



CABINETS ■ MILLWORK

## CABINETS CARE AND MAINTENANCE

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**Project:**

**Project Address:**

**Contractor:**

We completely stand behind our products, but like all fine things, they need care and attention to attain maximum lifetime use. With proper care and maintenance, our products keep will their luster for many years to come.

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General tips to keep your cabinets looking and functioning as-new;

- Clean splatters, water and food spills as they occur
- Keeping surfaces dry will elongate the life of the finish
- Avoid scouring pads, powdered cleaners and abrasive products on your cabinets
- Avoid hanging wet cloths and or towels on your cabinet doors or drawers
- Hinges are specifically engineered to hold the weight of the door. Any downward force on the door will bend or damage the hinge (this will not be covered under manufacturer's warranty)
- Drawers have limited weight rated capacity (see below for recommendations). Excessively loaded drawers will damage the hardware (this will not be covered under manufacturer's warranty)
- Keep any heat or moisture generating appliances (kettles, toasters, crock pots) pulled out from under your upper cabinets. Heat and moisture will damage the cabinets over time
- If you are putting your oven on self-clean, open the cabinet doors. It is common for the material above ovens to melt due to excessive heat from the self-cleaning function
- Two panel doors are more fragile (corner cabinets). Open and close with care

Common damages we see are caused by excessive pressure on drawers (when overly loaded or used as steps), displaced hinges on corner cabinets (swinging from, leaning on) and water/heat damage. Avoiding pressure on doors and hinges will undoubtedly increase the product lifespan.

### **Wood and Premium Veneer Doors (Doors)**

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Wiping with a damp cloth and then drying constitutes enough cleaning for veneer doors. Remove oil, grease or general soil using a clean, moist cloth or sponge with lukewarm water and a neutral detergent (detergent optional). Rinse with a clean, damp cloth or sponge, and then dry thoroughly. Avoid using your dishcloth to clean or dry cabinet exteriors. It may contain remnants of detergents and grease.

It is important to wipe spills immediately. Prolonged exposure to spills, including food, water or other liquids can cause permanent discoloration or damage your cabinet's finish. Immediately dry surfaces where water may have spilled using a clean cloth. Never hang damp towels over cabinetry to dry. Excessive moisture will cause wood to expand and damage the finish. When cleaning drawers, try to remember to wipe the top and inside of the drawer as well as the face.

Avoid using any kind of solvent or alcohol, harsh detergent, strong soap, abrasive cleaners or self-polishing waxes. All these items will damage the finish.

### **Cabinet Interiors**

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Cabinet interiors are melamine and may be cleaned with a damp cloth or spray cleaner. Be certain not to let moisture collect in the cabinet corners or where shelves join sides. Always wipe dry after cleaning.

### **Decorative Hardware**

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Periodically use mild soap and warm water to clean door and drawer hardware. After cleaning, dry and buff hardware with a clean, soft cloth. Do not use brass and silver polishes. These polishes contain harsh chemicals that can damage the hardware's surface.

### **Glass Inserts – If Applicable**

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If your kitchen cabinetry includes doors with glass inserts, spray an ammonia-free glass cleaner on a clean, soft lint-free cloth. Avoid spraying cleaner directly on the glass as overspray may cause damage to the finish.

### **Notes**

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Excessive exposure to moisture or heat or abuse will invalidate the Benson warranty.

Weight rating for cabinetry shelves depends on shelf thickness, material, length, and weight distribution. In general, we recommend an outside limit of 30lbs/sqft.

Overloading of shelves will cause defects and bending. If shelves are overloaded or unevenly loaded with excessive weight, we are unable to repair under warranty. Bowed shelves will need to be replaced for them to retain the original load rating.

The typical manufacturer's guideline for drawer slides stipulate that the drawer system should never bear a load of more than 30lbs per square foot.