

puretree
worktops



SOLID WOODEN WORKTOP MAINTENANCE GUIDE

August 2021

puretreeworktops.com

Introduction & Guarantee

Thank you for purchasing a Puretree worktop, a unique natural product which has been manufactured to order in our factory, in Devon.

Since wood is a natural living material which will adjust to its surroundings, we request that you carefully read and follow the instructions and guidelines provided in this booklet. These guidelines have been developed over many decades and following them will reward you with a trouble free worktop.

Guarantee

All worktops are provided with a 5 year guarantee, which covers any manufacturing defects. The guarantee is conditional upon the installation and maintenance instructions being followed and does not include any costs associated with removing and/or reinstalling the worktops after they have been fitted. Poor treatment, handling, lack of maintenance or incorrect storage and installation of the worktops will void the guarantee.

Preventing damage to your wooden worktop

Always mop up spills of water and other liquids straight away.

Do not allow liquids to stand on wooden surfaces for any period of time.

Always use pan stands and trivets to protect the worktop from hot pans.

Avoid placing cast iron pots and saucepans directly on the surface as this can stain the surface of the worktop.

Always use chopping boards to chop and slice food, never cut directly onto the worktop surface.

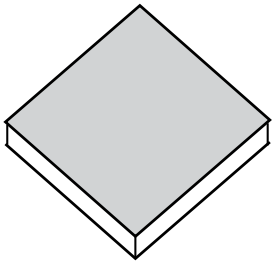
Be particularly careful with curry powders, such as turmeric which can stain the surface of the worktop.

Never use strong detergents, concentrated soaps, bleach or scouring powders to clean your worktop.

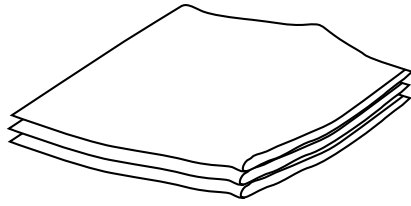
Avoid placing damp clothing or cloths directly on the surface as this can stain the surface and raise the grain of the worktop.

Follow the maintenance schedule from the day the worktops are installed.

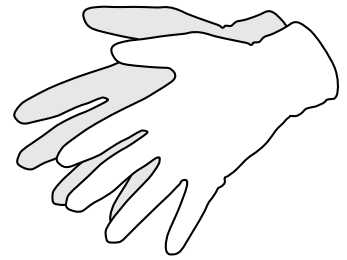
Maintenance Pack



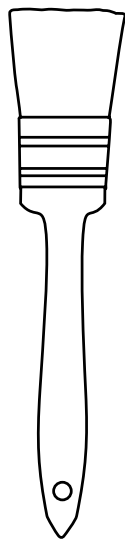
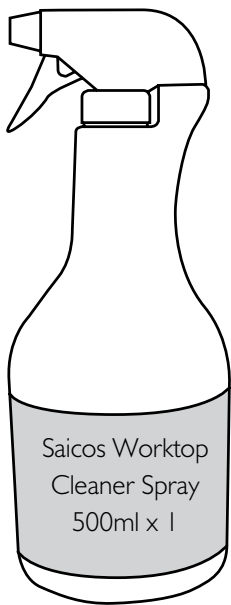
Rawhide Sanding Pad x 2



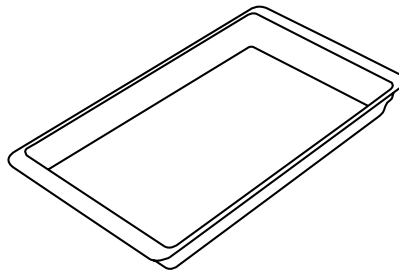
Oiling Cloths x 10



Nitrile Gloves x 10



Saicos Oil Brush
x1



Small Paint Tray
x 1



How to Reorder

All of our maintenance products and consumables are available from the Puretree Sales Office - **01392 849119**

Maintenance Schedule



ONCE A DAY

Clean with Saicos Worktop Cleaner



ONCE A YEAR

Re-oil with Saicos Worktop Oil

Daily Cleaning

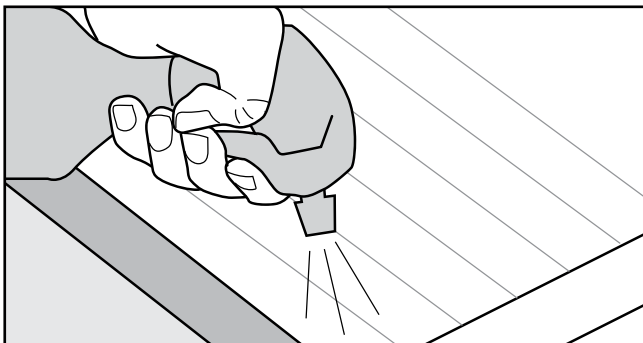
We recommend that your wooden worktops are cleaned on a daily basis with Saicos Worktop Cleaner Spray.

Saicos Worktop Cleaner Spray is a special pre-diluted detergent for the cleaning of oiled wooden worktop surfaces using a blend of plant soaps and natural care components. It gently cleans leaving a streak free, dirt repellent surface.

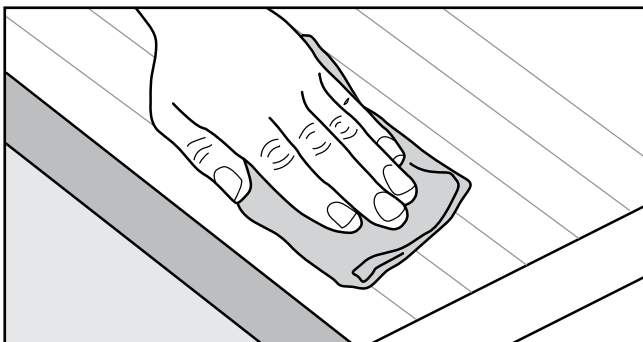
The use of other cleaning products such as washing up liquid or kitchen sprays, will damage the protective finish and may lead to worktop failure as well as the invalidation of your Puretree guarantee.

Worktop Cleaning Process

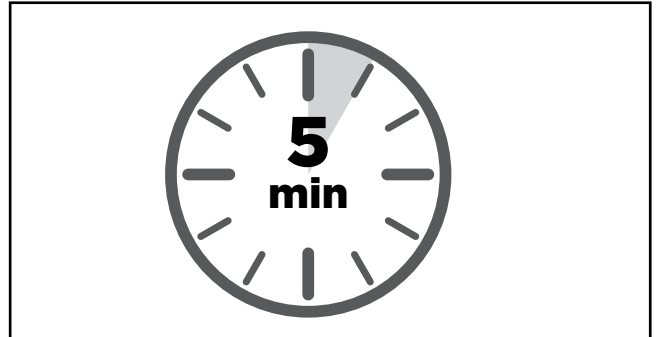
Step 1 – Lightly spray the worktop with Saicos Worktop Cleaner Spray.



Step 2 – Wipe the worktop with a clean cotton cloth or kitchen towel to remove the surplus cleaner and any loose dirt or dust.



Step 3 – Leave to dry for a minimum of 5 minutes before using the worktop.

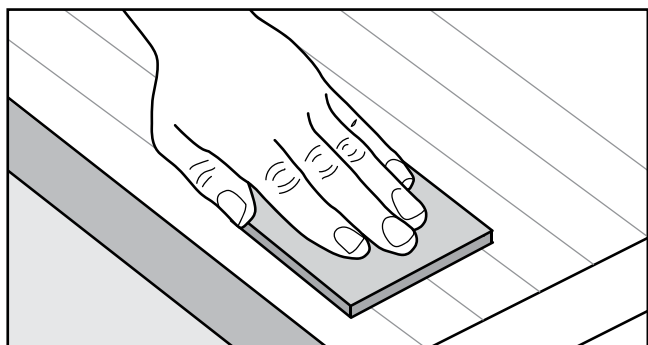


Important - When the Saicos Worktop Cleaner is sprayed onto the worktop, it should remain as droplets on the surface. If the cleaner is absorbed by the worktop or takes a prolonged period to dry, this indicates that the protective surface has been damaged and needs an additional coat of oil as per our annual maintenance instructions.

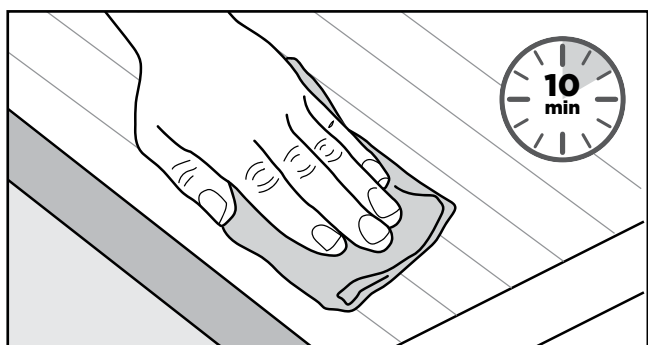
Annual Maintenance

We recommend that your wooden worktops are re-oiled annually with an application of Saicos Worktop Oil or Saicos Premium Hardwax Oil. The use of other oils may not provide sufficient protection and may lead to worktop failure and invalidation of your Puretree guarantee. Saicos Worktop Oil is a special type of oil developed to the latest research to provide a durable, hardwearing natural surface with a quick drying time – normally between 4-5 hours. Unlike other oils, Saicos Worktop Oil protects from the inside, retaining the woods elasticity, whilst natural waxes protect the surface and ensure high durability.

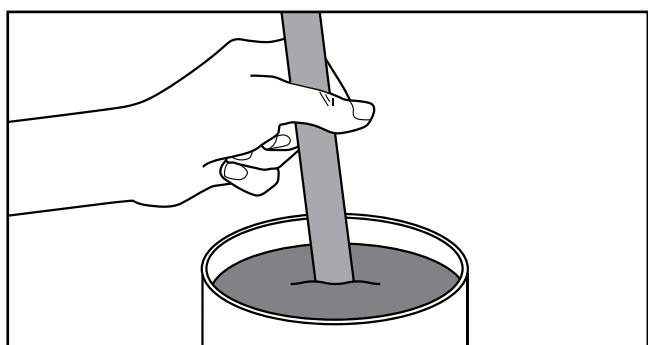
Step 1 – Lightly sand the surface using a rawhide pad to remove any rough patches and any marks. For extremely worn worktops or to remove deep scratches it may be necessary to use 120 grit sandpaper rather than a rawhide pad. If sandpaper is used, it is important that a minimum of 2 coats of oil are applied as per the following procedure to ensure sufficient protection.



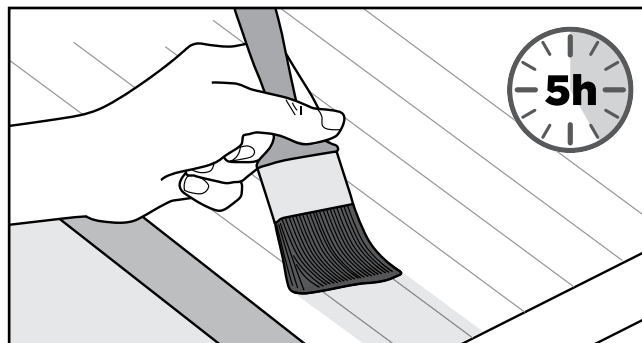
Step 2 – Wipe the worktop down with a well wrung out cloth to pick up any dust left from the rawhide pad and allow to completely dry, normally around 10 minutes.



Step 3 – Stir the oil thoroughly before pouring into a paint tray.



Step 4 – Apply a thin and even coat of oil using the Saicos oil brush in the direction of the grain, avoiding over application.



Step 5 – Leave to dry for a minimum of 5 hours or ideally overnight before using the worktop.

Important - If after the oil has dried the surface is slightly rough, the worktop can be lightly sanded with a rawhide pad and a further coat of oil can be applied with a brush. After 5 minutes, the worktop can then be dried with an oiling cloth, leaving the worktop almost completely dry. Once dry (minimum of 5 hours) the worktop will be very smooth.



Due to the risk of self-ignition it is important that sanding dust and oil wetted cloths are soaked in water and are disposed of in a tightly closed container after use.

White Oiled Worktops

Our white oiled worktops are pre-finished with Saicos Worktop Base – Extra White prior to leaving the factory. In cases where the worktops are sanded or re-machined on site, an additional coat of Saicos Worktop Base – Extra White must be applied prior to the application of Saicos Worktop Oil to retain the white finish.

Saicos Worktop Base requires a minimum of 8 hours drying prior to over coating with Worktop Oil.

Failure to follow these guidelines may lead to a patchy or uneven colour finish.

Repairing Shakes, Cracks and Surface Dents

Small cracks, also known as shakes, are a natural result of the varying temperature and humidity of the environment in which the worktops have been stored or installed.

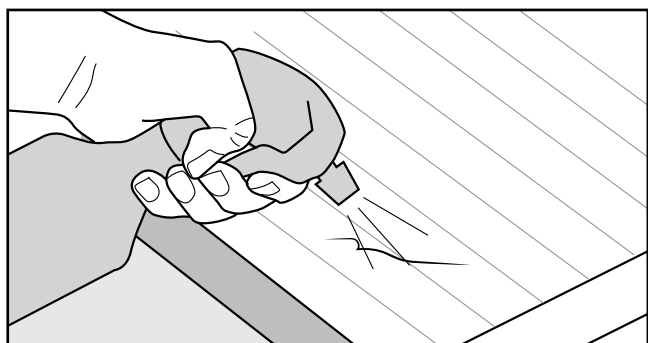
Shakes are a common occurrence after installation in open pored timber such as ash and oak.

Shakes can be easily repaired with Retouch Crayons which are included in the Worktop Maintenance Pack or can be purchased separately from the Puretree Sales Office.

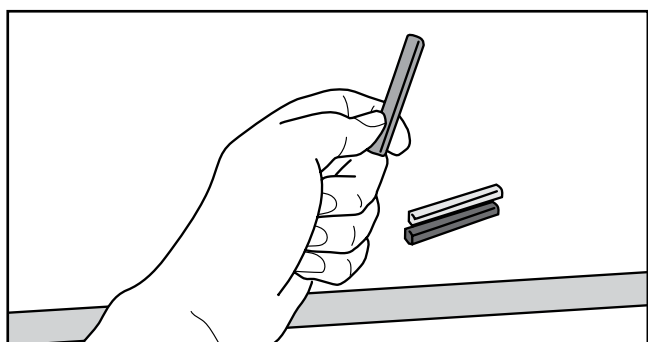
Retouch Crayons are available in a wide range of colours to suit all wood types. A basic set of Retouch Crayons are provided in the Maintenance Pack however, should you require any additional colours or Crayons please contact the Puretree Sales Office.

Worktop Repair Process

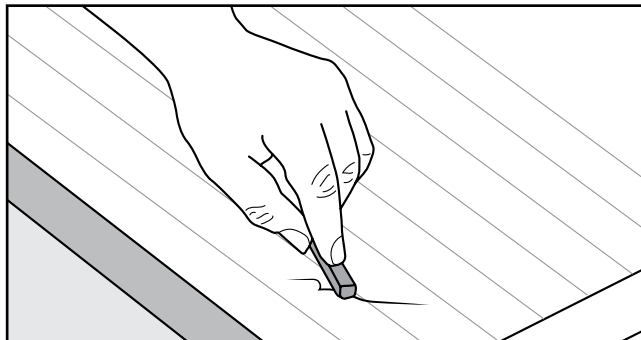
Step 1 – Clean the worktops as per the Daily Cleaning Section



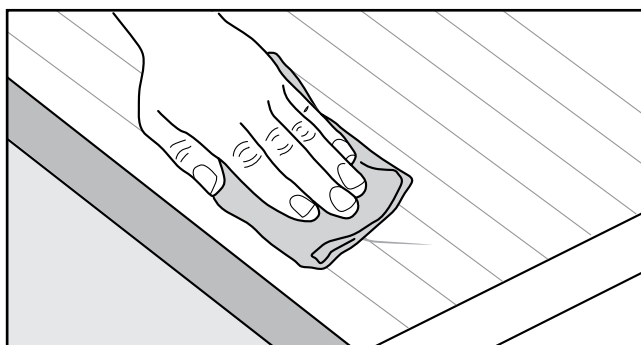
Step 2 – When the worktop is completely dry, select the most appropriate Retouch Crayon from the Maintenance Pack.



Step 3 – Rub the Retouch Crayon at 90 degrees to the shake, crack or dent until it is filled.



Step 4 – Allow to harden and then buff off the excess using a clean cotton cloth in the direction of the crack or shake. If necessary repeat filling procedure.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the colour of my worktop look paler than in the showroom?

All timber will change colour through a natural process caused by exposure to light. Some timbers, iroko and cherry particularly will change significantly, maturing over months to their rich, natural colour you saw in the showroom.

Why does my worktop feel rough?

Your worktops will have probably been factory finished with an industrially applied Saicos Worktop Oil, which seals the material. When the first few coats of oil are applied the small wood fibres on the surface soak up the oil and harden. When you touch it with your hand the roughness is the very small fibres which have swollen and risen from the surface. These can be easily removed using the rawhide pad included in the Installation & Maintenance Packs, prior to re-oiling.

What are the small hairline cracks in the surface?

These natural "fissures" are completely normal in some timbers, particularly oak and beech, though they will occur in any timber. They are hairline "shakes" and will not affect the performance of the worktop.

Why has filler been used in some places?

Trees have branches which produce knots and these sometimes have to be filled. Very occasionally filler is used on the comb joint in block style worktops when a very small piece has been unavoidably lost during fabrication.

Why is there more or less colour and grain variation than in my sample?

You have a unique piece of timber. The sample you have seen was another unique piece of timber. No two pieces are ever exactly the same. The sample is an indication and not a representation. That's the beauty of wood.

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