

Your wood surfaces may go through a lot of wear and tear. Wood can show the effects of this with daily use even when constructed of a durable material.

Dust, household dirt, grimy fingerprints and handprints, stains from foods, stains from beverages, cup rings, scratches; the list just goes on and on. Just how does one keep the beauty of wood shining on?

The first thing to understand when considering cleaning wood surfaces is the type of wood with which you are dealing. The next obstacle is to consider the reason for the cleaning: is it normal maintenance, or has something happened to the wood that you are attempting to repair?

### **Regular Cleaning:**

Most counter types, including metal, plastic laminate, painted wood, and vinyl cabinets, can be cleaned with a solution of dish soap liquid and warm water. This simple and mild solution is enough to get food smudges, dust, and mild grease build-up off of your wood products. Rinse thoroughly with another clean cloth, before drying with a final cloth.

### **Heavy Duty Cleaning:**

For heavy build-ups of grease and dust, your best bet is a commercial cleaner designed to be used on wood kitchen cabinets (Cabinet Magic). Be sure to read the instructions before using, and test first in a hidden spot.

### **Interior Cleaning:**

Empty each cabinet/shelf. Remove any plates or decorations if necessary. Wash the interior of the counters with warm water and a mild detergent. If the interior counters have a lot of crumbs and residue, it may be a good idea to vacuum the counters out after they've been emptied, before wiping them down. Rinse with another clean damp cloth. Wipe dry with an additional cloth.

### **Tips:**

An all-purpose cleaner can be used to clean wood surfaces too, but it's important to test cleaners in a hidden spot to make sure that they won't damage your counter's finish.

### **What You Need:**

- Cleaning cloths
- Dish soap
- Commercial wood counter/cabinet cleaner (Cabinet Magic)
- All-purpose cleaner (optional)
- Vacuum cleaner (optional)