

	Soap	Oil	White-Pigmented Oil	Clear Lacquer	CHS Color
What it is	Flakes made from 100% vegetable oil-based soap, mixed in water; the mixture is rubbed into wood then wiped off	Vegetable based oil rubbed into wood with a special cloth	Vegetable based oil, with a special white pigment, rubbed into wood with a special cloth	Water-based clear lacquer	Special Paint
Appearance	The closest to raw wood; grain and structure visible; light color	Grain and structure visible; darker than soap; creates luster and brings out contrasts in grain and structure; darkens over time to reach a rich patina	Grain and structure visible; lightens the wood and does not darken over time; brings out contrasts in grain and structure	Grain and structure visible; darker than soap; glossy, smooth finish; yellows over time	Structure visible, but grain and other contrasts are covered
Maintenance	Wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated every 2-3 months or as needed to remove stubborn stains	Wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated 2 times per year, on all surfaces, or as needed to remove scratched or stubborn stains	Wipe clean with damp cloth; wood should be treated 2 times per year, on all surfaces, or as needed to remove scratched or stubborn stains	Wipe clean with damp cloth; no treatment needed	Wipe clean with damp cloth; no treatment needed
Advantages	The most natural of finishes; anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty using soap and “elbow grease” without having to use a professional	Anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty using oil and “elbow grease” without having to use a professional; oil is more stain resistant than soap	Not susceptible to the effects of light; Anyone can completely restore a table to its original beauty using oil and “elbow grease” without having to use a professional; oil is more stain resistant than soap	Easy to care for on a daily basis, as long as there is not serious damage (deep scratched, burn marks, etc.); not susceptible to the effects of light	Easy to care for on a daily basis, as long as there is not serious damage (deep scratched, burn marks, etc.); not susceptible to the effects of light and does not yellow over time
Disadvantages	Requires regular maintenance for best results; until the wood has been treated many times, soap-treated wood takes stains from red wine, children’s markers, etc.	Requires regular maintenance for best results, ideally two times per year	Requires regular maintenance for best results, ideally two times per year	Susceptible to scratches and abrasion over time; surfaces must be repaired by professionals in cases of serious damage	Susceptible to scratches and abrasion over time; surfaces must be repaired by professionals in cases of serious damage
Recommended For	Private homes – especially wood purists, should be willing to spend 20 minutes a month to maintain furniture	Private homes and public areas, those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood	Private homes and public areas	Private homes and public areas, those who do not want to maintain their furniture with regular treatments	Private homes and public areas, those who do not want to maintain their furniture with regular treatments
Not Recommended For	High use venues (public areas)			Those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood	Those who love the contrasts and feeling of natural wood

