

Kitchen Care Guide - Our top tips

Gained from years of installation experience and customer feedback, these practical pointers will keep everything performing well, looking great and prevent most kitchen-related issues.

1. A quick wipe solves almost everything

Got a splash or mark? Wipe it - usually a clean dishcloth that's been moistened (not wet) in warm water with a dash of washing-up liquid works best.

Be especially careful of red wine, oils, coffee, turmeric or acidic foods.

2. Anywhere water can sit or soak in is a risk

Joints are sealed, but standing moisture can still cause swelling over time — especially where worktops meet, the bottom rail of shaker doors, inside a J-pull handle groove, end panels that sit on the floor....

3. Drying takes seconds – and it really matters

A quick “wipe and dry” at the end of clearing up will prevent cloudy bloom marks that appear when moisture is left to dry on the worktop.

4. Heat & steam are double trouble

- Use the extractor every time you cook and let it run on for a few minutes after to clear the air.
- Position the air or deep fryer near the extractor – it will clear the steam faster.
- Pull your countertop appliances – like toasters – forward so heat and steam don't affect the underside of wall units - be careful with children or the vulnerable!

5. Chopping boards & trivets: good for worktops...

Quartz, granite, ceramic — they're all harder than steel. Boards protect both the surface *and* your knives. The same applies to hot pans — always use a trivet or heat mat to protect the worktop from thermal shock and heat marks.

6. Keep humidity in check

Almost every activity at home generates moisture in the air, so use the extractor, open a window briefly, and keep lids on pans where you can. This helps timber doors stay stable, keep mould at bay and everything in comfortable balance.

OUR TOP TIP

E-CLOTH:
THE BEST PRODUCT FOR
WIPING AND DRYING

Microfibre cloths work well, but in our opinion, E-Cloth reliably gives the best wipe and streak-free drying results.



Find on Amazon <https://amzn.eu/d/4enS3FJ>

7. Mind the underside

Give items with rough or unglazed base a soft coaster / pad to protect the worktop from fine scratches.

8. Appliance care that pays back

A little attention here and there — wiping fridge seals, popping extractor filters through the dishwasher, refreshing the dishwasher filter, descaling tap aerators and keeping vents clear — helps appliances run quietly and efficiently, and often catches small issues before they become bigger ones.

9. Floors love a quick daily sweep

Grit is the villain of great flooring — a two-minute sweep or vac protects everything, and a doormat will help prevent grit from spreading.

10. Steam cleaners: a guaranteed way to cause damage

Do not use steam cleaners on floors, cabinets, doors or kickboards. High-pressure steam forces moisture into materials, softening substrates and breaking down adhesives and coatings — swelling and delamination can follow surprisingly quickly.

11. Damp is fine — wet is not

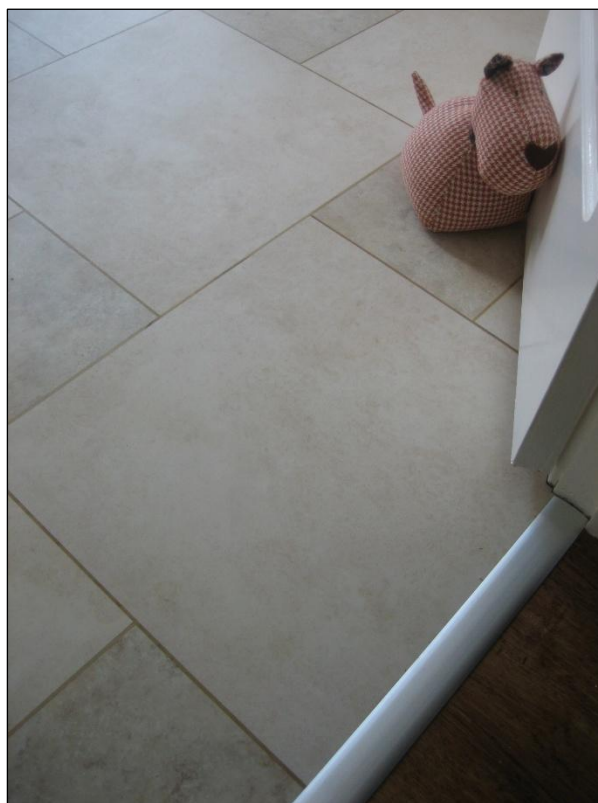
Avoid leaving wet cloths or standing water against panels, plinths or end panels. When mopping floors, use a well-wrung mop and avoid flooding the area — excess moisture can rise into plinths and floor-mounted end panels.

12. Avoid abrasive or chemical cleaners

Bleach, vinegar, acetone, scouring creams, solvent sprays and paper towels can dull, scratch or haze the surface of doors and worktops. Even Magic Eraser pads are mildly abrasive, so they can affect the sheen of a surface. Stick to warm water, a little washing-up liquid and a soft microfibre cloth — generally, it's all you need.

13. Look after the silicone

Silicone keeps water out of joints, upstands, sinks and edges. Over time, it can shrink or develop small hairline gaps as the room settles. If you ever spot a section that looks tired, a simple re-bead keeps everything watertight and protects the cabinetry beneath.



**Camaro Classic Limestone and Ivory Stone LVT flooring
in offset key square design with Maple design strip
— designed & fitted by Redwood Kitchens**

Turn over for detailed furniture care guide

Care Guide – Your kitchen furniture

Professionally Installed, Built to Last

Your Redwood kitchen is built using robust cabinets with precision hardware and frontals made from high-quality engineered timber products with premium finishes. These materials are designed to provide you with many years of reliable use and enjoyment in a typical home environment.

Small seasonal movements due to temperature and humidity changes, along with hinge and drawer adjustments, are perfectly normal, especially in the first few months as everything settles in.

Suitable Environment

Timber materials naturally absorb and release moisture in response to the surrounding environment. Keeping temperature and humidity reasonably stable will reduce natural movement in your furniture through the seasons.



These simple actions will help reduce humidity in the kitchen:

- Use the extractor whenever you cook and let it run for a few minutes after you finish.
- Open a window when possible to refresh the air – especially if air-drying clothes.
- Keep lids on pans when boiling to reduce excess steam.

Healthy Indoor Range:

- Temperature: approx. 18–22°C
- Relative Humidity (RH): ideally 40–60%

Cabinets

Cleaning

The cabinets are made from melamine-faced boards, providing a hygienic and easy-to-clean surface. While this finish is robust, it isn't completely waterproof. Any spillage or standing water, especially at the joints, should be dried immediately, as prolonged exposure can cause swelling. Water-related damage is not considered a manufacturing fault and therefore isn't covered under warranty.

Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvent-based products, bleach, steam cleaning equipment, or strong chemicals that may damage finishes or protective coatings.

As with cleaning most items in the kitchen, a clean dishcloth that's been moistened (not wet) in warm water with a dash of washing-up liquid works best for clearing finger marks and cooking splashes.

Dry the surface with a clean, absorbent cloth (best practice for all surfaces).

Shelves

Your cabinet shelves are adjustable to suit your needs. When loading cabinets, place the heaviest items on the base of the unit, with lighter items on the adjustable shelves. For access, safety reasons, and to reduce load on the fixings, we recommend that heavy stacks (e.g. more than 8 dinner plates) are not stored in wall units.

Where possible, spread items evenly across the width and depth of the cabinet and shelves. Significant uneven loading may cause minor structural deflection, which in turn can affect door alignment.

Hinges

Unless specified otherwise in your furniture schedule, your cabinet doors are fitted with Hettich Sensys 110° hinges as standard. These high-quality components are designed to support and soft-close typical cabinet doors. They also allow the door to be easily unclipped from the cabinet for cleaning or decorating.

However, they're not designed to take excessive external force. Children swinging or hanging on doors, for example, may damage the cabinet where the hinge is secured.

To see how the hinge adjusts and clips on/off, see <https://youtu.be/ESOitd6-FoU?t=72> or scan this YouTube QR code.



Drawers

Unless described otherwise in your furniture schedule, we use the Hettich Atira soft-close drawer system, which has a weight capacity of 30Kg for standard height drawers and pan drawers up to 60cm wide, and 50Kg for wider pan drawers.

These ratings are intended for typical, evenly distributed loads. Concentrated weight in a single area, or exceeding the stated capacity, may affect running performance or long-term reliability.

To see how drawer fronts are adjusted, see <https://youtu.be/UujNQj8EC10?t=190> or scan this YouTube QR code. For insertion and removal of the drawer box, view from 3:55.



Internal Fitments

Keep internal pull-outs, drawers, and organisers clean and free from spills. Wipe up moisture quickly and avoid overloading moving parts so everything continues to run smoothly.

For specific care information and maintenance of any pull-outs, please refer to the manufacturer's documentation in the *Furniture* section in this folder.

Turn over for your cabinet frontal care guide

Cabinet Frontals

General Cleaning

When cleaning most items in the kitchen, a clean dishcloth that's been moistened (not wet) in warm water with a dash of washing-up liquid is what's best for clearing finger marks and cooking splashes from cabinet fronts. For specific information about your frontal type, see the next section.

- Wipe in the same direction as any visible or raised grain pattern.
- Prevent moisture from accumulating at any joints as you clean (such as 5-piece shaker).
- Avoid spraying cleaning products directly onto the surface.
- Do not use any abrasive cleaners or strong chemicals, wax polish or other furniture cleaners. Even Magic Eraser pads (melamine foam) can change the sheen or dull the surface, which is why we don't recommend using them on cabinet doors or panels.



After cleaning, dry the surface with a soft, absorbent cloth. We do not recommend dusters (loose fibres can catch on timber) or paper towels, which can leave visible micro-swirls — particularly noticeable on smooth and gloss finishes.

Panels Near Heat & Steam

Keep kettles, toasters, air fryers and other steam-producing appliances positioned forward on the worktop so steam doesn't rise directly onto painted, vinyl or timber panels above. This simple action helps prevent softening or swelling, particularly under wall units.

Also, keep an eye on your oven door seal — if it's worn or leaking, escaping heat will affect the finish on adjacent panels and cabinet edges.

Light Exposure & UV Stability

The finishes used in your kitchen are formulated to be highly UV-stable, meaning they resist fading and retain their appearance well under normal household lighting. However, no furniture finish is completely unaffected by long-term sunlight, particularly in south-facing rooms or where roof lanterns or large patio doors increase light levels. Gentle tonal changes over the years are a natural characteristic and are not considered defects.

Wear Points

Different door styles have natural touchpoints and areas that benefit from a little extra care. Shaker doors need attention along the bottom rail and joints. J-pulls and true-handleless rails gather fingerprints and moisture within the recessed pull, while routed profiles have their own cleaning sensitivities. Understanding where your chosen style naturally collects moisture, dust, or fingerprints will help you clean effectively and keep it all looking its best for years to come.

Specific Frontal Care Advice

Painted & Lacquered Finishes

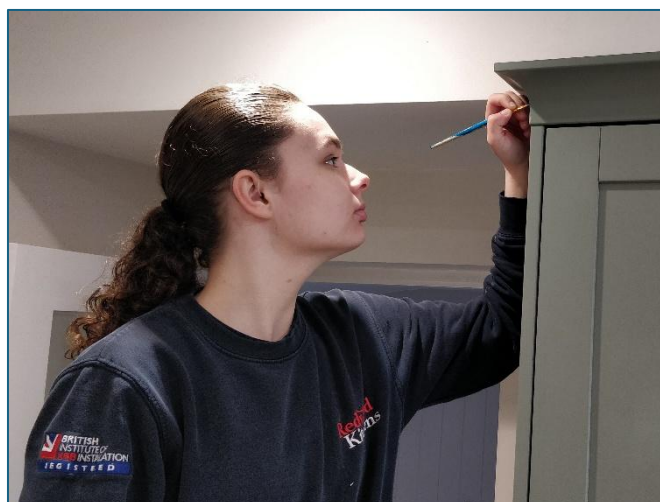
What to Expect

Painted finishes are chosen for their maintainability, elegance and character. Over time, you may notice fine hairlines at joints, small settlement marks, or a gentle softening around edges. These are natural characteristics of painted furniture as the materials move with temperature and humidity changes in the home.

As noted above, painted and timber-based finishes respond naturally to sunlight over time. UV light can gently warm, soften or lighten the colour of doors, particularly on clear-lacquered timber where the natural grain remains visible. This is a normal characteristic of real timber and painted furniture, and is not a defect but part of how painted and lacquered finishes mature with age.

Touch-Ups (Painted Only)

Small chips or wear points on painted doors can often be improved with the supplied touch-up paint and a fine artist's brush. Apply sparingly and build up slowly for a neat result.



Vinyl, Foil & Melamine Finishes

Protective Film Removal

Many vinyl fascias are made with a protective film which is to be removed when installation has been completed. At this point, the vinyl has not fully cured, so during the first month of its life, a light rub to remove a splash is fine, but avoid polishing or vigorous cleaning, which could cause streaking or imprinting.

Gloss Vinyl

Gloss vinyl surfaces, which are very smooth, reflect light uniformly, so they look their best when cleaned with a clean, soft, damp microfibre. Never use paper towels on gloss finishes - they can leave swirl marks in the vinyl.

Redwood recommends the use of VuPlex® on new and existing plastic and gloss vinyl surfaces to prevent ageing, add protection against swirling and micro-scratches, repel dust and more - see vuplex.co.uk for more information.

Supermatt Vinyl

Supermatt (sometimes known as Serica) finishes offer a refined low-sheen surface that doesn't reflect light in one single direction; rather, it redirects light in many directions. The risk when cleaning a matte surface is that it's inadvertently made smoother, increasing light reflectance – either through the rubbing action, using an abrasive cleaner, or using cleaners that contain waxes, silicones, or oils which are designed to increase light reflectance.

Clean with a clean, soft, damp microfibre cloth.

Redwood recommends the use of Matte Maxx® with a clean, soft microfibre cloth on Supermatt finishes – it is a safe, non-abrasive, silicone & wax-free cleaner. It creates an anti-static barrier with no colour distortion that, when used regularly, will increase the life span of matte finishes and keep them looking great. See vuplex.co.uk for more information.

Other Vinyl, Foil & Melamine Finishes

Just use a soft microfibre cloth that's been moistened (not wet) in warm water with a dash of washing-up liquid. We do not recommend the use of paper towels to wipe or dry, as they can leave swirl marks on the surface, which can become visible in bright light.

Glazed doors

Daily Care - Use a non-abrasive glass cleaner sprayed onto a cloth (not directly onto the door) to avoid streaking or moisture creeping into the frame. Clean the frame separately using the recommended method discussed above for its material type.

Acrylic Glass (if supplied) - Some glazed doors use acrylic glass instead of traditional glass. Acrylic is lighter but can be more susceptible to fine surface marks, so always use a soft microfibre cloth and avoid paper towels. For the best results, Matte Max (see Supermatt section for more detail) is an excellent specialist cleaner for acrylic surfaces — it removes fingerprints and smudges without scratching or increasing shine.