

# HOW TO CLEAN CABINETS

## KEEP YOUR CABINETS LOOKING BEAUTIFUL

From regular dusting to cleaning splatters and spills, you can help maintain the beauty of your cabinets by following these recommendations.

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### CLEANING GUIDELINES FOR CABINETS

A soft cotton cloth dampened with warm water is usually sufficient to clean your cabinets. If more thorough cleaning is required, please use a fresh solution of mild hand dishwashing liquid mixed with warm water.

After cleaning, wipe all surfaces with a clean, damp cloth. Dry immediately using another soft, clean cloth.

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### CLEANING PRODUCTS TO AVOID

The following cleaning products are to be avoided as damage may occur:

- Harsh detergents, strong soaps, abrasive cleaning products such as tub and sink cleansers, scouring powder, scouring pads, steel wool or polishing waxes.
  - Sponges or dish cloths. They may contain particles that could scratch your cabinets, or they may contain food and oil residue or remnant harsh cleaning solutions.
  - Solvent-based or petroleum-based products such as mineral spirits, nail-polish removers or paint thinners.
  - Ammonia or cleaning products that include ammonia.
  - Bleach or cleaning products that include bleach.
  - Silicone-based cleaning, waxing, or polishing products.
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### SPLATTERS AND SPILLS

Clean spills and splatters immediately. Prolonged exposure to spills, including food, water or other liquids, or to oil and grease splatters, can cause permanent discoloration or damage to your cabinet's finish. Remember to dry cabinet surfaces immediately after cleaning using a soft, clean cloth.

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### REGULAR DUSTING

Use a clean, soft lint-free cotton cloth for regular dusting.

Packaged dusting sheets are not required or recommended. Do not use pre-moistened dusting sheets, and do not use aerosol products made for dusting.

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### WAXING AND POLISHING

Waxing is not required or recommended. Over time, waxing and polishing compounds may build up on the surface of your cabinets and cause a hazy, streaky or yellowed appearance. This wax build-up is very difficult to remove.

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Extra care is required when cleaning glass doors. Spray an ammonia-free glass cleaner on a clean, soft, lint-free cloth or paper towel. Do not cleaner directly on the glass. It could seep behind the window dividers and cause damage.

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## **SCRATCHES, GOUGES AND NICKS**

A Touch-Up Kit is available to hide surface damage. Contact the place of business where you purchased your cabinetry to purchase the color matched touch-up kit for your specific cabinets.

Use the kit's touch-up pen to hide minor blemishes. Use the kit's tinted putty stick to fill deeper scratches, gouges or nicks. Detailed instructions are provided in each kit.

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## **AVOID MOISTURE DAMAGE**

Avoid draping damp clothes or dishtowels over cabinet doors. This moisture can cause permanent damage — such as peeling and discoloration to the cabinet's finish. If cabinet surfaces get wet, dry them immediately using a soft, clean cloth.

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## **AVOID HEAT DAMAGE**

The heat generated when using an oven's self-cleaning feature is much greater than during normal cooking. If this heat escapes from the oven can damage your cabinets. While this is a rare circumstance, you can minimize the risk of cabinet damage by removing cabinet doors and drawers nearest the oven before using its self-cleaning feature.

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## **AVOID LIGHT DAMAGE**

Exposure to direct sunlight tends to darken the color of natural wood products. Sunlight can also fade painted wood surfaces, laminated surfaces and thermofoil surfaces. You should consider draperies or blinds to shield your cabinets from direct sunlight.