Furniture eventually reaches a point where it needs more than dusting or polishing. Many pieces need only to be cleaned to restore their finish since removing the finish of a valuable piece of furniture can destroy its value and character. The following information is for those pieces of furniture which simply need cleaning and not refinishing.

**FURNITURE CLEANSER-CONDITIONER**

**Use**
- to restore natural grain and color of wood
- to conceal scratches
- to retard crazing or checking
- to remove cloudiness caused by smoke, grease and dust
- to recondition dry woods caused from overheated atmosphere of rooms (should be done approximately every 6 months)

**CAUTION: USE CLEANSER CONDITIONER SPARINGLY ON SHELLAC FINISH. To determine if finish is shellac, rub alcohol on an underside spot. The finish will soften and peel off if it is shellac.**

**Equipment**
- glass container with tight fitting lid
- gum turpentine (pure spirits is best)
- boiled linseed oil
- dish or small flat can
- saucer or small pie tin
- 3/0 steel wool pad
- old toothbrush
- old cloths
- newspapers

**Preparation and Application of Cleanser-Conditioner**
- Mix in bottle, 1 part of gum turpentine with 3 parts of boiled linseed oil.

- Cover tightly and shake well. (Mixture keeps indefinitely.)
- Spread thick layer of newspapers on floor.
- Heat some water and pour into dish. Set dish on saucer.
- Shake cleanser-conditioner and pour enough into dish to cover surface of water. DO NOT STIR.

**CAUTION:** Cleanser-conditioner is FLAMMABLE—KEEP AWAY FROM HOT SURFACES OR OPEN FLAMES.

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• Dip cloth into floating oil mixture.
• Apply on small area. Avoid getting excess moisture in joints or glued areas. (Glue will soften.)
• Rub surface with oil mixture. Use toothbrush on carved areas and grooves.
• If there is a buildup of dirt, dip 3/0 steel wool into mixture and rub lightly.
• Wring out clean cloth with clear warm water and wipe furniture surface. (Wring dry for shellac surfaces.)

NOTE: Discard mixture when water becomes cold. DO NOT REHEAT—MIXTURE IS FLAMMABLE; also becomes gummy.
• Go to final rub if luster needs restoring. (See "WOOD FINISHES" — "Final Rub: Pumice and Oil," Fact Sheet # 1023.)

Regular and Occasional Care of Furniture
Use a tack rag (treated cloth which removes fine dust) for regular dusting. This may be purchased at a hardware store. Since occasional polishing helps to restore the finish, the following furniture polish can be applied:

FURNITURE POLISH
Equal parts of:
• denatured alcohol or denatured alcohol solvent
• fresh strained lemon juice (not canned or frozen juice)
• olive oil
• gum turpentine

Preparation:
• Mix equal parts of the above liquids.
• Shake each time before using. (Polish keeps indefinitely.)

Application:
• Dampen a clean, absorbent, lintless cloth with polish.
• Rub furniture.
• Polish with dry, woolen cloth.
• Discard used cloths or store in covered jar — They are FLAMMABLE.

References
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