Looking after your treen*



*Treen (literally "of a tree") is a generic name for small handmade functional household objects made of wood, but not furniture.

Once you have purchased some lovingly made treen you will want to look after it, this is very simple.

My spoons, spurtles and spatulas are coated with pure linseed or hemp oil. They are not suitable for use in the microwave or dishwasher. To clean just rub between your fingers, in warm soapy water immediately after use, rinse and dry. After a lot of use you could apply some more oil using a paper towel, leave for the time it takes to enjoy a cup of tea and then wipe off, simple, but it's not necessary and you may like the worn patina that develops through use.

Which oil should I use?

Hemp, flax (linseed) and walnut are all good oils to use.

Never use boiled linseed as it contains drying agents and is not food-safe, also **never** use olive oil, it won't dry and will go rancid.

A word of warning! Oil soaked paper towel or cloths have been known to spontaneously ignite. Some safe methods of disposal are listed below.

- Hang the rag out to dry on a washing line first before disposing of in your rubbish bin
- Soak the rag in water and seal in a plastic bag before disposal in your rubbish bin
- · Storing in an air tight (preferably metal) container
- If safe controlled burning.

Do not let your treen sit in water.

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