

# YOUR CABINETS CAN HAVE A "FACE-LIFT"



If your family is anything like ours, cabinets can take a pretty good beating just from everyday wear and tear. Our home is now seven years old and has watched our kids grow up. Now that they are moving out for college in stages, we decided to take a look at how to spruce things up at the house. With college expenses facing us, we needed to count pennies. A complete restoration of our cabinets was not in the picture and frankly, it wasn't needed. They were well built and stained by Oklahoma Millworks when the house was built. They just needed some of the kid rubbed off of them.

That is when we went looking for my old friend Tom Russell with Metro Woodcare. He has been saving our cabinets and our money since the early 1990's. This will be the third house that Russell has reconditioned cabinets in for me. There is no doubt that it won't be the last time. As he has done many times before, he did an outstanding job.

As with most houses, our kitchen needed the most work. Cooking odors and films can build up and take the luster right out of any cabinet. I think the biggest part of what he does is get them cleaned up and puts the moisture back into the wood. Even though we have used Metro Woodcare before I was still

amazed at the difference after he was done.

This house offered an additional challenge for our friend. My study, the only part of the house deemed just for me, had a problem. It was our big dog who gets excited when the door bell rings. She crashes the front door. Not wanting to be rude or have the person on the other end eaten, our kids would shut our dog up in the study. Our dog Abby was well meaning and just trying to do her job but her excitement had left some giant scratches on my beautiful study doors. I thought the doors would need to be replaced.

Metro Woodcare came to the rescue. The study doors look like brand new. There is not a scratch in sight and we no longer put Abby in the study when the door bell rings. I would prefer she eat whoever is at the door. I could not believe the job that Tom did on those doors. It was incredible and made my study a haven for my relaxation once again.

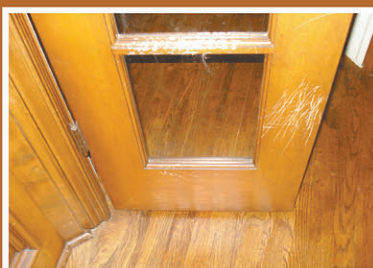
Wood is by nature hygroscopic. This means that wood will adjust its moisture content to the relative humidity of the environment in which it exists, and change as that environment changes. When wood absorbs moisture it swells and when it gives off moisture it shrinks. This natural "breathing" process causes wood to dry out and absorb dirt, fade and look dull, and even crack or split.

For wood to meet the stresses of this

but also increases the flexibility of the wood fibers.

Metro Woodcare's wood cleaning and reconditioning process consists of three steps. Each is specifically designed to rejuvenate tired, stain damaged, old looking wood to a "like-new" condition.

1. Using their specially formulated wood cleaner, they remove all surface dirt. The cleaner works especially well on grease and hand oils around door knobs, elevator controls and "push" type doors. It will also remove built-up floor wax, carpet cleaning detergent, and pesticide residue from baseboard moldings.
2. They use dye markers, wood stain pens, and industrial strength scratch covers to hide all nicks and scratches uncovered during the cleaning process.
3. Metro's penetrating oil serves three purposes:
  - a. It restores moisture to the wood, thus increasing flexibility.
  - b. Because the oil contains detergent, it dissolves embedded dirt that has combined with the wood grain. The embedded dirt causes wood to look dull and the wood grain less distinct.
  - c. The wood becomes saturated with our oil. Dried out wood is very susceptible to the absorption of dirt, much like a new sponge in water. Saturated wood is more repellant to dirt.



BEFORE



AFTER

shrinking and swelling, it must remain flexible. As wood ages and the natural oils dry out, its flexibility decreases. The "feeding" process involves re-moisturizing the wood with Metro Woodcare's special oils. This treatment not only restores its original beauty

Metro Woodcare does residential or commercial work. They specialize in kitchens but do bathrooms, doors, furniture, lobbies, elevators, conference rooms, libraries and paneling. You can reach Tom at 946-3330.

— Ray Hibbard