Care and maintenance for solid wood surfaces

Congratulations on your new solid wood table!

You have chosen a high quality piece of furniture that will bring you joy for many years. Solid wood is a natural product that, thanks to its unique structure and character, always brings a piece of nature into your home. To help you get the best use and enjoyment from your table, here are some useful guidelines.

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1. Natural properties of solid wood

Solid wood is a living material that reacts to its environment in various ways. Every solid wood table is unique, as wood can show natural differences in colour and surface texture depending on species, origin and processing. These variations are not defects; they add to the charm and individuality of the piece.

Because wood is a natural material, it can change over time. It is normal for the shade to change due to UV light or everyday use. The table may darken or gain depth in colour. Cracks, known as "shrinkage cracks", may also appear. They are caused by changes in humidity and temperature and are generally harmless.

Another typical characteristic of solid wood is bowing or warping of the tabletop. This happens when the wood absorbs or releases moisture unevenly. This is also a natural reaction of the material and is not grounds for complaint. Such changes generally do not affect the stability of the table.

2. Caring for your solid wood table

To keep your table beautiful and functional for a long time, it needs regular care. Please keep the following in mind:

- **Dusting:** Dust is best removed with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use rough or abrasive materials, as they could scratch the wood.
- **Moisture:** Never use overly wet cloths or cleaning agents that could soak the table. Moisture can penetrate the wood and cause long term damage. A slightly damp cloth is enough. Make sure no standing water remains on the surface and avoid contact with water or other liquids where possible. Watch out for condensation (e.g. bread baskets with hot rolls, cooking pots, cold drink bottles) and always use coasters.
- **Protection against scratches:** Always use coasters and trivets. Hot pots or sharp objects in particular can leave permanent marks.
- **Furniture care products:** To refresh and protect the surface, you can occasionally use special furniture oils. They nourish the natural surface without affecting the breathability of the wood. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and test the product first in an inconspicuous spot.
- **Rubio Monocoat® Oil Plus 2C Pure** creates a durable, water and heat resistant, easy care surface. Thanks to Rubio Monocoat's special technology, the oil bonds with the uppermost cellulose fibres of the wood, creating an even, wear resistant colour without overlaps. A second coat is not necessary. Rubio Color Oil is 100% free of VOC and solvents, protecting the environment as well as your health.

3. Avoiding extreme conditions

Solid wood is sensitive to extreme climatic conditions. Very high humidity or extreme dryness can lead to warping or cracking. To prevent this, please note:

- **Room climate:** Ideal is a constant room temperature of about 18-22 °C (64-72 °F) and a relative humidity of 45-60%. In very dry rooms the wood can become brittle, while too much humidity can make it swell. A humidifier or dehumidifier helps keep the climate stable.
- **Avoid direct sunlight:** Direct sunlight can dry out the wood and cause uneven colour changes. Do not place the table directly in window areas with constant sun. If it stands near a window, rotate it occasionally for an even patina.
- **Avoid temperature fluctuations:** Do not place the table right next to radiators, fireplaces or stoves. Extreme temperature changes can lead to cracking and warping.

4. Cracks and warping

Because wood is a natural product, cracks and minor warping may occur over time. These are not defects but the natural reaction of the material to changing conditions. As the wood absorbs and releases moisture, it expands or contracts, which can occasionally cause small cracks.

If your table warps or cracks appear, this is not grounds for complaint. It shows that the wood is "working" naturally. Make sure no moisture collects in the cracks, as this could lead to discolouration and mould.

5. Repairs and refinishing

Minor scratches or damage can often be fixed by sanding and refinishing the surface. Refinishing helps stabilise the wood and preserve its original beauty.

Conclusion

Solid wood is a durable, easy care material that keeps its beauty and function for many years with the right care. By following the guidelines above and protecting your table from extreme conditions, you will enjoy your unique piece for a long time.

Please remember: As this is a natural product, colour and surface texture can vary and change over time. Cracks, later warping or bowing of the tops and discolouration from different UV exposure are not grounds for complaint or claims, but an expression of the natural properties of wood.

We wish you many years of joy with your solid wood table!

Questions about care? Just email info@kolt.studio or call +49 155 60642845.