

KraftMaid[®] Cabinetry

Finish Techniques And Expectations Guide



KraftMaid[®] Cabinetry

Add beauty to your kitchen cabinetry with one of many KraftMaid finishes. From the initial sanding to our exclusive DuraKraft™ topcoat, each piece of cabinetry is made to exact specifications by our skilled craftspeople.

Learn about each finish technique that KraftMaid offers and see how it enhances the appearance of different types of wood. This information will help you choose which hand-crafted finish will look best in your home.

 kraftmaid.com/finishprocess



All KraftMaid finishes are backed with a Lifetime Limited Warranty. See our website for warranty details.

 kraftmaid.com/warranty



 kraftmaid.com/finishes

Stains heighten the natural beauty and unique characteristics of wood. Each one of KraftMaid Cabinetry's many stains is applied and expertly hand-rubbed into the wood.

Stains with Glaze bring out the warmth and character of a door. After the base stain, a glaze flood coat is applied to the entire door. It is then hand-wiped, allowing beautiful glaze color to remain in the recessed and detailed areas of the door.



Stain is applied and hand-rubbed to enhance natural characteristics and ensure full, equal coverage

Marquette Cherry Square Rye

- Natural characteristics such as wood grain, mineral streaks and knots become more prominent.
- The color of a stain can vary on the different parts of the same door. End grain and veneer absorb more stain than other wood components of the door, resulting in a darker color.
- Chocolate stain includes flyspeck highlights. This technique involves a random spattering of a complementary finish color, which adds depth and dimension to the finish.



Stain is applied, then hand-rubbed into the wood

Glaze finish is applied to entire door, then hand-wiped to create hang-ups in corners and recessed areas

Glaze highlight color may be hand-applied to detail recessed areas

Marquette Maple Square
Ginger with Sable Glaze

- Glazing is a finish process that involves two hand-detailed techniques, so no two doors look exactly alike.
- The initial flood coat of glaze adds depth of color and richness to the original base color.
- A veneer center panel absorbs more of the glaze, resulting in a slightly darker color than on the solid wood components of the door frame.



Highlights, available on two of KraftMaid Cabinetry's most popular finishes, make a bold statement. Our artisans hand-apply glaze highlights to recessed and detailed areas of each door, leaving the base stain color on the rest of the door unchanged.

Burnished finishes create a warm, traditional look by bringing out the fine-furniture details of the cabinetry. An unfinished door is sanded on the corners and raised areas, and then a dark burnishing stain is carefully applied. Next, random compression marks are made on each door and then a finish stain is applied and hand-rubbed into the wood. The end result is a custom, one-of-a-kind look.



- This hand-detailed technique creates an artisan look for your space.
- Highlighted finishes are hand-applied, and no two doors look exactly alike.
- Highlights enhance the details of the door.
- The overall base stain color doesn't change since the highlight glaze is applied only to select areas.



- The over-sanding process and applying burnishing stain produce one-of-a-kind results.
- Burnished Ginger and Burnished Chocolate include flyspeck highlights, which are produced by a random spattering of a complementary finish color, adding depth and dimension.
- Burnished finishes are available only on door styles with solid wood center panels.

Distressed finishes replicate the look of reclaimed wood that has been restored and repurposed. Using multiple techniques, our skilled artisans carefully hand-distress every door so each one is unique. Next, a dark burnishing stain is carefully brushed onto corners and select raised areas. Finally, after a stain is applied and hand-rubbed into the wood, a durable matte Suede topcoat is used to complete the distressed look.

Suede topcoat softens the overall finish color and gives cabinetry a sophisticated appearance. KraftMaid Cabinetry's suede topcoat also provides the same resistance to scuffs, dents, moisture, UV fade and household chemicals as our standard topcoat.



Unfinished doors and drawer fronts are over-sanded and randomly distressed

A darkening stain is artistically applied to the corners and raised areas

A stain is applied and hand-rubbed to ensure full, equal coverage

A Suede, or matte sheen, topcoat is applied to provide a beautiful and durable furniture finish

Putnam Oak Distressed Husk

- Distressing effects – including edge rasping, worm holes, cow tail, edge burnishing, softened corners and industrial distressing – are inconsistently hand-applied, replicating the look of distressed wood that has been repurposed.



Paints let you boldly express yourself with rich beautiful color, regardless of your style.

Paints with Glaze add depth and richness to your favorite door style. We start with rich, beautiful paint and then coat the entire door with a glaze flood coat which is then hand-wiped, creating a beautiful glaze color in the recessed and detailed areas of the door.



Durango Maple Willow

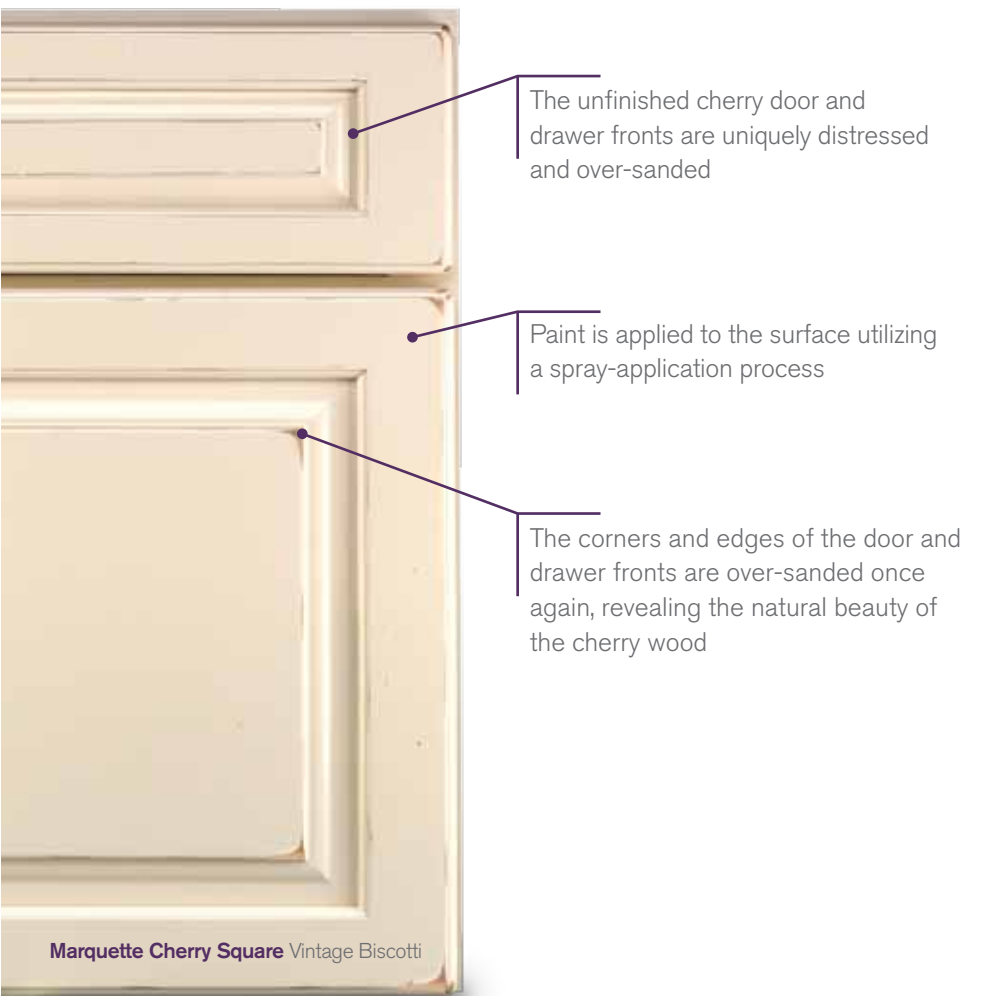
- Natural wood characteristics such as gum pockets, streaks and pin knots may be visible, particularly with some of our light paints. These characteristics tend to be more pronounced on the backs of our drawers and doors.
- Since wood naturally expands and contracts, you may see hairline cracks in the finish surface at the joints. Joint lines are normal and do not affect the strength of the door's construction.
- Most painted finishes are available only on maple due to the more uniform appearance and smooth, clean characteristics of this wood.



Astoria Maple Biscotti with Cocoa Glaze

- Natural wood characteristics such as gum pockets, streaks and pin knots may be visible, particularly with some of our light paints. These characteristics tend to be more pronounced on the backs of our drawers and doors.
- Since wood naturally expands and contracts, you may see hairline cracks in the finish surface at the joints. Joint lines are normal and do not affect the strength of the door's construction.
- Glazing is a finish process that involves two hand-detailed techniques, so no two doors look exactly alike.
- The initial flood coat of glaze adds depth of color and richness to the original base color.

Vintage finishes give the appearance of heirloom cabinetry that has been well loved and used throughout the years. An unfinished cherry door is sanded at the corners and raised areas. After a coat of paint, the corners and raised areas are sanded again, revealing the perfect hint of warm cherry.



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- Since wood naturally expands and contracts, you may see hairline cracks in the finish surface at the joints. Joint lines are normal and do not affect the strength of the door's construction.
- Multiple steps, including random distressing and over-sanding, create an aged appearance where no two doors look exactly alike.

Vintage Patina finishes create a dramatic look on beautiful KraftMaid doors. An unfinished cherry door is sanded on the corners and raised areas, and then random compression marks are made to add unique character. After a coat of paint is applied to the entire door and cured, the corners and detailed areas are sanded again to reveal the cherry wood. Finally, a flood coat of glaze is sprayed and hand-wiped, allowing beautiful glaze color to remain in the recessed and detailed areas.



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- Since wood naturally expands and contracts, you may see hairline cracks in the finish surface at the joints. Joint lines are normal and do not affect the strength of the door's construction.
- Multiple steps, including random distressing, over-sanding and glazing, create an aged appearance where no two doors look exactly alike.

Thermofoil doors feature a flawless, silky-smooth surface, providing a uniform look from door to door. Thermofoil laminate is applied with heat and pressure, resulting in a durable, easy-to-clean door. The face frame is finished to match thermofoil for a uniform appearance.



Thermofoil material is applied to medium-density fiberboard (MDF) using an intense heat and pressure-bonding process

Face frame is finished to match Thermofoil

Evana Cream

- Made of laminate, Thermofoil finish provides a uniform look from door to door and is easy to clean.
- Thermofoil reacts to heat. To protect a Thermofoil finish and maintain its warranty, a KraftMaid heat shield is required on cabinetry located next to an oven.
- Prolonged exposure to tobacco smoke will discolor Thermofoil finishes, and this side effect is not covered under warranty.



WOOD TYPES

A | Birch

Natural Birch is a medium-density hardwood with a fine, moderate grain pattern. The predominant sapwood color is white to creamy yellow, while the heartwood varies in color from medium or dark brown to reddish brown. This range in color makes a distinctive statement in your Birch cabinetry selection.

Rustic Birch

Rustic Birch likely includes some combination of open knots, wormholes, dramatic color contrast and mineral streaks reflecting the inherent beauty of the wood. These characteristics are expected and preferred as they occur naturally in the material; no one characteristic (e.g., open knots) is a defining trait of Rustic Birch.

B | Cherry

Cherry is an elegant, multicolored hardwood, which may contain small knots and pinholes. Natural or light stains accent these color variations, making a distinctive statement in a full kitchen. Cherry wood will darken or “mellow” with age. This mellowing is a natural occurrence and the benefit of owning a Cherry kitchen.

Quartersawn Cherry

Quartersawn refers to the method of cutting natural Cherry wood. Lumber is cut through the rings at close to a 90-degree angle, creating a tighter, straighter and more consistent grain pattern.

Rustic Cherry

Rustic Cherry likely includes some combination of open knots, wormholes, dramatic color contrast and mineral streaks reflecting the inherent beauty of the wood. These characteristics are expected and preferred as they occur naturally in the material; no one characteristic (e.g., open knots) is a defining trait of Rustic Cherry.

C | Hickory

Hickory is a strong, open-grained wood that is known for its wide variation in color. It is not uncommon to see doors or parts of doors that range in color from light to a deep brown when finished in light or natural stains. Darker stains will mildly tone these color variations. These characteristics are what make each Hickory kitchen unique and the preference of those who love wood.

Rustic Hickory

Rustic Hickory likely includes some combination of open knots, wormholes, dramatic color contrast and mineral streaks reflecting the inherent beauty of the wood. These characteristics are expected and preferred as they occur naturally in the material; no one characteristic (e.g., open knots) is a defining trait of Rustic Hickory.

D | Maple

Hard Maple is a strong, close-grained wood that is predominantly off-white in color, although it also contains light hues of yellow-brown and pink. Hard Maple occasionally contains light tan or small dark mineral streaks.

Quartersawn Maple

Quartersawn refers to the method of cutting natural Maple wood. Lumber is cut through the rings at close to a 90-degree angle, creating a tighter, straighter and more consistent grain pattern.

Rustic Maple

Rustic Maple likely includes some combination of open knots, wormholes, dramatic color contrast and mineral streaks reflecting the inherent beauty of the wood. These characteristics are expected and preferred as they occur naturally in the material; no one characteristic (e.g., open knots) is a defining trait of Rustic Maple.

E | Oak

Red Oak is a strong, open-grained wood that has a range in color of white, yellow and pink. Red Oak is sometimes streaked with green, yellow and black mineral deposits and may contain some wide grain.

Quartersawn Oak

Quartersawn refers to the method of cutting natural Oak wood. Lumber is cut through the rings at close to a 90-degree angle, creating a tighter, straighter and more consistent grain pattern.



NATURAL WOOD EXPECTATIONS

Wood products, including cabinet doors and face frames, are typically affected by environmental conditions. Color variation over time, as well as normal movement due to wood's expansion and contraction, is part of the natural beauty of wood.

This normal movement may cause hairline cracks in the finish surface at the joints, which are considered a normal characteristic of painted finishes. This will not be considered a reason for product replacement.

FINISH TERMINOLOGY

A End Grain

End grain surfaces and softer areas of the wood may accept more stain and often appear darker than other surfaces. This is a natural reaction when finishing wood products and potential variances cannot be controlled.

B Joint Lines

Since wood is in a constant state of expansion and contraction, visible lines are normal at the joints on the cabinet face frames and doors. This does not weaken the finish or the strength of the joint.

C Telegraphing

All wood species show some wood grain. The amount of grain will vary by species and finish. Oak is an open or coarse grain wood. The grain will "telegraph" or visibly show through the stain. Birch and Maple are closed or fine grain woods. Some "telegraphing" will occur, though the effect will be subtle.

D Mineral Streaks

In nature, mineral deposits may form in the wood as the tree extracts nutrients from the soil. Common in many wood types, these mineral deposits cause blackish-blue streaks in the grain. When a finish is applied to mineral streaks, it may appear lighter or darker than other areas of your cabinetry.

E Distressing

Evoke the look of reclaimed wood that has been repurposed. The effects include edge rasping, worm holes, cow tail, edge burnishing, softened corners, random industrial distressing and a Suede topcoat.



KraftMaid®

Finish Samples. When designing your dream space, some things shouldn't be left to the imagination. Order a 4" by 3.25" finish sample or 15" by 15" door sample to see how your favorite finish looks on a specific wood type.



kraftmaid.com/samples

