



ABOUT SOLID WOOD

Wood, like any other natural and porous material, continues to absorb and release humidity throughout its life. Ethnicraft designs furniture that adapts well to the hydrometrical conditions of its environment. The structural design of the furniture allows the wood to expand and contract.

Variations in wood grain, texture & colour, knots and other natural characteristics are inherent in solid wood. We believe that these imperfections contribute to the charm of Ethnicraft products. Wood is a natural product and we finish each piece with great skill and artistry. Our craftsmen use different wood-working techniques such as wood inlaying and the use of wood paste. Ethnicraft consciously selects a specific quality of wood that adds more character to its designs.

OUR COMMITMENT

Wood has always been the core material in the Ethnicraft range. We are deeply aware of the impact of our industry on the environment and we take environmental issues to heart: the origin of the wood, the energy we use in the production and distribution process, the treatment of the products and waste reduction – we try to be as environmentally friendly as possible.

THE ORIGIN OF OUR CORE MATERIAL

Ethnicraft's teak wood comes from two main sources. On the one hand, we carefully reclaim timber from neglected buildings or old warehouses, mainly from the island of Central Java in Indonesia. On the other hand, Ethnicraft works closely together with the Indonesian governmental body in charge of managing the teak plantations originally set up by the Dutch about 150 years ago. This government agency applies strict policies with regard to annual replanting and the size and quantity of trees

that can be felled each year. Where our oak is concerned: our sister factories use French and Serbian oak from well-managed forests in Europe. Finally, the walnut we are using for our designs comes from American soil.

NO WASTE

Production waste such as leftover logs, wood and sawdust are re-used for other purposes. The sawdust from logs is either used as fuel for the drying ovens or compressed as a base for pellets. All the leftovers from cutting planks to size are recycled and used as base material or as box joints for panels.

FSC® LABEL FOR OUR FURNITURE

Our commitment to the environment is reflected by the FSC® CoC (Chain of Custody) certification of our distribution centers. FSC® is a worldwide independent, non-governmental, non-profit organisation that promotes responsible management of the world's forests. In other words, this organisation guarantees that products carrying the FSC® label come from forests that are managed so that they meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations. In the case of Ethnicraft NV and Azur, the CoC certificate guarantees that the company is perfectly placed to buy, stock and sell products with a specified FSC® certificate, originating from sustainably managed forests, controlled sources and reclaimed materials, or a mixture of these. At the moment, several of the ranges sold by Ethnicraft carry a FSC® 100% Recycled label, meaning that the products are made from reclaimed timber. Other collections carry the FSC 100% label, which means that these products are made from wood originating from FSC certified plantations. These ranges are clearly indicated in the catalogue. Moreover, every effort is being made to increase the number of ranges with an FSC® label.



The mark of
responsible forestry



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HOW TO TAKE CARE OF OUR FURNITURE

Every piece of furniture has its own maintenance requirements, depending on the lifestyle and needs of the user. Caring for solid wooden furniture requires some skill, so it is important to be well informed. Here, you will find our general maintenance guidelines for the different types of wood. Do keep in mind that these are only recommendations and that Ethnicraft cannot be held responsible for the results.

OAK FURNITURE

OILED FURNITURE

Most of the Ethnicraft oak furniture is finished with a pigmented hardwax oil. This finish gives the furniture its desired natural color and forms a natural protective coating that acts as a repellent against most common substances and liquids, but is no foolproof guarantee against stains.

DAILY CARE

- For daily care of your furniture, use a damp cloth (not too wet) with a mild solution of warm water and natural soap. Do not use soap containing detergent and in case of a spill, make sure you remove it immediately.

CLEANING & REFRESHING THE SURFACE

- To refresh your furniture or to remove absorbed stains (crayons or pencil marks, wine stains, fruit juice stains, etc.) we recommend Osmo Liquid Wax Cleaner (3029). This product cleans, regenerates and slightly reinforces the original protective coating.

YEARLY CARE

- As time goes by, depending on the amount of wear the furniture gets, the original hardwax coating may need to be renewed. We recommend using Osmo Hardwax Oil Natural (3041). Please note that it is important to remove excess product after application to avoid white spots after drying.

STUBBORN STAINS & REPAIRS

- In case of stubborn stains or to remove a superficial scratch you may need to sand the surface and apply a new layer of hardwax oil (3041).

VARNISHED FURNITURE

Part of the Ethnicraft oak furniture is varnished instead of oiled. You will find varnished items clearly indicated in this catalogue. Varnish offers a good protection against stains, while preserving the natural look of the oak furniture. Even with this preventative treatment, spills should be removed immediately. If the liquid or substance is left to penetrate the wood over a period of time, the furniture will eventually get stained.

DAILY CARE

- For daily care of your furniture, use a damp cloth (not too wet) with a mild solution of warm water and natural soap. Do not use solvent-based cleaning agents as these might damage the varnish.

TEAK FURNITURE

Our teak range comes without any finish or protective treatment. The wood is merely polished, allowing the natural oils to rise to the surface. The high density of teak wood has the advantage that stains stay on the surface and do not penetrate into the wood easily.

DAILY CARE

- For daily care of your furniture, use a damp cloth (not too wet) with a mild solution of warm water and natural soap. Do not use soap containing detergent and in case of a spill, make sure you remove it immediately.

PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

- If you want to protect the wood from the start, apply a protective coating. We recommend Occulto Oil (9911). This seals the pores of the timber and creates a natural protection. Even then, stains and marks should be removed immediately. If liquids or substances are left to penetrate the wood, the furniture will eventually get stained.

STUBBORN STAINS & REPAIRS

- To remove stubborn stains or superficial scratches, extra fine sand paper (minimum 320 grit) can be used. Make sure you always rub in the direction of the wood grain.

WALNUT FURNITURE

All Ethnicraft walnut furniture is finished with a tinted natural oil. This finish forms a natural coating, protecting the wood against most substances and liquids, but is not a complete guarantee against stains.

DAILY CARE

- For daily care of your furniture, use a damp cloth (not too wet) with a mild solution of warm water and natural soap. Do not use soap containing detergent and in case of a spill, make sure you remove it immediately.

CLEANING & REFRESHING THE SURFACE

- To refresh your furniture or to remove absorbed stains (crayons or pencil marks, wine stains, fruit juice stains, ... etc.) we recommend Osmo Liquid Wax Cleaner (3029). This product cleans, regenerates and slightly reinforces the original protective coating.

YEARLY CARE

- As time goes by, depending on the amount of wear the furniture gets, the original hardwax coating may need to be renewed. We recommend using Osmo Hardwax Oil for walnut furniture (5063). Please note that it is important to remove excess product after application to avoid white spots after drying.

STUBBORN STAINS & REPAIRS

- In case of stubborn stains or to remove a superficial scratch you may need to sand the surface and apply a new layer of hardwax oil (5063).

UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

The upholstery of the sofas and chairs is dry-clean only, which means that the use of water and soap is not recommended since it may leave lighter patches where the fabric has been cleaned. Washing a cushion cover in a washing machine, even at low temperature, will not only make the colour fade, but also shrink the fabric. The upholstery of the teak chairs is made of 100% Belgian linen. It cannot be removed and stains can only be treated with dry-cleaning products. Our leather N501 sofas are designed for indoor use only. To keep the leather sofas in optimal condition we recommend to:

- Wipe the leather furniture down regularly with a clean, dry cloth
- Apply leather conditioner regularly
- Clean spills immediately with a dry cloth
- Avoid soaking the leather in water or soap
- Avoid using any cleaning products not designed for leather
- Keep leather furniture out of direct sunlight

DO'S & DONT'S

- Recommended humidity in the room: between 40% and 60%.
- Ideal room temperature: 21°C during the day, not below 14°C at night.
- Avoid exposure to extreme conditions: do not place furniture near heating sources or in highly air-conditioned spaces.
- Although our furniture – apart from teak – is treated with a protective finish, it can still be susceptible to stains. We therefore recommend that any spills are removed immediately to prevent staining.
- When cleaning the surface, always work in the direction of the wood grain.
- Like any natural material, oak will darken or grow yellow as time goes by. Teak and walnut will fade slightly in direct sunlight. Do not place your furniture in direct sunlight and move any objects placed on the furniture from time to time, to prevent colour differences.
- Use place mats to prevent hot pots and pans or cold glasses and bottles from leaving marks on the furniture.