

Wood Countertop Care & Maintenance

FINISHED BUTCHER BLOCK: Catalyzed Conversion Varnish

Catalyzed Conversion Varnish is used to protect many wood products such as cabinets and typical furniture pieces. This product is a two step procedure and quickly dries making your countertop resemble the characteristics of a fine piece of furniture.

Cleaning: Normal clean up can be done with a solution of warm water and mild soap. As with any furniture piece, repeated moisture can hamper the appearance of your piece. Clean spills as soon as possible. Typical cleaning with a clean soft cloth will usually provide adequate maintenance.

After years of use, if your top shows typical wear, you can sand the entire top, refinish, and have a “renewed” wood countertop.

As with any special finish (Conversion Varnish, Waterlox®, Polyurethane, etc...). We recommend you allow 30 days before placing any permanent fixtures on the top surface such as small appliances or flower arrangements.

Cutouts & Cutoffs: If the butcher block top is modified by cutting, machining or sanding, the finish must be reapplied to prevent cracking, delamination and/or warping. These modifications must be sealed immediately to prevent moisture change within the top. See above for special finishes that can be sourced locally or online.

OILED OR UNFINISHED BUTCHER BLOCK

To maintain unfinished butcher block, follow these handy tips:

1. Before use, oil the cutting surface with food grade mineral oil or Emmet’s Elixir, an all-natural, anti-microbial wood conditioner.
2. Be sure to coat the top, bottom, ends and edges of the block every time you oil it. Apply oil often, especially when the block appears to be dry.
3. DO NOT submerge the board in water. Instead, clean it with a wet cloth or sponge using a mild liquid detergent. You can use a disinfecting cleanser or a mixture of 1 tsp. chlorine bleach to 1 quart of water. Rinse well. Do not use powder cleanser.
4. Allow the board to dry in a rack or with the board standing on edge to ensure sufficient air flow all the way around the board.
5. When determining how often to oil a block, the general rule of thumb is once a day for a week upon purchase; once a week for a month; and once a month forever. The block should be oiled whenever the wood starts to look dry and chalky.

If you have any questions please call the showroom at (434) 980-6610.