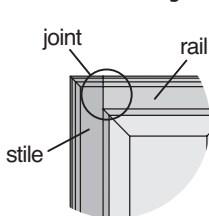


## wood and humidity

**Hardwood cabinet components** like face frames, doors, and headers are made of a natural material — wood — which has great character and personality. But natural wood also has some inherent limitations that should be understood. This is true of all wood in the home: furniture, millwork and cabinetry.

**Unlike a man-made material, natural wood** is not dimensionally stable, meaning it will expand and contract under certain conditions. Complicating matters further, wood does not expand and contract in a uniform way. It does so more across the grain than along the grain. It can even warp in extreme cases.

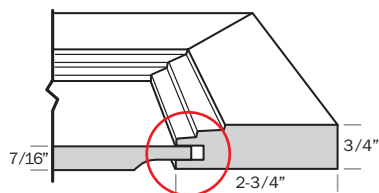
**By its nature, wood is “hygroscopic,”** meaning it naturally absorbs and releases moisture in its environment. These changes in moisture content may result in dimensional changes that can happen gradually over time, or happen suddenly with seasonal changes or changes in humidity within the home.



When these natural dimensional changes occur, joinery lines can appear that were not visible before. For instance: As wood swells and contracts due to seasonal humidity changes, a joint where a stile and rail meet can open up slightly, showing a line that was not previously

visible. When exposed to drier air, door center panels will contract, exposing a visible line next to the stile until moisture is restored. **These are inherent characteristics of wood, are not considered flaws, and are not covered under the ShowplaceEVO warranty.**

**Most cabinet doors are made of five parts:** Four pieces that make up the outer frame, and the inner center panel. The notch that the center panel fits into is a bit oversized, to allow some expansion and contraction of the large center panel. This helps prevent warping, but can still open visible joint lines.



**Paint grade doors use MDF** for the center panel which minimizes expansion and contraction, but joint lines may still appear because paint grade doors have natural wood frames that will expand and contract more than the MDF center panel.

**The ShowplaceEVO MDF door styles** are our most dimensionally stable. They are the best choice for painted cabinetry in coastal regions, or other areas of high humidity.

### What you can do:

- The most important thing you can do is **stabilize the humidity** in the home. Heating systems dry out the air in the winter, causing wood to contract. Taking steps to maintain proper relative humidity year-round will keep your cabinetry more stable. We recommend 40% to 60% relative humidity.
- Air conditioning helps, as it removes some humidity from the air. But **additional steps**, like a dehumidifier, may still be needed in some locations and climates.
- Seasonal homes**, especially those near water, should be heated and air conditioned, even when not in use. Maintain a reasonable interior temperature of 60 to 90 degrees F.
- If you want painted cabinetry and possible joint lines are a major issue to you, choose one of the ShowplaceEVO **MDF door styles**.
- Consider one of our **slab door styles** with solid MDF cores and a veneered surface. They show no joints and are very stable.
- Our best recommendation is to accept wood for what it is, and look on dimensional changes as another aspect of the unique personality of a lovely, variable natural material.**

**WARNING:** Like trees or any other products made of wood, machining, sanding, sawing, or drilling this product may produce wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection.

## cabinetry care

Showplace Wood Products cabinetry is designed and crafted to stand up to rigorous daily use. No special or unique care is required. Simple common sense precautions and practices will keep it looking great for years to come:

- **Darkening:** Remember that all woods naturally darken with age. There is no preventative for this process, and it should be accepted as part of wood's natural character. Woods subjected to prolonged direct sunlight will darken faster.
- **Dimensional changes:** Since wood is a naturally-porous material, it will absorb and release moisture, causing unavoidable swelling and shrinking. This can cause dimensional changes, and in larger pieces, can result in minor warping. These dimensional changes are often related to changing seasons, and may reverse themselves as seasons change again. There is no preventative for this process, and it should be accepted as part of wood's natural character.
- **Horizontal surfaces:** If your cabinetry uses finished wood for horizontal surfaces, remember some commonplace precautions: Do not slide items across the surface. Rather, pick them up and set them down. Make sure plants are in pots that will not seep water onto the wood, and take care that leaves do not touch the wood. Use coasters under glasses, and hot pads under pots and pans. Never set synthetic materials like rubber or plastic directly on the wood. The synthetic chemicals can damage the finish. Likewise, inks from printed materials can transfer into the finish.
- **Drawers and interiors:** Drawer slides and hinges should need no periodic maintenance or lubrication. Showplace interiors and standard shelves have a durable urethane-coated surface that cleans up easily with soap and water. When cleaning interiors, be careful to avoid excess water that can make its way into the interior joinery.
- **Surface damage:** Touch up those inevitable nicks and scratches with a Showplace touch-up kit. Kits are available from your Showplace dealer, and include instructions.
- **Curing time:** Showplace Wood Products uses the highest quality Sherwin-Williams SHER-WOOD® stains, sealers and topcoats providing high performance and a long lasting, enduring finish. All SHER-WOOD® finishes require a period of curing to take place, approximately 30 days, so the film can achieve its full performance properties.
- **Dusting:** Cabinets, like fine furniture, should be dusted or vacuumed periodically. Always dust with a polish-moistened or damp cloth, as dry dusting may scratch the surface. Follow the grain of wood when dusting. Wiping across the grain could cause scratches to appear if the dust contains grit.



- **Cleaning:** There are three basic types of furniture care products: silicones, waxes and polishes. While silicone cleaners offer a high degree of shine, the silicone seeps into even the highest quality finishes, creating a barrier that will not accept stain or finish. This makes it virtually impossible to refinish or touch up when it may be required. All SHER-WOOD® catalyzed finishes are durable and hard enough that in most cases they do not require any wax. Waxes should be avoided because their regular use may result in buildup of a wax film on the surface. This buildup can attract dirt, smoke and other pollutants in the air, resulting in smudges and streaks. Also, many waxes contain grit that may permanently damage the surface if used improperly. Polishes are a better choice than wax. Polishes contain detergents to clean the dirt, and emulsifiers to give the polish body to clean and last longer. Mineral oil is left behind as a barrier for dirt and moisture while leaving no wax or silicone residue.

**Please be aware** that the Showplace warranty does not apply to finishes that are exposed for prolonged periods of time to tobacco smoke and/or other smoke sources.

### Basic care tips:

- Wipe up spills, splatters and water spots as they occur. Keep cabinets dry.
- Clean as needed with a soft, lint-free cloth. Use mild detergent or soap and warm water. Dry surfaces immediately with a soft cloth.
- Avoid using a dishcloth or sponge, which could contain remnants of grease or detergents. Do not use products with bleach, ammonia or abrasive additives.
- Never use scouring pads, steel wool or powdered cleaners.
- Do not allow oven cleaners to come in contact with wood finishes.
- Avoid placing small kitchen appliances where heat is directed onto cabinet surfaces.
- Avoid draping damp clothes or dish towels over cabinet doors. Excessive moisture can cause permanent damage.

### High-gloss acrylic tips:

- Do not store panels outside or in direct sunlight.
- Clean with a wet micro-fiber cloth or chamois.
- Use water or mild soap and water combo.
- Never dry-wipe the acrylic finish.
- Avoid acetone, harsh household cleaners and abrasives including paper towels, brushes and scouring pads.
- Ultra-gloss superpolish kits are required.

## lifetime warranty

Showplace Wood Products ("Showplace") provides a **Limited Lifetime Warranty** to the original owners of the installed cabinetry (the "Product") and warrants its Product when purchased through an authorized Showplace dealer to be free from defects in material or workmanship under normal residential use for as long as they are owned by the original purchaser in the Product's originally installed location. This warranty is not transferable to subsequent owners.

Our obligation under this warranty is limited to the repair or replacement of any Products that prove defective as determined by our review and inspection. This warranty is limited to replacement or repair of defective parts or materials only. Labor charges or damage related to installation, removal, repair or exchange, as well as any incidental and consequential damages, are excluded.

This warranty is void if products are misused, mishandled, improperly stored, improperly installed, modified or subjected to extreme temperatures or extreme moisture levels. Acts of God and normal wear and tear are also excluded. This warranty does not apply to finishes that are exposed for prolonged periods of time to tobacco smoke and/or other smoke sources. This warranty does not cover the cost of installation removal, or subsequent damage or transportation of the defective product, regardless of who performs the work.

The following changes are considered natural and normal and are excluded from the warranty:

- The natural darkening and mellowing that normally occurs to finished wood over time,
- Natural wood characteristics inherent to the wood species,
- Minor dimensional changes due to the wood's hygroscopic nature,
- Painted finishes that reveal joinery lines due to natural dimensional changes.

Showplace reserves the right to change design specifications and materials without obligation to make similar changes to products previously manufactured. If a warranty claim is filed for a product that is no longer manufactured by Showplace, Showplace reserves the right to fulfill the warranty obligation by substituting discontinued product with the most similar styling, wood species, and color available at the time a claim is submitted; claim remedy may include replacing other Showplace components installed in the residential application necessary to achieve a uniform appearance and a similar style to that originally purchased.

These warranties are the exclusive warranties of Showplace Wood Products and are in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, including the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular use. In no event shall Showplace Wood Products be liable for incidental or consequential damages.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights which may vary from state to state.

To obtain performance under this Limited Lifetime Warranty, contact the authorized Showplace dealer where the Product was originally purchased and allow sufficient time and opportunity to inspect the Product, evaluate the claim and respond. A dated receipt as proof of purchase is required to obtain benefits from this warranty. If the authorized Showplace dealer is unable to respond to your claim, mail a request for assistance to: Showplace Wood Products, Warranty Department, One Enterprise Street, Harrisburg, SD 57032. All decisions regarding the existence of manufacturing defects or affecting this warranty shall be made by Showplace Wood Products and shall be final and binding on the parties.

**To register your warranty: [ShowplaceEVO.com/register](http://ShowplaceEVO.com/register)**

ShowplaceEVO

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America**

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