

Todd Thomas Home Shares Cabinet Cleaning Tips To Help Protect Kitchen Finishes During Holiday Hosting

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Todd Thomas Home, a remodeling company based in Melbourne, Florida, shares guidance on how to clean kitchen cabinets without damaging the finish ahead of Thanksgiving on November 26, 2026, and the December holidays. The company?s earlier guide to kitchen cabinet quality covered what to check before ordering. This guidance focuses on caring for finishes after installation.

Cabinet handles and doors get touched often during holiday cooking and hosting, so they should be cleaned regularly. High-touch surfaces, such as doorknobs, should be cleaned regularly and after visitors come over, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC also says to use a product suited to each surface and follow its label directions.

The cabinet maker?s care instructions help show which cleaners and disinfectants are safe on the finish. A cleaner made for countertops or appliances may not suit painted, stained, or laminated cabinets. CDC says never to mix bleach or other disinfectants with other cleaners or disinfectants, because the mix can release

vapors that may be dangerous to breathe in.

CDC also advises good ventilation when using disinfectants indoors and warns that some cleaning and disinfecting products can trigger asthma. It says cleaning with soap and water usually removes most germs and dirt. Disinfecting can kill germs that remain after cleaning, and CDC says to disinfect when someone in the home is sick or has a weakened immune system.

If the cabinet maker allows mild soapy water, homeowners can gently wipe with a clean, soft cloth lightly dampened with the solution. They should avoid abrasive cleaners and scouring pads, then dry the surface promptly, taking particular care around seams and exposed edges. No single cleaner, bleach included, can be assumed safe for every cabinet finish.

One test in the ANSI/KCMA A161.1-2022 standard, from the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association, checks how door edges on factory-assembled cabinets resist detergent and water. A door edge rests on a sponge holding a 0.5% solution, by weight, of unconcentrated hand-dishwashing detergent. Exposure lasts four hours when material seams or splices touch the sponge and 24 hours when they do not.

Passing requires no swelling or layer separation, and the finish must show no discoloration, blistering, small cracks, or whitening under set viewing conditions. The standard lets a door that fails be rechecked after 14 days. These testing conditions are not instructions for cleaning or soaking cabinets at home.

Todd Thomas Home?s published guidance for homeowners in Melbourne says cooking steam can repeatedly expose cabinet faces and edges to moisture. It says to wipe and dry splashes before water reaches exposed edges, since exposed wood absorbs moisture faster than protected surfaces. The company also cautions against soaking or forcefully bending a finished door because the surface coating may crack.

The company suggests an outdoor-venting range hood to remove cooking moisture, plus air conditioning or a dehumidifier during humid periods. It notes that oven or dishwasher heat may dry nearby cabinet sections unevenly. Todd Thomas Home recommends checking cabinet corners and edges for chipped coating that could expose the material underneath.

The company advises looking inside sink cabinets for swelling or staining and checking nearby plumbing if either appears. Its guidance notes that tightening loose hinge screws can fix a door that only looks crooked, but not flatten a warped panel. Replacement may be more practical for a deeply twisted panel or a separated joint after the moisture source is addressed.

Todd Thomas Home designs and installs custom kitchen cabinets through qualified carpenters for homeowners in Melbourne and across Florida?s Space Coast. The company began as a home-based handyman service run by Todd Thomas, who obtained his contractor?s license and began expanding the business in 2014. Its cabinetry division grew through the 2018 acquisition of CWW Kitchens.

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Todd Thomas Home

Todd Thomas Home Improvement is the leading full home remodeling company in Melbourne, FL, and the surrounding areas. We specialize in bathroom reconstructions & remodeling, kitchen remodeling, outdoor kitchens, and custom cabinets in Melbourne, FL.

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