



## Wood Characteristics, Defects, and Care

West Havens suppliers use a mixture of old and new wood and varies by country of origin. Our factories in China use Elm, Pine, and Oak. Our factories in India use Sheesham, Acacia, and Mango. The majority of our products are made from elm and pine, made out of old doors and other building parts. Like other antiques, each piece is unique - which is what makes them so special.

Below is a list of characteristics that you can/should expect to find in products made out of old doors and reclaimed wood, along with some pictures of what IS a defect.

### Normal Characteristics:



Small cracks along grain lines



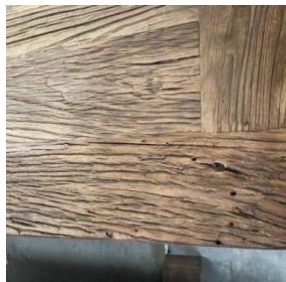
Small areas of natural surface variations



Knots in grain.



Small cracks due to seasonal temperature and humidity variations



Small holes in the wood



Irregular patterns.



Blocking or stamps to replace holes left by hardware



Grain pattern variation

\*\*Slight color variations in overall color is also a natural characteristic as each piece accepts stain differently.

## Defects:

Any crack that effects the function is a defect.

Ex: A cracked dining table leg, or dining chair seat. Any seasonal crack you can fit a quarter into.



## Care:



West Haven items should be treated like any other wood: using a coaster or placemat to protect it. West Haven items either have a wax finish, or light coating of lacquer to protect the surface against spills or stains. If you spill a soda, or glass or red wine, as long as you wipe it up right away, it will not affect the wood.

Daily cleaning can consist of wiping it down with a damp cloth

2 times per year, a mild cleaner/wood conditioner can be used to moisturize, like a Murphy's Oil Soap. Do not spray directly on the wood, always spray on a cloth first.

A heavier lacquer or polyurethane can be applied to the surface, but will affect the natural look.