THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF SOLID HARDWOOD

CABINETRY ANATOMY

Your cabinetry will be constructed from several pieces of solid hardwood. Face frame, door and 5-piece drawer fronts consist of solid wood vertical members called stiles, and solid wood horizontal members called rails. The other component is the door and drawer front center panel.

The center panel is made up of several individual solid hardwood pieces known as staves. These staves vary in width and are “glued up” to create large width panels that can be machined and profiled to create the desired look for the style of the cabinetry. The dotted lines on the photo below define the three (3) staves in door center panel

A typical door may contain seven (7) or more pieces of solid hardwood which gives your cabinetry a distinct and refined look.

COLOR VARIATION

Trees consist of two (2) types of wood: heartwood and sapwood. Heartwood is old growth found in the core of the tree, and sapwood is newer growth found in the outer perimeter of the tree. Heartwood is typically darker and transitions to a lighter color as it moves toward the sapwood.

Cabinetry component pieces are randomly selected from heartwood and sapwood to create a mix or blend of material to showcase the beauty of the wood and prevent the finished cabinetry from looking artificial or monochromatic. The door shown at the left is a beautiful example of the marriage of these hardwoods.
Grain in wood is caused by annual growth rings, wood rays, and other cellular structures contained within the wood. Grain runs vertical, or in the direction of height growth and is used to describe alignment and various patterns that may appear in your hardwood.

The most common grain patterns are: fine or straight, cross, wavy or curly and arch. Injury to a tree can affect grain patterns creating very unique and exquisite patterns. Injury may be the result of stress, weather, birds or insects. The trees reaction is to produce a wart covering called burl to protect itself. It is from the burl that we see unusual grain patterns like fiddle back, tiger stripe and cross fire. Any or all of these patterns may be present in your cabinetry making it truly, one of a kind!
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Your cabinetry may also have some species characteristics like closed knots (1), a blackish-blue streak called mineral streak (2), telegraphing (3), where some darkened grain shows through the stain or small brownish dots called birds eye (4).

None of the characteristics pictured are to be considered flaws, blemishes or imperfections, but rather, examples of the beauties of Mother Nature. These are the same variations that will be found in granite, slate, marble or stone, which cannot be fully replicated with man made materials. It is for this reason that these characteristics cannot be considered for warranty replacement. Please remember that we do not make the wood, what we do is make the wood beautiful!

THE ARTISTRY OF GLAZE AND PAINT FINISHES

STAIN/GLAZE
Glaze is a hand applied accent over a stain base coat designed to accentuate the detail of each door and drawer front and replicate the look of antique furniture. There will be a natural variation from door to door of glaze color highlights in the grooves of the door frame as well as “hang-up” in corners of the frame. Because of the hand applied nature and technique of this finish, no two doors will have the same level of glazing. It is therefore very important to look at your cabinetry as a whole rather than focusing on an individual door, as the mix or blend of all doors will present a balanced unique look.
Glaze accent applied over a painted base coat will be less “busy” as color variation from grain and base hardwood material is eliminated. The glaze application process is the same as with a stain base coat and you will find the same groove highlights and “hang-up” in corners as detailed above.

Wood is in a constant state of expansion and contraction depending on your home’s relative humidity. This normal movement may cause some hairline cracks at the joints in the painted finish surface on doors, drawer fronts, and face frames. This is a natural occurrence and does not diminish or weaken the strength of the joints. These hairline cracks occur in all finishes, but are more visible in painted finishes.