

## A Guide to Protecting Natural Softwoods

### Care & Maintenance for Pine Wood from Good Luck Timbers

You have chosen a timber known for its warmth and rustic character. Pine wood's friendly, light-filled appearance and distinctive knots make it a beloved choice for creating a comfortable, welcoming atmosphere. As a softwood, its care is focused on preserving its beautiful surface and protecting it from the wear and tear of everyday life.

---

#### The Foundation: Routine Care

Simple, consistent care is the best way to maintain Pine's natural look.

- **Dusting:** Dust regularly with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. This prevents abrasive particle buildup that can cause micro-scratches.
- **Cleaning:** Use a cloth that is only slightly dampened with water. Pine is more porous than hardwoods, so minimizing moisture is key. For sticky spots, use a mild soap solution on your cloth, then "rinse" with a water-dampened cloth and dry immediately and thoroughly.

---

#### The Golden Rule: Protecting the Surface

Pine is softer than hardwoods, so a protective top coat is essential for any piece that will see regular use (like a table or cabinet).

- **The Power of a Clear Coat:** A good quality polyurethane, varnish, or lacquer is Pine's best defense. It creates a hard, durable barrier against scratches, dents, and spills. Most pieces you buy will already have this finish.
- **Staining and Painting:** Pine takes stains and paints exceptionally well, which not only allows for creative expression but also adds a crucial layer of protection to the raw wood.

---

#### Critical Mistakes to Avoid with Pine

- **Prevent Dents and Scratches:** This is the #1 priority. Always use coasters, placemats, and felt pads. Lift, never drag, objects across the surface. Be mindful of dropping heavy or sharp items.
- **Avoid Excessive Water:** Never let spills sit. Water can soak into the wood more easily than with dense hardwoods, potentially causing swelling or discoloration.

- **Steer Clear of Harsh Chemicals:** Abrasive cleaners or harsh chemicals like ammonia can strip the protective finish, leaving the soft wood vulnerable to damage.

---

From all of us at **Good Luck Timbers**, we hope you enjoy the warm, rustic charm of your Pine Wood for years to come. For any further questions, you know who to call.