

FRENCH CONNECTION

HOME

MATERIAL GUIDE

Caring for your products

WOOD

Solid wood will move, expand and shrink with differences in temperature and humidity. Take care not to place your furniture next to radiators, on floors with under floor heating or anywhere that is subject to excessive changes in temperature or moisture content.

Although every effort is made to achieve uniformity, no two pieces of timber will be the same, and you may see variations in the grain, the texture and the shade between products; these are considered as an integral part of the product and are not viewed as faults. Almost every single timber product we sell is finished by hand which means no two pieces will ever be the same; for this reason, images from our website may differ to the actual product. As the wood naturally ages over time the colour and hue will change.

General Care

Avoid direct contact with hot objects by using placemats. Use coasters under all glasses. Try to avoid spillages and do not use any corrosive cleaning products such as bleach anywhere near the product. Spillages should be wiped clean immediately. Once the immediate spillage is cleared, ensure that the whole surface is wiped clean.

Cleaning

To clean on a daily basis simply wipe the surface with a damp cloth and then remove any moisture with a dry cloth. Do not use any wax or silicone spray polishes. In the case of stubborn marks, a solution of mild detergent such as washing up liquid should be used on a cloth. Avoid the use of scourers or steel wool.

STONE

Natural stone has been formed over millions of years but improper care can ruin nature's beauty. Although we usually think of stone as "hard", it is a porous material that can absorb spills and stains if left untreated. Every piece of natural stone is unique, and as such, the colour, texture and pattern will differ from piece to piece, as well as any imagery shown on our website. These differences are what makes natural stone so beautiful, and are not viewed as faults.

General Care

Use coasters under all glasses, particularly those containing alcohol or citrus juices. Substances that are highly acidic, such as orange juice, coffee, vinegar, wine, tomato products, mustard and many soft drinks, will "etch" most types of stone. Do not place hot items right off a stove or out of an oven directly on the stone surface. Use trivets or mats under hot dishes and placemats under china, ceramics, silver, or other objects that can scratch the surface.

Cleaning

To clean on a daily basis simply wipe the surface with a damp cloth and then remove any moisture with a dry cloth. Thoroughly rinse and dry the surface with clean, clear water after washing. Do not use vinegar, lemon juice, or other cleaners containing acids on any of our stone products. In the case of stubborn marks, a solution of mild detergent such as washing up liquid should be used on a cloth. Avoid the use of scourers or steel wool. Don't use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners, or tub & tile cleaners.

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GLASS & MIRROR

Glass is a hard material that can sand that is heated until it is liquid. When it is liquid, it is shaped and left to cool.

General Care

To avoid shattering, don't submit glass to drastic changes in temperature. Store glass after it is cool and completely dry. When glass is damp or warm, moisture collects on the surface and a film forms that is impossible to remove.

Glass lamps & candles should be placed on a solid surface away from draughts and combustible materials. Candles should not be allowed to burn to the level of the glass as this may cause the glass to crack. Do not carry lit lamps or candles. Never leave lit lamps or candles unattended. Keep away from children and pets.

Cleaning

Do not place glassware in the dishwasher unless it specifically states it is dishwasher safe. This sort of glassware is made from a stronger type of glass that is resistant to abrasive powders and high temperatures. Other types of glass, in particular cut lead crystal and hand painted glasses, are softer and are likely to become cloudy over a period of time.

LEATHER

The leather used in our products is a totally natural material. With the right care, your new leather upholstery will retain its natural beauty for many years to come.

All products made from natural leather will age with time. Although every effort is made to achieve uniformity, no two hides are the same, and you may see variations in shade and texture of the grain between products. Natural markings such as scars, wrinkling, stretch marks and veining may also be visible; these are considered an integral part of the leather and are not viewed as faults.

General Care

Protect your leather furniture from strong sunlight and excessive heat such as radiators. All leather loses moisture and oils over time and with handling. As a hide dries out it's more likely that the fibres that make up the surface of the skin will break rather than stretch. To ensure the leather fibres stay supple the surface will require natural oils or regular moisturising. We recommend you treat your leather immediately on delivery, prior to use, and periodically thereafter.

Cleaning

Use warm water and a soft bristle brush to remove stuck-on dirt. Then use a clean, dry cloth to wipe away any remaining excess dirt. Do not use household cleaning products, solvents or cleaners intended for materials other than leather as they are liable to spoil the finish.

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ZINC

Several of our products utilise Zinc as a table top. Imperfections, including slight scratches, pinholes, and soldering marks can be expected on your zinc products. They help create the country charm of this rustic metal; these are considered as an integral part of the product and are not viewed as faults. Some of our zinc products will have a undulated, wavy surface and will not be machine flat. Zinc is a reactive metal that begins with a distinctive blue-grey hue and will develop a hazy-grey patina over time. This patina will continue to evolve throughout the lifetime of the product.

General Care

Avoid direct contact with hot objects by using placemats. Use coasters under all glasses. Try to avoid spillages and do not use any corrosive cleaning products such as bleach anywhere near the product. Spillages should be wiped clean immediately. Once the immediate spillage is cleared, ensure that the whole surface is wiped clean. Do not leave metal products outside unless explicitly described as an outdoor product.

Cleaning

The zinc top requires special care. There is a patina finish applied to the zinc which is a very thin coating and can be easily removed. To clean on a daily basis simply wipe the surface with a damp cloth and then remove any moisture with a dry cloth. Wipe up all liquids with paper towels immediately. Do not use any wax or silicone spray polishes. Avoid the use of scourers or steel wool.

METAL

Several of our products are made using various different metals, such as stainless steel, aluminium and iron. Each metal is different but there are some general rules that apply to all.

General Care

Avoid direct contact with hot objects by using placemats. Use coasters under all glasses. Try to avoid spillages and do not use any corrosive cleaning products such as bleach anywhere near the product. Spillages should be wiped clean immediately. Once the immediate spillage is cleared, ensure that the whole surface is wiped clean. The majority of our metal products will be finished with a protective layer. Any scratches or damages to the surface of the product will cause the protective layer to fail, resulting in corrosion or rust.

Cleaning

Do not use abrasive cleaners such as scouring powders, steel wool or abrasive polishes, as these could permanently damage the product. To clean on a daily basis simply wipe the surface with a damp cloth and then remove any moisture with a dry cloth. Wipe up all liquids with paper towels immediately.