

# Maintenance Hardwood Worktops

VERSION 1.150617 | 17 JUNE 2015

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When you receive your worktops, it is very important to store them completely flat (it is recommended on supporting bearers) until you are ready to install.

All worktops need to be kept inside your home (not in a garage or any other out-building).

During storage, please make sure that they are kept well away from extreme heat (radiators, under floor heating etc) and kept away from any moist areas (recently plastered walls, dump basements etc).

Before installation, please make sure you oil your worktops at least three coats on ALL sides including edges, we recommend using Danish Oil or Worktop Oil.

After installation, you will need to oil the upper parts of the worktop once a week for the first 6 weeks, then approximately every three month- depending on the usage.

This is standard practice for real wood worktops as they are made from natural materials. Hardwood worktops must be fitted to the base units using 'slotted expansion brackets' only.

Providing the screws are not over-tightened, these brackets will allow for the

worktop to naturally expand and contract across the width in accordance with slight changes in humidity.

Failure to use the correct brackets, or if fitted incorrectly, can apply undue stress to the worktop and may cause splitting to occur.

Wood and Beyond worktops comes untreated, you must oil them at least 3 times (on both sides and corners in order to lock the moisture in).

If you are cutting the worktops it is advised to apply as many coats as possible to the end-grain of the worktops as this is the area which will absorb the most moisture.

We recommend around four to five coats to be applied around tap holes, sink cut-outs and areas of heavy use or exposure.

To keep the wood worktop in prestige condition once the worktop has been installed, you need to keep oiling the upper part, we strongly recommend on using Danish Oil or Worktop Oil. A process which takes just a few minutes

## Worktop Care

1

Although its construction is already extremely durable, like any other worktop treat it well and avoid dragging heavy items on its surface which might result in scarring or denting.

2

Water spills and other liquids should always be mopped up immediately to prevent stains to the surface - especially during the first few weeks of installation. We advise keeping a tea towel handy solely for this purpose.

3

If you managed to dent the worktop (which is extremely rare) not all is lost. Spray some water on the dent, place a damp textile fabric on top of the dent and iron the surface. Quality wooden worktop should react well to this fix and raise back.

4

Wooden worktops require the occasional oil top up. Buy timber worktop re-coating oil to apply ever months or so.

5

When it comes to stains, liquid spills and food residue you really cannot afford to leave those for long. On top of the hygienic concerns you should have, mopping up quickly will prevent the liquids from penetrating the wood and leaving stains.

6

When working in the kitchen, it is very easy to get distracted and place warm pans on the worktop straight from the hot cooking stove or oven. Hot pans, rough-bottomed objects and wet items should not be placed directly onto a wooden work surface - always use granite inserts, hot-rods, trivets, pan stands or heat-resistant mats to protect the worktop from scorch marks. Direct contact from iron, steel or copper vessels can also stain the timber surfaces and should therefore be avoided.

7

Always use a chopping board for food preparation - cutting directly onto the worktop will damage the surface.

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