

LAURA ASHLEY
HOME

refectory oiled 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

Hier finden Sie den Ratgeber in deutscher Sprache: http://www.lauraashley.com/page/care_guides

REFECTORY 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.

- The Refectory range is handmade using traditional joints and craftsmanship from kiln dried solid oak from managed European forests.
- The surface of Refectory is oiled to enhance the natural colour and highlight the beautiful features of oak such as grain, knots, shading and medullary rays. These natural variations ensure every piece is different and unique.
- Simple antiqued pewter effect handles and knobs further enhance the beauty of this range.
- Seats are upholstered in cream linen which may feature natural characteristic texture and slub effects.

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

FEATURES OF NATURAL WOOD

Wood is a beautiful natural material with unique properties; which should not be mistaken for defects.

Wood Shading and Colour

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. New furniture initially will vary in shade from existing pieces within the same range.

Knots and Splits

Knots, burrs and inconsistent grains occur naturally as the tree grows and do not affect performance; proof of the highly individual nature of wood.

Grain and 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 joints are quite normal and fillers may be used to reduce the visibility of joint lines.

EXPANSION AND TIMBER MOVEMENT

- All timber will expand and contract throughout the year and acclimatise to its surroundings. This may occasionally make moving parts a little stiffer to operate and hairline cracks in grooves appear as panels move, these are all properties of natural timber.
- To ease movement on drawers simply rub a little candle wax on the 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 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 painted or lacquered, especially if the furniture is placed near a window. Use in hot and sunny conservatories is not recommended.
- Leaving items such as ornaments in one place in sunlight on furniture may leave a mark when it is removed. Such marks should blend in with time.
- Never place hot dishes directly on to surfaces, use tablemats. Prolonged use of hot equipment e.g. a laptop, may cause scorching.
- Dark rubber feet used on some equipment may occasionally contain chemicals that can permanently 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

- To protect oiled furniture from spills, nourish the wood and to keep them looking great, periodic oiling is required. If this maintenance is not carried out the wood may become dry, lose its depth of colour and become susceptible to staining and water marking.
- To oil, apply a thin coat of Danish Oil to the outside of the furniture with a clean lint free cloth periodically or whenever the wood lightens, feels dry to the touch or displays lighter dry patches. Take care not to over oil the product which could create a shiny finish.
- Small cans of Danish Oil are available from most DIY or hardware stores. Do not use oils sold for cooking or eating.
- On receipt furniture will have been wrapped since manufacture and may require a light oiling immediately on delivery if it appears light or dry due to the variable absorbency of wood.
- On delivery Oak seats may take 2-3 days for the protective oil to completely dry so care is required, when oiling chairs, avoid staining the seat fabric.
- We recommend that drawers are left open and empty for 24 hours to allow any residual odour from the oil to dissipate and ensure it is dry.
- Maintain any upholstered seats regularly with a soft brush and/or gently vacuuming; periodic cleaning is required to maintain appearance and prevent premature fading and wear. Safeclean on 0800 585 693 are one of many nationwide cleaning.
- Follow cleaning instructions carefully, spills should be removed immediately by blotting with a dry white cloth. Product that is not correctly oiled will be more susceptible to staining. Light stains may be removed by gently rubbing in the direction of the grain with 400 grit (very fine) sandpaper and re-oiling as directed above.

Care - To Avoid Unnecessary Damage

- Protect delicate flooring from potential marking by using felt pads or castor cups under feet.
- Do not drop furniture onto corners or feet, or lean backwards on two legs as this will weaken and damage frames, feet or leg.
- Prevent sharp objects such as toys, buckles and heels from coming into contact with your furniture, and avoid razor sharp edges on the butchers block.
- Avoid contact with any 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 available 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.