

LAURA ASHLEY  
HOME

huxley  
furniture

information and care guide

please read and retain for future reference

Afin d'obtenir ce guide en français, merci de vous rendre à cette adresse: [http://www.lauraashley.com/page/care\\_guides](http://www.lauraashley.com/page/care_guides)

Hier finden Sie den Ratgeber in deutscher Sprache: [http://www.lauraashley.com/page/care\\_guides](http://www.lauraashley.com/page/care_guides)

## HUXLEY FURNITURE

Laura Ashley furniture is craftsman made with great care and attention to produce distinctive pieces that will bring pleasure for years to come. Each item of furniture is hand finished and uses traditional cabinet making techniques to ensure strength and longevity.

- Huxley combines metal detail with a rustic wood finish for a contemporary feel.
- Made from distressed solid mindi Huxley has a distinct weathered look, which features very rustic and prominent natural characteristics and pronounced end grain; lacquered for a low maintenance finish.
- Metal bracing and detail is randomly distressed and powder coated in a gunmetal grey.
- Items are delivered in sections and assembled on site for you.
- Each product is lovingly hand finished to highlight natural features such as knots, medullary rays, grain and colour variation which may differ between parts of the same product and from product to product to make each piece unique.

With careful use these finely produced pieces will give many years of satisfaction.

## FEATURES OF DISTRESSED NATURAL WOOD & METAL

It is important to understand unique properties; which should not be mistaken for flaws.

### Wood Shading and Grain

All timber surfaces will change colour and mellow over time. Variation in grain, shading and colour between different products and within the same product can occur. End grain will be particularly pronounced and variable as will knots and grain on tops. New furniture initially will vary in shade from existing pieces within the same range.

### Knots

Knots, burrs and inconsistent grains will be visibly prominent, these occur naturally as the tree or branches grow and do not affect performance; proof of the highly individual nature of the wood.

### Medullary Rays

Each piece will have a slightly different grain pattern depending on which direction the wood is cut. Quarter sawn timbers enhance the natural characteristics of the grain to highlight medullary rays with interesting features such as growth rings, stripes and flecks which vary from section to section within the same piece.

### Joint Lines

Hairline cracks in the grooves or slight movement in panels or tenon joints are quite normal and some fillers may be used to reduce visibility of joint lines.

### Distressed Metal

Metal brackets and features are deliberately distressed so will have an inconsistent appearance.

## **EXPANSION AND TIMBER MOVEMENT**

- All timber will display movement from season to season because of changes in atmospheric temperature and humidity. This may occasionally make moving parts a little stiffer to operate.
- On drawers, to ease movement simply rub a little candle wax on the drawer runners attached to the carcass of the furniture drawer.
- We do not recommend locating products in excessively high or low temperatures, or where the environment is often damp as this may cause product issues.

## **LEVELLING, ASSEMBLY AND MOVING PRODUCTS**

- Furniture must be positioned on a level surface to ensure that it does not rock. If the product is moved, levels should be rechecked, the use of felt pads or wedges on feet can assist if the floor is not level.
- Take care when moving products. We recommend they are lifted by two persons as dragging items across the floor will cause damage to the joints.
- Large items which are assembled on site from multiple sections should be disassembled before relocation to a new position.
- Self Assembly items should be assembled at the intended location and lifted carefully into position.
- Assembled products from time to time require all fixings and joints tightening to prevent loosening which can create squeaks and movement, full instructions are enclosed with your product.

## **SUNLIGHT AND HEAT**

- Avoid exposing your furniture to excessive heat e.g. by placing it in front of a radiator, as this can cause cracking. A minimum 30cm clearance from heat sources is advised.
- Direct sunlight will cause the colour of real wood to change, even if it is painted or lacquered, this will be more readily apparent if the furniture is placed under a window. Use in hot and sunny conservatories is not recommended.
- Leaving items such as vases or ornaments in one place on a piece of furniture in sunlight may leave a mark when it is removed. Such marks should blend in with time.
- Never place hot dishes directly on to wooden or painted surfaces, we recommend you use tablemats. Prolonged use of hot electrical equipment, such as a laptop, on top of furniture may also cause scorching.
- The dark rubber feet used on electrical and other equipment occasionally contain chemicals that can leave a permanent mark on furniture surfaces so care should be taken.

## MAINTENANCE AND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

We recommend the purchase of a Guardsman Protection Plan\* at time of ordering (exclusions apply), to offer extra peace of mind in case of accidents.

To prolong the life of your furniture we advise the following:

### Cleaning

- Regularly dust with a soft cloth and occasionally wipe using a mild detergent solution on a very lightly dampened cloth and dry with a lint-free cloth.
- Beeswax furniture polish from a reputable supplier may be used on wooden sections, repeated use of a polish containing silicone is not recommended as it leads to a build up of a silicone film altering the appearance.
- Follow cleaning instructions carefully, spills should be removed immediately by blotting with a dry white cloth. If the spillage causes staining or the piece requires routine cleaning, we recommend a specialist cleaner.

### Care - To Avoid Unnecessary Damage

- Protect delicate flooring from potential marking by feet or legs using felt pads or castor cups.
- Do not drop furniture onto corners or feet, or lean backwards on two legs as this will weaken and damage frames, feet or legs.
- Prevent sharp objects such as toys, buckles and heels from coming into contact with your furniture.
- Avoid contact with chemicals such as hair and skin preparations, fake tans, insect repellents and other cosmetics, or household cleaning materials, other than those recommended as these may affect the finish.
- If your furniture becomes soiled, scratched, chipped or suffers other damage we recommend professional help is sought to restore it.
- If you have relevant insurance you may wish to contact your provider for advice. Alternatively a number of nationwide services are offered including Guardsman Home Services\* on 0845 6020789 or for cleaning Safeclean\* on 0800 585 693..

Following the guidelines above will ensure product performance is maintained. Laura Ashley is not responsible for defects caused by the misuse of your product.