

CARVING CARE

Carvings are finished with a protective coating.

Here are some simple guidelines to follow once you get your carving home.

OUTDOOR CARVINGS

1. Keep your carving's base dry: Your carving should not come in direct contact with the ground. Use bricks, pavers, stones, gravel, pressure treated blocks, etc. under the carving to allow for airflow and drainage. *
2. The sun dries out carvings and can lead to excess drying and cracking. If possible, keep your carving under some type of shade; covered porches are ideal for outside display. If your carving sees frequent sun, extra recoating will be necessary.
3. You will be the best judge to determine when to recoat the carving, signs are when the carving no longer repels water, looks dry, or starts to discolor, etc. In general, we recommend recoating once a year.

MAINTENANCE COATING

The best time for recoating is during a forecast of 2-3 dry days. Prepare by cleaning dirt and debris off your carving with a scrub brush, apply a recommended (or similar) product and let dry between coats.

RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

Recoat your carving with a high-quality exterior deck finish like:

Man O' War Marine Spar Varish – **Oil Based** (Amazon, Benjamin Moore)

Varathane Ultimate Spar Urethane - **Oil Based**, Satin (Home Depot, Amazon)

Varathane Ultimate Spar Urethane - **Water Based**, Crystal Clear Satin (Home Depot, Amazon)

Sikkens Cetol Log & Siding - **Oil Based**, Natural (Benjamin Moore Paints)

Cabot's Australian Timber - **Oil Based**, Natural (Lowe's, Ace Hardware)

Regular maintenance, a minimum of once or twice a year, will help keep your carving looking great. Use the same base with every recoat (i.e.: Oil or Water).

INDOOR CARVINGS

1. Keep the carving away from a heat source: such as heat registers, fireplaces, etc.
2. Keep the carving elevated slightly with wood strips or blocks. Carvings contain moisture, so they need to have airflow under them. When first bringing your carving home you may want to transition it to the indoors slowly. Allowing it to stay in the garage for a time to get used to the moisture changes in the air may be beneficial for some sculptures before bringing them into the drier conditions of the home. Feel free to ask the carver about whether they feel this is a necessary step for your specific sculpture.
3. You may never have to recoat this carving since it is indoors: but if it starts to discolor or look dull, then feel free to recoat with recommended products.

REMEMBER

Similar to a log home, your carving will dry over time and may develop drying checks or cracks. This is normal and can add character to your carving. If the cracks are large and located in a critical spot, repairs may be possible.

THANK YOU & ENJOY YOUR WOOD SCULPTURE!



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