

	Soap	Oil	White-pigmented Oil	Stain/Varnish
Available for wood types	ash, beech, maple, oak	ash, beech, maple, oak, cherry, walnut	ash, maple, oak	beech, oak
What it is	Flakes made from 100% vegetable-oil based soap, mixed in water; the mixture is rubbed into wood then wiped off	Vegetable based oil rubbed into wood with a special cloth	Vegetable based oil, with a special white pigment, rubbed into wood with a special cloth	water-based stain
Appearance	the closest to raw wood; grain and structure visible; light colour	grain and structure visible; darker than soap; creates luster and brings out contrasts in grain and structure; darkens over time to reach a rich patina	grain and structure visible; lightens the wood and does not darken over time;; brings out contrasts in grain and structure;	structure visible, but grain and other contrasts are covered; uniform dark-wood colours
Maintenance (end-user)	wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated about every 2 - 3 months - or as needed to remove stubborn stains	wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated 2 times per year, on all surfaces, or as needed to remove scratches or stubborn stains	wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated 2 times per year, on all surfaces, or as needed to remove scratches or stubborn stains	wipe clean with damp cloth
Advantages	the most natural of finishes anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty - using soap and "elbow grease", without having to use a professional	anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty - using oil and "elbow grease", without having to use a professional; oil is more stain-resistant than soap	not susceptible to the effects of light, and does not yellow over time; anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty - using oil and "elbow grease", without having to use a professional; oil is more stain resistant than soap	easy to care for on a daily basis, as long as there is no serious damage (deep scratches, burn marks, etc); not susceptible to the effects of light, and does not yellow over time;
Disadvantages	requires regular maintenance for best results; until the wood has been treated many times, soap-treated wood takes stains from red wine, children's markers etc	requires regular maintenance for best results, ideally 2 x per year	requires regular maintenance for best results, ideally 2 x per year	surfaces must be repaired by professionals in case of serious damage; this entails sanding down entire table/ chair and refinishing
Recommended for	private homes - especially wood purists/Scandinavians love soap-treated wood; should be willing to use about 20 minutes a month to maintain their furniture	private homes and public areas those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood	private homes and public areas	private homes and public areas; those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood
Not recommended for	restaurants, airports or other high-use public venues			those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood

	Clear Lacquer	CHS Colour
Available for wood types	ash, beech, maple, oak, cherry, walnut	beech, oak
What it is	water-based clear lacquer	special paint
Appearance	grain and structure visible; darker than soap; glossy, smooth finish; yellows over time	structure visible, but grain and other contrasts are covered; uniform colours according to colour card
Maintenance (end-user)	wipe clean with damp cloth	wipe clean with damp cloth
Advantages	easy to care for on a daily basis, as long as there is no serious damage (deep scratches, burn marks, etc); not susceptible to the effects of light	easy to care for on a daily basis, as long as there is no serious damage (deep scratches, burn marks, etc); not susceptible to the effects of light, and does not yellow over time;
Disadvantages	susceptible to scratches and abrasion over time; surfaces must be repaired by professionals in case of serious damage; this entails sanding down entire table/chair and refinishing	susceptible to scratches and abrasion over time; surfaces must be repaired by professionals in case of serious damage; this entails sanding down entire table/chair and refinishing
Recommended for	private homes and public areas those who do not want to bother at all with furniture maintenance	private homes and public areas those who do not want to bother at all with furniture maintenance
Not recommended for	those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood	those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood