomes necessary during the winter months. The opposite is true in spring and summer as humidity rises, dehumidifiers and air conditioners become the method of control.