

Quick Wood Furniture Fixes

Hardwood furniture looks classy and elegant when maintained at top condition. However, stains and damages to your furniture are unavoidable. With the right materials on hand plus a little patience and attention to detail, you can quickly repair minor damages in order to restore your wood furniture to its former glory.

When dealing with scratches, always test your solution at an out-of-sight area in order to make sure it would not damage the wood finish. For a dark wood stain, use a shoe polish with a shade similar to the lightest of the finish to fill scratches. You can also rub a walnut in the direction of the scratch. For a cherry finish, rub some iodine on the scratch using a cotton swab or a small brush. A shoe polish with a reddish shade may also be used. For a light wood stain, rub a mixture of equal parts of denatured alcohol and iodine on the scratched area. You can also use a natural shoe polish.

Common stains can be dealt with using household items. Water marks can be removed by rubbing the area with mayonnaise, vegetable oil, or white toothpaste. Wipe the area dry then wax it. If the water mark is not in the wood and is in the finish instead, cover it with a clean cloth and iron over it until the mark disappears. White stains can be eliminated by rubbing them with a cloth moistened with a combination of cigarette ashes and salad oil or lemon extract. An alternative mixture is that made of lighter fluid, salad oil, and rottenstone. Milk or alcohol stains can be removed by using diluted ammonia and a moistened cloth. Just rub slightly in the area.

Other common problems can also be treated using home remedies. Hardened gum can be removed from the surface of your furniture by cooling it using an ice cube wrapped in cloth and using a plastic credit card or your nail to remove it. Then, polish it with extra-fine steel wool dampened with mineral spirits before wiping it dry. For light cigarette burns, use a mixture of fine pumice powder and linseed oil. Using a soft cloth, gently wipe the area with the paste in the direction of the wood grain. For heat marks, dampen a cloth with camphor oil and rub along the grain of the wood until the marks disappear. For nail polish spills, dip a fine steel wool into wax and rub the spilled area with it. Wipe it dry before polishing it.

About the Author

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