

## MANGO WOOD INFORMATION & CARE

Practical and elegant, these fabulous mango wood pieces incorporate traditional Thai craftsmanship with classic and contemporary designs of geometric and organic shape. Due to their handmade and natural features, there will be variation to the grain, finish, size and thickness of each item. Skilled artisans fashion each piece into a beautiful and unique, fine folk art treasure for you and others to enjoy for years to come.

In parts of Asia the mango tree is a symbol of good fortune, well being, and privilege. Known for their tasty mango fruit, the exotic trees are cut down and replanted every 7 to 15 years. This ensures the cycle is sustained so there is no harm to the environment and the trees produce the best fruit. In the past, the cut wood was just burned, however, it is now used to make many beautiful wood vases, plates, bowls, candleholders and furniture, thereby creating jobs for talented rural artisans in Thailand who rely on the income for their families.

Although your mango wood product is kiln dried, carefully treated and put through a meticulous quality control process, it does require some care. Mango wood comes from a tropical environment that is far more humid than the Canadian environment (especially the desert-like conditions in regions of Alberta and Saskatchewan). Therefore, mango wood must acclimatize to a new environment. During the winter months the heat in our homes actually draws moisture from the air and anything in the surrounding environment that contains moisture, such as your skin and the wood products in your home. To prevent cracking, the wood requires moisture much like your skin requires moisture to look healthy.

### CARE OF VASES

**It is important to treat your brown, natural and cherry stained mango wood vases with an oil product such as lemon oil or mineral oil.** Vases painted black can be treated with Pledge. The piece should be treated about once a month, or whenever it appears dry, to maintain its optimal decorative elegance and preserve the wood. Avoid products containing alcohol as they actually dry out the wood. Simply pour a small amount of oil onto a smooth cotton cloth and then wipe. If it seems to absorb the oil quickly then it may require more. Remaining oil will completely absorb. When well moisturized, the vase will look especially beautiful, highlighting the grain and texture of the mango wood. **VASES ARE NOT WATERPROOF SO A GLASS OR PLASTIC INSERT MUST BE USED FOR FRESH FLOWERS**

### CARE OF PLATES & BOWLS

**Plates and bowls should be treated with a good quality edible oil such as walnut or olive oil.** Rub the oil onto the inside surface whenever the wood begins to look dry. To provide an attractive sheen to these pieces, you can rub in two or three coats of 100% pure bees wax on the inside surface. The outside stained surface can be treated with lemon oil and should be treated about once a month, or whenever it appears dry, to maintain its optimal decorative elegance and preserve the wood. Avoid products containing alcohol as they actually dry out the wood. Simply pour a small amount of oil onto a smooth cotton cloth and then wipe. If it seems to absorb the oil quickly then it may require more. Remaining oil will completely absorb.

**Pieces that are used for food should be cleaned after each use.** The best method is to wipe the surface of the piece with warm soapy water, rinsing immediately, and then drying with a tea towel or paper towel. By applying oil to the wood, you will prevent the wood from drying, and will protect it from the effects of vinegar or acidic vegetables like tomatoes.

**PLATES & BOWLS ARE NOT WATERPROOF SO ONLY USE WITH DRY FOOD UNLESS THE SURFACE IS LINED**

### CARE OF TEALIGHT CANDLEHOLDERS

It is important to treat your mango wood tea light candleholder. Use an oil product such as lemon oil on brown, natural and cherry stains. Black paint can be treated with Pledge. The piece should be treated about once a month, or whenever it appears dry, to maintain its optimal decorative elegance and preserve the wood. Avoid products containing alcohol as they actually dry out the wood. Simply pour a small amount of oil onto a smooth cotton cloth and wipe the object. If it seems to absorb the oil quickly then it may require more. Remaining oil will completely absorb. When well moisturized, the candleholders look especially beautiful, highlighting the grain and texture of the mango wood. **WARNING: BURNING CANDLES SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT UNATTENDED.**