

The Sturdy Oak Furniture

The oak tree is one of the most majestic giant trees in the whole wide world. It has more than 300 species, including the Royal Oak and Common Oak (*Quercus Robur*), which are popular in British countries. The latter is oftentimes used to landscape splendid estate homes. Another known oak species is the Charter Oak, which is widely prominent in America. The Cork Oak is a very rare variety, as the name suggests, this kind of oak is commonly used in making most of the finest quality corks of wine bottles.

During the Middle Ages, and even until today, oak wood is a favorite choice in interior paneling of prominent buildings and establishments and in making fine furniture.

The oak wood has an estimated density of 0.75 grams per cubic centimeter. Such wood has great strength and sturdiness. It is an ideal heavy hardwood for making large pieces of furniture such as desks, tables, or beds.

Because oak wood contains significant amounts of tannin, it is extremely resistant to fungal and insect attacks. Additionally, the grain markings that the oak wood has are very attractive, most especially when quarter-sawn. Oak furniture is traditionally used as decorative pieces because of its clean simple lines and glossy finishes.

In purchasing oak furniture, first, you should be able to distinguish whether the furniture that you will buy is made of solid wood or not. To save money, many manufacturers would use oak veneer instead of using real oak wood. Because oak veneer is only a thin sheet of oak, it is expectedly less durable compared to solid oak wood. Go for pieces with minimal imperfections, and a smooth and classy finish. And as for the price, you should take note that furniture made of oak would expectedly cost a lot more than pine furniture. But compared to other woods such as mahogany, oak furniture is much cheaper.

Hardwoods, of which oak wood is one example, need less maintenance compared to softwoods. But oak furniture pieces, like all other furniture made of natural woods, can be damaged by extremes in temperature and humidity a sudden or abrupt change can cause cracks in joints.

Hence, it must still be maintained and well cared for to ensure that the overall appearance and integrity of the Oak furniture would last over time. To make this possible, oak furniture must be inspected and regularly dusted and polished, and must be kept away from direct sources of heat or moisture.

Investing in oak furniture is sure worth it, especially if you know how to choose the right one and take good care of it.

About the Author

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