

Antiques furniture restoration refers to either the practice of "restoration"- restoring an antique to a like-new condition or "conservation"- the practice of preserving an antique or work of art against further deterioration

Restoration can be as simple as light cleaning to remove disfiguring dirt or grime, such as on the surface or it may include near complete rebuilding or replacement, as might be the case with old furniture. Often done in preparation for sale, or by a collector upon acquiring a new piece, the main goal of restoration is to "restore" the original appearance or functionality of a piece. There is a lot of difference between restoring and repairing. You may achieve functionality with a repair, but restoring an item properly is an art-form. Finishes might/may be stripped and redone, but it is essential that the original patination is retained, if possible. Stripping is only done as a last resort, especially with antique furniture. **Therefore, restoration should always be left to professionals who are sensitive to all of the issues- insuring that a piece retains or increases its value after restoration Restorers are often trained craftsmen, such as furniture makers or metalsmiths. Some have years of experience in their fields, whereas others are self-taught**, Conservation: Detail oriented process designed to preserve as much original finish and materials as possible while bringing the piece back to as close to its original condition as possible

Finish Restoration: Finish restoration is the process of bringing an existing finish back to life. This involves re-emulsifying the original finish, either shellac or varnish. By using the original solvents to liquefy the solids, their ability to adhere to and penetrate the piece returns. The process also removes the dirt and grime accumulated over years of use. If the finish is very thin, additional layers of the same finish may be applied to bolster the restored finish and ensure longevity. Finish restoration results in an original finish rating, say 85% original finish remains. The original finish that remains, the greater antique value remains.

Preservation: The process of stopping or slowing deterioration usually does not involve actual restoration or attempts to return the piece to its original condition. Damage and finish deterioration are left intact, but prevented from going further. This process is usually done on museum works; we recommend a conservation or restoration process for home use of antiques. In most cases this is a chemical process that prevents further oxidation of the wood and metals, and in addition adds moisture to the existing finish.

Refinishing: Removing a finish and applying a new finish in its place. This process destroys significant portions of antique value in furniture and should be avoided unless absolutely necessary.

Repair: Physical structural replacement or reinforcement of parts of the original piece. May involve addition of new materials altered to appear aged or the application of antique materials to improve appearance of repair and preserve as much value as possible.

Restoration: Bringing a piece back to close to its original condition including structural and finish repairs.

Stripping: Avoid stripping antiques at almost any cost, stripping in its true sense involves dipping the piece in a chemical bath that will remove finish, patina, and in some cases the glue holding the piece together. A stripped antique is truly stripped, mainly of its value. Veneering may peel, joints will swell or break apart, and the piece usually has to be completely rebuilt. This applies in cases where someone has foolishly stripped the piece in the past and applied inappropriate finishes that must be removed

Wood-drying kiln

A variety of wood drying kiln technologies exist today: conventional, dehumidification, solar, vacuum and radio frequency.

Modern high-temperature, high-air-velocity conventional kilns can typically dry 1-inch-thick (25 mm) green lumber in 10 hours down to a moisture content of 18%. Humidity is removed via a system of vents, the specific layout of which are usually particular to a given manufacturer. In general, cool dry air is introduced at one end of the kiln while warm moist air is expelled at the other. Hardwood conventional kilns also require the introduction of humidity via either steam spray or cold water misting systems to keep the relative humidity inside the kiln from dropping too low during the drying cycle. Fan directions are typically reversed periodically to ensure even drying of larger kiln charges. Newer wood drying technologies have included the use of reduced atmospheric pressure to attempt to speed up the drying process.

Why kiln-dried lumber is the best option for wood that will eventually 'live' indoors.

kiln dried lumber is better to use than air dried made a desk from air dried cherry. The lumber was old stuff (20 years or so) and a meter check revealed about 7% moisture. After it was placed in the house, it started to crack and check badly. The key to any piece of wood is its moisture content.

There are two important differences between AD and KD. In a kiln, the wood is usually heated above 130 F, which kills all insects, eggs, and fungi. Second, with resinous softwoods, the heat drives off the resin that would be liquid and runny at room temperature.

Kilns have been used when we started to have central heating, which is about 150 years ago. The early kilns had a fire built under the lumber piles. The stacks had spaces between each piece of lumber, creating multiple vertical convection channels or flues within the piles.

Old furniture & restorations Why are you buying new furniture, get the old pieces you've had for years restored ? Not only is restoring old furniture economical, but it also about feeling good about preserving history that would have been discarded . When you restore old furniture, the renewal value that were formerly useless becomes a part of the treasure of history that enhances the total out look of your home , giving it a classic look & self satisfaction of reviving a memory of the time that went past .

Restoration of old furniture entails redoing old pieces & making them useful ,more beautiful & reviving old furniture to its original quality. Sometimes all that's needed is a cleaning. More of a project, refinishing is a form of restoration, dealing more with the functionality of furniture, such as repairing legs on a coffee table. Besides repairing, refinishing may also include stripping off the old paint or finish, in addition to removing blemishes and stains.

Restoring a piece of old furniture that is worth saving depends on several factors, the condition of the furniture? the style? refinish or restore? Old furniture needs a good cleaning or wax removal to make an old piece of furniture look new again but all this taken into consideration its always better to leave it to the experts who have experience & hands on knowledge to bring your piece to life

The use of proper tools, the needed supplies, the type of wood ,the expertise & knowledge of furniture restoration or is it ornately carved which is very difficult to work within the tiny cracks and crevices or is the wood painted , dyed , stain , varnished , lacquered or french polish ? This are some of the question that you have to ask yourself before even considering to try to restore any furniture yourself .Some owners may be hesitant to restore old furniture, fearing it will lose its value. However, if your furniture was made after the American Civil, War it won't lose its value. In most cases, it appreciates quicker when brought back to its original beauty. Identify the piece as historical or non-historical In the world of furniture restoration the theory that stripping furniture to bare wood eliminates a piece of furniture's history, fearing restoration stops the link of the past for future generations. However, when features of a piece of furniture, such as an original finish, have already been lost, the furniture isn't worth keeping if not restored. In this case there's no option but to remove the remaining old paint, substitute a natural finish or paint in a way that matches the period of the furniture .

Antiques wood & solid wood furniture restoration is challenging , time consuming & rewarding after transformation of fine furniture to its original looks which becomes a reminder of our past treasures left behind by our generations which demands respect, Age always has it's impact creating cracks , stains , wobbly joint or other damages to beautiful grained wood furniture ,flooring & sculptures .We have hands on expert conservation masters who transform your antique tables , chairs & other collections to its original beauty & value . Our services includes repairs , restorations , dyeing , varnishing ,kiln drying , bug treatment ,etc .We also provide parquet wood , hardwood floor sanding , polishing & varnish by our veteran floor refinisher to achieve a smooth, professional-quality finish.

An antique is an old collectable item or any piece of furniture or decorative object produced in a former period and valuable because of its beauty or rarity .It is collected or desirable because of its age, beauty, rarity, condition, utility, personal emotional connection or other unique features. It is an object that represents a previous era or time period in human society.works of art ,rugs and carpets, works in bronze, marble, terra cotta etc. Antique furniture is a popular area of antiques because furniture has obvious practical uses as well as collector value. Antiques are usually objects that show some degree of craftsmanship .The common definition (objects at least 80-100 years old.) of *antique* is a

collectible object such as a piece of furniture or work of art that has a high value because of its considerable age. Amateur Restoring an antique to its original glory might seem like a good idea but a do-it-yourself paint job on the furniture you inherited from your great-grandfather is a definite no. This is another area where an expert's advice is a must. Leave the more complicated restoration projects to professionals to retain the value of your antiques & collectibles. Many questions that have to be asked if you are thinking of doing your own handy job such as: Is it a masterpiece or classic? Was your furniture, antique, rug or statue made by a notable craftsman or manufacturer? Is it an extremely valuable item? Do you know its true value? If it turns out to be a masterpiece, just leave it alone. Any fixer-up tasks accomplished on a piece like that should be left to a professional who works with high-end antique furniture. Restorers of antiques are trained craftspersons, such as furniture makers or metalsmiths & have years of experience in their fields & their process are as follows; Conservation, finish restoration, preservation, refinishing, repair, restoration, stripping & salvage.

Antique restorers maintain current knowledge of antique conservation, restoration techniques, source & acquire materials for use in the conservation and restoration process, use practical and scientific restoration techniques to conserve and restore various antiques. They also provide expert advice concerning the storage and care of antiques.