



# MATTHEW COX

## TAKING CARE OF YOUR WORN EBONY TABLE

### CLEANING

Your table has a lacquered surface, and as such is protected from light day-to-day use. The surface should only be cleaned lightly with a soft cloth or duster. A damp (not wet) soft cloth can be used for anything trickier to remove, but please resist any urge to rub hard. No abrasive cloth or cleaning agent should be used to clean your table.

### HOT POTS AND PANS

Please avoid placing hot pots and pans directly onto the tabletop as they may scorch or blister the surface.

### LIQUIDS

Avoid placing anything steamy or wet directly on the surface, as steam or water could soak into the finish and leave cloudy water marks.

### CUTTING AND CHOPPING

Avoid any direct contact with the surface of your lacquered table as it will mark or damage the lacquer.

## RESTORATION & REPAIR

For water marks /white marks:

These are caused by moisture trapped in the lacquered finish of the table. These marks may be removed by following the steps below. Please contact [enquiries@matthewcox.com](mailto:enquiries@matthewcox.com) if you require a touch-up kit.

- Rub the area affected with the fine wire wool provided until any marks become softer and less obvious.
  - Remove any dust created by the wire wool using a dry soft cloth.
- Decant the ebony lacquer in a glass jar (enough to cover the head of the soft round brush once immersed).
- Saturate the head of the brush in the polish and remove any excess polish from the brush head against the side of the jar.
  - With flowing strokes, gently paint the area affected with the lacquer.
  - Once the area has been painted, allow the lacquer to dry – this will take approximately two hours. Use denatured alcohol to clean the brush.
- Once dry, gently rub the newly lacquered area with fine wire wool until colour-matched with the surrounding surface.

For scratches:

- Dip a fine paintbrush into the bottle of ebony lacquer, removing any excess against the inside of the bottle.
  - Carefully paint the scratch until it has been filled.
- Once the scratch has been painted, allow the lacquer to dry – this will take approximately two hours. Use denatured alcohol to clean the brush.
- Once dry, gently rub the newly lacquered area with fine wire wool to blend with the surrounding area.



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## TAKING CARE OF YOUR OILED TIMBER TABLE

As your table has a natural oiled finish, it is protected, but won't be completely impervious to marking,

Over time, your table will build up the rich, warm patina of time and use. To ensure the longevity of the table, and the continued beauty of the surface, please consider the guidance that follows.

### CARE

This is a traditional finish that we love to use on busy work surfaces. Our oiled finishes are hard wearing and resistant to most spillages. However, any spills should be wiped immediately to avoid any chance of obvious marking. Avoid dragging objects across the surface and to prevent marking, ensure the surface is protected from extreme heat.

If you wish to avoid any obvious marking of the table, please use mats for any vessels, particularly hot plates, pans and other vessels.

### CLEANING

A soft, lightly dampened cloth should be used to wipe the table clean on a day-to-day basis. Periodically, the table-top should be wiped with Osmo spray cleaner to clean and moisturise the timber.

### APPLYING NOURISHING OIL

If the top appears dry after 6-12 months, a thin layer of natural oil may be applied to recondition the table. Ensure the surface is clean and dry, stir the oil well then smooth on a thin layer of natural oil with a soft lint-free cloth (we like Osmo TopOil in clear matt) before removing any excess. This helps to nourish and protect the surface and will develop a warm, natural patina over time.

Please follow the instructions on the tin. Allow to dry appropriately with good ventilation. Allow around 9 hours for the table to dry completely before use.