



624 Camberwell Road, Camberwell 3124

tel 9889 4457

www.homeofficemadeeasy.com.au

ABN 90 093 021 795 ACN 093 021 795

FEDERATION FURNITURE CARE INSTRUCTIONS

The Home Office Made Easy Federation Timber Range is constructed from Tasmanian Oak timber. The durability of this material is exceptional due to the hardness of this timber species. The surface is sealed and protected by a Catalysed Lacquer coating which gives the timber a durable surface that will provide years of beauty and serviceability.

As timber is a natural product, it is more sensitive to a number of factors in comparison to plastics, laminate, MDF, Polyurethane and numerous other man made materials.

Just observing a number of guidelines will keep your furniture looking its best for years to come.

Moisture

Newly sawn timber initially retains more than 50 percent its moisture. It is kiln dried to reduce this moisture content to a level which allows it to acclimatize to the average level of humidity found in most homes. Timber will continue to exchange moisture with the atmosphere causing expansion and contraction of the boards. This is a natural process that can be minimised by maintaining a consistent temperature and moisture level in the room.

Atmospheric

Dry or damp rooms affect natural timber, causing either expansion or contraction with resultant movement of the boards. In some cases, timber boards can separate causing cracks to develop. This is not a fault, but the timber doing what it does naturally.

Wet floors

Floors should not be overly wet, especially near the base of the timber furniture. It is better to use a damp cloth on hard floors around the base of the furniture. All other moisture should be dried as soon as possible.

Liquid Spillage

Any spillage on the timber surface should be dried as soon as possible. Of most concern would be moisture left between the base of an article and the timber surface. This can leave a white mark that can be difficult to remove.

Heat.

Fluctuations in heat can make the timber move by expanding and contracting. This can produce cracks and gaps in the solid timber boards. This is natural timber movement and does not mean a fault has occurred.

Heating/ Cooling vents

Furniture should not be placed directly over heating or evaporative cooling vents. The overly dry or moist air can cause boards to take on additional stresses, causing cracks to appear

Direct sunlight

Same as heating vents but with the added risk of the UV rays bleaching the timber colour.

Computer equipment

Many pieces of computer equipment including routers, modems and printers produce heat. Placing these directly on the timber surface can cause cracking of the timber boards as well as discoloration of the surface.

All such items should be separated from the timber surface by stands, cork or cork backed placemats or coasters.

Hot serving dishes

As per computer equipment.

Scratching

Avoid dragging items with rough faces across the timber surface. Take care to lift such items off the surface prior to moving them.

Crockery with unglazed or coarse surfaces should be put on placemats. Felt stick-on pads should be applied to the underside of the item where appropriate.

Pressure marking

It is recommended to use some additional sheets of paper or a blotter when working with hard tipped instruments such as ball point pens, pencils and compasses..

Discoloration

As timber is exposed to light, it changes in colour over a long period of time. This is a normal process. Fortunately Tasmanian oak hardwood is more colour fast than many other timbers.

It is recommended that items placed on the furniture (which prevents light from affecting the timber colour) be moved from time to time to prevent varied colour patches developing on the timber surface.

Cleaning

It is recommended to regularly clean the catalysed lacquer surface. When dust particles build up, anything that is dragged across the surface, will cause very fine surface scratching as a result. In such circumstances dust acts as a very efficient abrasive.

Remove all objects from the surface, and use a damp soft cloth to remove all dust and dirt. A cloth with micro fibres is recommended. Remove all excess moisture with a clean dry cloth.

It is recommended that twice a year, furniture oil be applied with a soft dry cloth. Rub in the direction of the grain, then use a soft dry cloth to wipe off all excess oil and to buff the surface. This will restore the sheen of the timber and improve its' longevity.

Warning

Do not use abrasive products, acetone, alcohol or other toxic chemicals to clean your wood's catalyzed lacquer finish. These chemicals can remove the finish and damage the wood's surface.