

Merdon

FURNITURE

Laura Ashley furniture is crafted with great care and attention to detail. Each distinctive piece is hand finished and uses traditional cabinet making techniques to ensure strength and longevity. Timelessly designed to bring pleasure for years to come.

- The Merdon range channels antique furniture design with its distinctive 'bobbin' turned legs and dark stained finish; perfect for traditional or rustic home settings.
- Bobbin furniture, also called Spool Furniture, was commonly made in the late 17th century and later in the 19th. The name comes from its resemblance of the lathe-turned shapes in the legs and rails to the spools and bobbins of the weaving industry loaded with yarn. This time-honoured technique was used to create the Merdon table for a more traditional, cottage style.
- Both stained and lacquered, Merdon's finish is designed to accentuate the natural beauty of its solid bayur and mindi veneer as well as to offer a low maintenance solution.

With careful use these finely made pieces will give many years of satisfaction.

FEATURES OF NATURAL WOOD AND MODERN MATERIALS

Wood is a natural and beautiful material. To help understand the unique properties that wood offers, we have gathered some information to ensure that key characteristics are not mistaken for flaws.

Knots and Joint Lines

- Knots, burrs and inconsistent grains occur naturally as the tree grows. None of these affect the performance of your product and are simply proof of the individual nature of wood.
- It's quite normal for there to be slight movement in panels and for joint lines to be visible, sometimes fillers may be used to reduce the visibility of these hairline cracks.

Wood Shading and Colour

Nature doesn't stand still and all timber surfaces will change colour and mellow over time. Variation in grain, shading and colour between different products and within the same product creates individual character. New furniture may vary in shade from existing pieces within the same range.

Grain and Medullary Rays

Each piece will have a slightly different grain pattern depending on which direction the wood is cut. Quarter sawn timbers enhance the natural characteristics of the grain, highlighting medullary rays with interesting features such as growth rings, stripes and flecks.

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LAURA ASHLEY

SINCE 1953

INFORMATION AND CARE GUIDE

PLEASE READ AND RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

MAINTENANCE AND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

To prolong the life of your furniture here's how to care for your product:

CLEANING

- Polish containing silicone should not be used as it will lead to a build up of a silicone film altering the appearance of your product.
- For glass or mirrored panels use a non-solvent based glass cleaner and a soft cloth, carefully avoiding contact with wooden or painted sections.
- We recommend maintaining marble and metal surfaces by applying micro-crystalline acid-free preserving wax polish at regular intervals. This will help to adequately seal, protect and give surface a smooth sheen.
- Spills should be removed immediately by blotting with a dry white cloth. If the spillage causes staining or your furniture becomes scratched, chipped or suffers other damage it's best to seek professional help to restore it.
- If you have a relevant insurance, you may wish to contact your provider for advice. Alternatively, a number of nationwide services are available including Homeserve Furniture Repairs* on 01384 473000 or for cleaning Safeclean* on 0800 585 693.

CARE ADVICE

- It's best to use felt pads or castor cups to protect delicate flooring from potential marking by feet or legs.
- When moving your product, be careful not to drop it onto corners or drag, as this could weaken the joints, resulting in damaged frames, feet or legs.
- Your furniture will last longer if you prevent sharp objects such as toys, buckles and heels from coming into contact with it.
- Avoid contact with any chemicals such as household or baby wipes, hair and skin preparations, fake tans, insect repellents and other cosmetics, or household cleaning materials, other than those recommended, as these may affect the finish.

*Available UK and ROI only

LEVELLING, ASSEMBLY AND MOVING PRODUCTS

- Furniture performs best on a level surface. Use felt pads or wedges to make sure the product does not rock and help align doors and drawers so that they operate smoothly. This may be required even in new properties where the floor may appear level.
- To assist in squaring the doors, products have either adjustable feet or hinges, or wedges which are included;
 - For adjustable feet or hinges: follow the instructions included with your furniture if adjustment is necessary.
 - For wedges: place under the feet to raise the corner as required, then snap them off when the furniture has been in place for several days so that they are no longer visible.
- If any doors fail to operate smoothly, or the product is moved, levelling will need to be completed again.
- When moving your products, we recommend they are lifted by two persons, as dragging items may damage the joints or the floor.
- It's best if self-assembly items are assembled at their intended final location and then lifted carefully into position. Any large items which are assembled from multiple sections should be disassembled before relocation.
- From time to time your assembled products may need a little attention in order to prevent squeaks and creaks. Follow the instructions enclosed with your product to periodically check bolts and other fixings remain tight.
- For furniture that is over 60 cm in height we recommend the use of anti-topple straps to prevent tip-over accidents. Anti-topple straps are included with these products to use with your own wall fixings.

EXPANSION AND TIMBER MOVEMENT

- Timber is a living, breathing material that will react to its environment just as it would in nature. It is normal for wooden furniture to expand and contract as seasons change or when we simply turn up the central heating. This may occasionally make moving parts a little stiffer to operate and hairline cracks in grooves appear as panels move, these are nothing to worry about.
- When siting your product, environment and humidity are important, so it's best to avoid locations where the environment is damp or exposed to excessively high or low temperatures, which may cause product issues.
- To ease movement on drawers, simply rub a little candle wax on the runners that are attached to the carcass or the drawers.

SUNLIGHT AND HEAT

- Wood changes colour in direct sunlight even if it is painted or lacquered, and especially when it's placed near a window. Items left in one place may leave a mark when in direct sunlight but these should blend with time.
- It's best to avoid exposing your furniture to excessive heat and / or cold. Position at least 30cm from any heat source. We recommend against using your furniture in conservatories that become excessively hot or cold.
- Always protect surfaces from hot items such as pans, dishes, hair straighteners or electronics and beware of dark rubber feet on some equipment, which contain chemicals that may permanently mark.

Following these guidelines will ensure products are installed and used correctly, so that their performance is maintained and you can enjoy your furniture, and the beauty it brings to your home, for many years to come.