

## The Nature of the Wood and its Environment

All hardwood has variation in its color and grain. In manufacturing and finishing our furniture, Byler's Woodshop strives to bring out the natural beauty and character of each piece of wood. These wood characteristics give each piece of solid wood furniture its unique charm. Although the finishing processes are identical, no two pieces will be exactly the same.

Most hardwoods are open grained. Solid wood furniture will expand and contract with the changes in humidity and temperature, even after protective finishes have been applied. Care in controlling the furniture's environment will help minimize the minor cracking and warping that is a natural part of the wood's character.

Indoor humidity should be kept in the 35 to 40 percent range to minimize these effects. If the humidity is out of the ideal range, solid wood furniture can expand or contract causing a split in the wood grains of chair seats or table tops. Furniture should also be kept away from direct heating and cooling source. It also should not be stored in attic or basement environments. With proper care, solid wood furniture will provide a lifetime of enjoyment and can be passed on to future generations.

### Is formaldehyde an ingredient in catalyzed varnish?

Formaldehyde is listed on most MSDS's for types of coating, but is not an ingredient. The ultralow amount of formaldehyde claimed on an MSDS is a byproduct that of gasses after acid catalyst is added to conversion or catalyzed varnish.

### If I put a hot pizza box on my dining table will it leave a white blush?

Fully-Cured Woodwright brand catalyzed varnish can withstand a hot, moist pizza box. While it is not recommended to set hot objects directly on your furniture, should this occur it will not cause permanent damage. Varnish **MUST** be cured for 30 days or more for full durability. See Woodwright's Varnish Care Sheet for a full list of durability.

### Varnish, Lacquer, is it all the same?

Wood clear coats are commonly referred to as "lacquers", however, varnish and lacquer are very different. Lacquers are older technology coating. Woodwright catalyzed "varnishes" are state-of-the-art and use the most current technology available. Lacquer will yellow and dry over time. Woodwright varnish will be beautiful 25 years from now. Lacquer has no durability to heat, moisture and solvents. Woodwright Conversion varnish has a long list of durable strengths

