



Wood Worktops Aftercare Instructions

Introduction

Wood is a natural product that can be affected by heat and humidity. It is a hygroscopic product, meaning that it can gain and lose moisture in sympathy with its environment before, during, and after installation. For example, wood expands when the humidity level is high and contracts when the humidity level drops or if it is in close proximity to excessive heat. When this occurs, it is possible for it to cause bowing or warping.

This information sheet is designed to give you information that you require to care for your solid timber worktop in order for you to keep it in perfect condition. We suggest you spend a short time to read through this sheet before you start, as some recommendations will need to be applied throughout installation.

Storage

All worktops need to be stored flat immediately after delivery and on top of battens or supports and not directly on the floor surface. Each worktop should be separated by similarly spaced (inline) battens during storage. The storage area needs to be indoors, with a stable humidity, and somewhere that the worktops will not be subject to extreme temperatures.

We recommend that you do not unpackage worktops unless:

- The room humidity is stable – no more than 45% (cheap humidity meters are readily available from garden centres or similar shops).
- All building dust and debris has been cleaned and cleared.
- All wet trades are finished, and a sufficient period of time has been allowed for natural drying.
- Fresh plasterwork has been allowed to dry for a minimum of six weeks, or until the plaster is dry throughout.

Preparation

We recommend using Osmo Top Oil, which comes in a matt or satin finish. The worktops must be coated on all faces, edges, and ends to effectively seal the worktop from variations in humidity. More details on Osmo Top Oil can be found on our website - <https://www.timbersource.co.uk/osmo-range>.