# How to Clean and Care for Wood Furniture?

#### **General Care**

- Use a lint-free cloth to polish wood furniture on a weekly basis.
- Keep furniture away from heating and air conditioning sources to prevent loss of moisture.
- Keep furniture out of direct sunlight to prevent fading or darkening of wood furniture.
- Use felt backing on lamps and other accessories to prevent scratches and gouges, and rotate accessories so they do not remain in the same spot all of the time.
- Use placemats under plates and hot pads under serving dishes.
- Use coasters under all beverages.
- Do not place newspapers or magazines on woods surfaces. The ink from these items may bleed into the finish and could damage the wood.
- Do not use abrasives or harsh chemicals on wood furniture.

### **Spot Cleaning Wood**

- To remove food stains, wipe up the spill immediately. Polish with a soft, clean cloth.
- To remove cloudiness, rub surface with cloth dipped in solution of one tablespoon of vinegar mixed with one quart of water. Rub in the same direction as the grain until surface is completely dry. Follow with an application of furniture oil or polish.
- To remove water rings, rub with a mixture of equal parts white vinegar and cooking oil in the same direction of the grain.
- To remove candle wax or chewing gum, hold an ice cube over the wax or gum for a few seconds so that it will chill and harden. Be sure to wipe up water as the ice melts to prevent water spots. Remove as much of the wax or gum as possible with your fingers and then scrape away the remainder gently using the dull edge of a table knife. Rub the spot briskly with a cloth saturated in cream wax. Repeat if needed.

### How to Clean and Care for Painted Furniture?

### General Care

• Dust or wipe clean with a cloth dampened with water once a week. Be sure not to leave water spots on the surface. These water spots will dry and could possibly leave permanent marks.

### **Spot Cleaning Painted Furniture**

- Clean stains/spots using the following steps:
- o Dampen a soft cloth with a mixture of hot water and liquid dishwashing detergent.
- Wring the cloth as much as possible to remove excess liquid.
- o Rub the surface lightly in a circular motion.
- o Dry the surface immediately with a clean, soft towel.

## How to Clean and Care for Marble Furniture?

### **General Care**

- Use coasters under glasses, especially if they contain alcohol or citrus juices.
- Use trivets or mats under hot dishes or cookware.
- Use placemats under china, ceramics, silver or other objects that may scratch the stone surface.
- Clean with warm water.
- Dip sponge or clean cloth into water.
- Wring out excess liquid as much as possible.
- Wipe surface.
- Dry surface immediately after cleaning.
- Do not use vinegar, bleach, ammonia or other general-purpose cleaners.
- Do not use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners, or tub and tile cleaners.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners in either dry or liquid forms.
- Do not use alkaline cleaners not specifically formulated for natural stone.
- Professional refinishing is recommended to remove etch marks and restore the stone's natural finish.
- If you choose to seal your marble, use a quality product and follow the manufacturer's directions for use.
- o Stone sealants can be purchased at almost any home improvement center.

### **Spot Cleaning Marble**

### • Liquid Spills:

Blot away the excess liquid with a clean, dry, white cloth; turning the cloth frequently. Spray the area with a marble cleaner or warm water and wipe.

### Food Spills:

o Remove food with a non-abrasive item such as a plastic spoon. Blot with dry, white cloth. Spray the area with a marble cleaner and wipe.