

# **MAPLE BLOCK TOP** **CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

## **IMPORTANT**

MAINTAINING EITHER A URETHANE OR OIL FINISH ON THE BUTCHER BLOCK AS A MOISTURE BARRIER IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT CHECKING, DELAMINATION, SPLITTING, AND WARPING. RESEAL ANY CUTS AND DON'T ALLOW WATER TO REMAIN ON THE BLOCK FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME. SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE END GRAIN SO THAT IT IS KEPT COMPLETELY SEALED. ALL WOOD IS HYGROSCOPIC SO MOISTURE AND CHANGES IN RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL CAUSE THE BLOCK TO SHRINK OR SWELL. DURING THE HEATING SEASON AIR TENDS TO BE VERY DRY AND EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO MAINTAIN A RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 35% TO 45%. AIR WHICH IS TOO DRY CAUSES THE BLOCK TO SHRINK WHICH CAN CAUSE CRACKS AND SPLITS AT THE BLOCK ENDS. ANY CRACKS SHOULD BE FILLED PROMPTLY WITH WOOD FILLER, SANDED SMOOTH, AND FINISHED WITH "GOOD STUFF" URETHANE GEL CLEAR PROTECTIVE FINISH.

THIS BUTCHER BLOCK TOP IS COATED WITH AN ACRYLIC FINISH DURAKRYL 102\*. THIS FINISH IS FORMULATED TO REPEL MOST HOUSEHOLD SOLVENTS SUCH AS DETERGENTS, ALCOHOL, ETC. STAINS WILL NORMALLY BE ONLY ON THE SURFACE OF THE FINISH AND CAN BE REMOVED WITH FINGER NAIL POLISH REMOVER OR BLEACH, NEITHER OF THESE TWO SUBSTANCES CAN HURT THE FINISH.

IF YOU USE YOUR NEW BLOCK AS A TRUE CUTTING SURFACE, THERE IS NO NEED TO SAND THIS FINISH OFF OR BE CONCERNED ABOUT CLEANABILITY. CLEAN IT LIKE YOU WOULD ANY CUTTING SURFACE, NOT ALLOWING WATER TO REMAIN ON THE BLOCK FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME. TO HELP PRESERVE YOUR BLOCK IF USED AS A CUTTING SURFACE IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO PERIODICALLY RESEAL ONLY THE AREA IN WHICH YOU HAVE CUT. MINERAL OIL OR VEGETABLE OIL CAN BE USED. IF YOUR BLOCK BECOMES NECESSARY TO REFINISH DUE TO USAGE, WE SUGGEST SANDING THE FINISH OFF AND APPLYING EITHER AN OIL FINISH AS MENTIONED ABOVE OR RESEALING WITH "GOOD STUFF" URETHANE GEL CLEAR PROTECTIVE FINISH.