

# JULIAN CHICHESTER

## Colourist Collection Care & Maintenance Instructions

The Colourist Collection uses a catalyzed lacquer that provides a very dense surface, often compared to an automotive finish. While no finish is 100% scratch resistant, and high-gloss finishes are more prone to visible scratches, the lacquer we use is very durable and surface scratches can easily be buffed and waxed. We typically apply 7-8 color coats to give our Colourist pieces an enviable sheen and depth. In addition, the pieces available in the Colourist Collection have all been specially fabricated in MDF to provide a smooth surface and eliminate the expansion and contraction that is common with wood furniture.

Lacquer finishes have been used on furniture for hundreds of years. While the techniques and formulas have changed over the course of history, modern lacquer is perhaps more durable and certainly just as beautiful. While nothing lasts forever, with proper care and maintenance your new Colourist Collection piece will last for many years to come.

Everyday dusting is best done with a clean 100% cotton cloth. This includes chamois, microfiber and piano cloth. Never use paper towels or anything else that could potentially scratch the surface. If excessive dust is present then slightly dampen the cloth before wiping the surface, but note that surface dust can scratch the lacquer when cleaned with a wiping motion. When removing sticky or wet marks from high gloss or satin finishes, we advise using an automotive style of shampoo/wax with warm water and a soft sponge. Avoid using washing up liquid detergents due to the abrasive ingredients in this type of cleaner. Be sure to thoroughly dry the area after using a damp cloth.

Do not leave anything heavy, such as a lamp on top of your newly finished furniture for the first 30 days of use. Your new furniture is at 90% of its total strength as delivered, but it will continue to cure for a few weeks after it is installed. Feel free to use your furniture immediately after installed, but keep in mind that anything harder than your finish (glass, ceramic, or metal) will scratch it, especially during the first month.

Plastic and rubber surfaces can “outgas” and etch into lacquer finishes. This is most likely with newer finishes, but can sometimes be an issue with fully cured finishes as well. For this reason we recommend that plastic and rubber be kept from long-term contact with any finish, lacquer or not.

Following these guidelines will help preserve the finish for many years to come. Lacquer should be used and enjoyed with the understanding that almost any imperfection acquired over time may easily be buffed away by a knowledgeable furniture expert. So enjoy your Colourist Collection piece that was made especially for you and live with it in the way you would any fine wood furniture.