



After Care Instructions for Your Custom Cabinetry

Crafted with care. Maintained with love.

Your custom cabinetry was designed and built to last — but like anything in your home, it benefits from a little ongoing care. These simple maintenance tips will help preserve the beauty, performance, and longevity of your investment for years to come.

1. Seasonal Caulking & Movement

Wood is a natural material and responds to changes in temperature and humidity.

- Slight caulk separation or small hairline cracks at joints can appear seasonally.
 - This is **normal** and not a sign of poor craftsmanship.
 - If gaps appear, simply apply a thin bead of **paintable caulk** and smooth it with a damp finger or cloth for a fresh, clean finish.
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2. Touch-Up Paint & Finish Care

Daily use can lead to small dings or scuffs — totally normal.

- Keep a small container of your original paint or lacquer on hand for touch-ups.
- For painted surfaces, **dab or blot** instead of aggressively scrubbing.
- Avoid Magic Erasers, scouring pads, or abrasive cleaners — these can dull or remove the finish.

Tip: If you're unsure about your paint color, reach out — we keep project records.

3. Hardware Adjustments (Hinges & Drawer Slides)

Normal use can cause minor shifts in hardware over time.

- Tighten loose screws on hinges or drawer slides with a screwdriver.
- Soft-close mechanisms can be adjusted using the small tension switch on the hardware.



- If your drawers have **two handles**, **always** pull from **both** to avoid racking and keeping the drawer gliding smoothly.

Note: Drawer slide realignment due to uneven pulling or heavy loads is considered routine maintenance and is not covered under warranty.

4. Cleaning & Care for Surfaces

To keep your cabinetry looking its best:

- Use a soft microfiber cloth with mild soap and warm water.
 - Wipe spills immediately — prolonged moisture can damage any wood product.
 - Avoid:
 - Bleach or harsh chemicals
 - Vinegar or acidic cleaners
 - Oil soaps
 - Steam mops near base cabinets
 - Abrasive pads or scrubbers
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5. Preventing Shelf Sagging

Shelf sagging happens over time due to weight, span length, and humidity. This is considered normal wear, not a defect.

To extend the life of your shelves:

- Spread weight evenly across the shelf.
 - Avoid placing heavy items (books, appliances, stacks of dishes) in the middle.
 - As a general guideline:
 - **3/4" shelves:** 10–20 lbs per linear foot
 - **1" shelves:** Up to 25 lbs per linear foot
 - Shelves longer than **32"** without a center support are naturally more prone to bowing.
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6. Moisture & Temperature Protection

Wood cabinetry performs best in stable indoor conditions.

- Ideal indoor humidity range: **30–50%**



- Avoid excessive moisture from kettles, dishwashers, diffusers, showers, or sinks without proper ventilation.
- Never allow standing water or damp items (wet towels, wet dishcloths) to sit on or inside cabinets.
- Use exhaust fans when cooking or showering to reduce long-term humidity exposure.

Prolonged excessive humidity, dryness, or heat exposure can cause doors to warp or finishes to shift.

7. Countertop & Appliance Heat Awareness

Heat can damage both wood and finishes.

- Do not place hot pots, pans, or countertop appliances directly under upper cabinets while venting steam.
 - Use heat shields or pull appliances forward when in use.
 - Prolonged steam exposure (from coffee makers, air fryers, Instant Pots, etc.) can cause finish wear.
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8. Protecting Painted Cabinetry

Painted cabinetry is durable — but not bulletproof.

- Avoid jewelry, belt buckles, and metal buttons rubbing against edges.
 - Avoid slamming doors and drawers.
 - Use child and pet latches as needed to prevent claw or bite marks.
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9. Soft-Close Hardware Notes

Your cabinets and drawers may feature soft-close mechanisms.

- If soft-close feels too slow or too fast, adjust using the small switch on the hinge or slide.
 - Soft-close prevents slamming — but isn't designed for forced impact.
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10. Long-Term Wear to Expect

Normal signs of use may include:

- Minor surface dents
- Hairline cracks at joints



- Light shelf sag over several years
- Slight sheen changes on high-touch areas
- Occasional hardware tightening

These are considered part of the natural aging process of wood furniture and cabinetry.

11. What to Avoid

To protect your investment:

- Do NOT use wax-based furniture sprays.
 - Do NOT hang from cabinet doors or pull-outs.
 - Do NOT overload pull-out shelves or drawers beyond manufacturer weight ratings.
 - Do NOT use tape (painter's tape, packing tape) on finished surfaces — it can pull the finish.
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12. Your Warranty

Your cabinetry includes a warranty covering craftsmanship and installation concerns.

Wear-and-tear items such as caulk separation, paint touch-ups, hardware realignment, or shelf sagging are considered homeowner maintenance.

If you ever have a concern and aren't sure which category it falls into — reach out! We're always happy to help.

13. Need Assistance? We're Here for You.

If you ever need:

- additional shelves
- upgraded hardware
- touch-up paint
- adjustments outside of warranty
- a refresh or new customization

...we offer service visits and upgrades as your home evolves.