

# **Use and Care Guide**

Congratulations on your new piece of furniture! This guide will list the materials and methods used in creating your piece and outline use and care.

#### Materials Information

Your piece is made from:

- American Black Walnut solids
- American Black Walnut veneer over birch
- Baltic birch plywood

In the traditional method, the use of mechanical fasteners is limited in your piece to the following:

- Attaching drawer slides to case and drawers
- Attaching drawer faces and pulls to drawer boxes
- Attaching the case to the bottom

Your piece has been hand sanded and finished with a tried-and-true method:

- Two coats of dewaxed Shellac (Bulls-Eye SealCoat).
  This is a natural product and will make the details in the walnut more visually appealing. It is easy to use, and dries quickly. It is however alcohol soluble so it is not suitable for the final coat.
- Two coats of Minwax Wipe-On Poly in Satin.
  This finish won Fine Woodworking Best Overall Choice in 2005 and has an excellent water resistance. It is highly available and easy to use. It is alcohol resistant and provides more protection than shellac, so it is appropriate for top coats.
- One coat of Howard Citrus Shield Paste Wax.
  This provides another layer of protection and shine.

### Moving your Piece

- Don't carry your piece by grabbing the top, carry your piece from the bottom, or underneath the frame below the first bank of drawers.
- Don't drag your piece across carpet, it may catch and damage the dresser or carpet.
- Your piece has felt pads under the legs to protect hardwood floors. These pads are not levelers; so on uneven floors you may need to shim your piece with a folded business card.

## Care

- Although your drawer slides are rated for 80 pounds, the boxes themself have not been rated. Don't stand in or place very heavy things in the drawer boxes, they are made to contain clothes and other household items.
- Wood is a natural product and will change over time. Your piece is best kept in a temperature and humidity environment that is comfortable for people. Don't place humidifiers, space heaters, etc. very close to your piece.
- With humidity changes small gaps that develop in one season will close and disappear next season.
- Wood is reactive to UV rays and will lighten, darken, or even change color over time.
- Rotate accessories placed on top periodically to avoid patterns created by blocking UV rays.
- Use coasters on your piece when setting wet, cold, or hot things on it.
- Affix felt pads underneath scratchy accessories placed on top.
- To clean your piece wipe with a clean soft cloth that is slightly moist with water.

## **Repairs**

- Light scratches can be buffed out with a clean soft cloth and wax such as Johnson's Paste Wax.
  Zenith Tibet Almond Stick is also good for scratches.
- Water rings should disappear over time. If they are still present after a month rub them with salad oil and buff with wax.
- Heat rings can be buffed out with 0000 steel wool and paste wax.
- Drawer runners should not require any oil. If they squeak or bind, they may be out of alignment.
  Check alignment before oiling with 3-in-1 oil, avoid solvent based lubricants like WD40.

Your piece was made by hand, specifically for you, and it was a pleasure to build. I hope you enjoy it!