

# RT Facts

## Material Information and Care for Coffee Tables

### **Base Materials and Finishes:**

#### **Blackened Steel or Blackened Iron:**

Our metal pieces are sealed solid metals. For some finishes, this means that any scratches or nicks could be sanded out and refinished, however we recommend finding a trusted craftsperson for this. RT Facts does not provide this service. That said, we actually appreciate each scratch, scuff and ding and believe it only builds patina and shapes the story the piece has to tell.

Our Blackened finish is our tried and true standard which we love very much. It reads as a very warm almost black color with much dimension, allowing for the life and texture of the metal to come through.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the finish.

#### **Polished Steel:**

Our polished steel finish is a sleek and soft look that requires great skill to work with. Because of its nature, it is prone to build a patina quickly with every scratch and scuff. That said, we actually believe it only builds patina and shapes the story the piece has to tell.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

#### **Powder Coat:**

Powder coating is an extremely durable finish suitable for indoor or outdoor use. We offer a wide range of standard colors and can also color-match from an RAL color number.

Your powder coated piece may be left outside in the elements all year. For best longevity, we recommend bringing it indoors or into a sheltered area during cold months of freezing and thawing to prevent excess wear to the surface.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Do not hit or drag metal or other hard items across the surface of your item. Powder coat is susceptible to scratching. If scratched or chipped deeply enough, exposed metal area may rust.

#### **Gesso:**

Our Gesso finish is hand-applied, letting the craftsperson's hand work show though. All of our gesso pieces are lightly sealed for a long-lasting finish.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

#### **Solid Wood:**

Our woods are sealed solid woods, not veneer. For some wood species and finishes, this means that any scratches or nicks could be sanded out and refinished, however we recommend finding a trusted craftsperson for this. RT Facts does not provide this service. That said, we actually appreciate each scratch, scuff and ding and believe it only builds patina and shapes the story the piece has to tell.

Because our woods are finished or sealed, we do not recommend using any conditioning products on them. To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

## **Top Materials and Finishes:**

### **Linen:**

Our linen table tops are made of natural linen fabric sealed with multiple coats of polyurethane to create a durable, contract-grade, impervious surface.

Prolonged exposure to liquids and sunlight can alter the sheen and color of the table top but will not decrease its durability.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved.

### **Painted Wood:**

We use high quality paints when finishing our wood items. To keep your painted surface looking like new, avoid prolonged exposure to liquids. That said, we actually appreciate each scratch, scuff and ding and believe it only builds patina and shapes the story the piece has to tell.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

### **Polished Cast Stone:**

Polished Cast Stone is a sealed, non-porous, man-made stone and is our recommended material for table tops that require the utmost durability for indoor and outdoor use. This material can be cast thin or thick, the latter having the underside routed out to lessen the weight.

If sealed for outdoor use, your polished cast stone piece may be left outside in the elements all year. For best longevity, we recommend bringing it indoors or into a sheltered area during cold months of freezing and thawing to prevent chipping and cracking.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth. If moisture is needed when cleaning, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water.

The most important thing to remember when caring for your cast stone is not to damage the seal. Certain substances can break down the sealer and leave a light haze or stain. Avoid exposure to the following and be sure to wipe with a soft cloth dampened with water as soon as possible: Harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners; Cleaners which contain vinegar, citric acids, ammonia, acetone, hydrogen peroxide or bleach; Acidic foods and beverages such as lemon juice, mustard, vinegar, wine, soda, tomatoes.

Do not use a knife to cut directly on the surface or place hot pans directly on the surface as minor white scratches show over time with regular use, applying Pledge periodically lessens the noticeability and rejuvenates the shine.

If not sealed for outdoor use, please dry the surface of your cast stone completely after cleaning. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

**Faux Porphyry:**

Our faux porphyry finish is hand-painted with great care by our skilled painter.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to pat dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

**Limestone:**

Limestone is a natural and porous material that requires specific care but will stand the test of time when treated properly.

If moisture is needed to clean, use a fiber brush (such as a vegetable scrubber) and warm water with a light soap such as Dawn Liquid Soap. Do not use products that contain lemon, vinegar or other acids or harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners. Rinse the surface thoroughly with warm water after washing with the soap solution and blot dry with a soft cloth. Change the rinse water frequently.

To prevent staining and discoloration, wipe up spills immediately. Treat stains by mixing one cup of flour with two to three tablespoons of hydrogen peroxide to make a paste.

Be sure to blot dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

**Glass:**

Our standard glass is clear, which has a greenish tint on the edge. This is a result of the natural presence of iron oxide from elements such as sand, or from the cask or container whereby the glass was melted. Glass tops can also be ordered in low iron to avoid the green cast found in the edge of standard glass.

To clean, standard glass cleaners and a soft cloth can be used.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

A glass-protecting sealant like Spanguard can be applied to resist scratches.

**Leather:**

The leather that we use on our pieces is genuine cow hide and therefore displays a range of natural characteristics that cannot be controlled. Our workshop does their very best to thoughtfully match and place leather pieces to best suit the item and design. Our leather is either dyed or waxed, depending on specification. Our leather is not sealed from UV or moisture and may change in color, sheen and patina over time. To slow color change, keep your item out of direct sunlight but know that lighter colors may eventually deepen and that darker colored leathers may fade.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

You may use a leather moisturizer.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.

**Antique Gold:**

Our Antique Gold finish is applied entirely by hand in multiple layers and with great care.

To clean, dust with dry soft cloth.

If moisture is needed, use a soft cloth dampened only by a bit of water or a light cleaning solution.

Do not use harsh or abrasive chemical cleaners.

Be sure to dry the surface completely after the desired result is achieved. This is a very important step in prolonging the life of the surface.