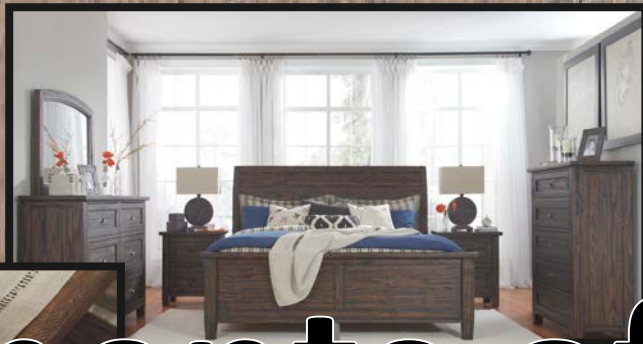


Elements of Physical Distressing



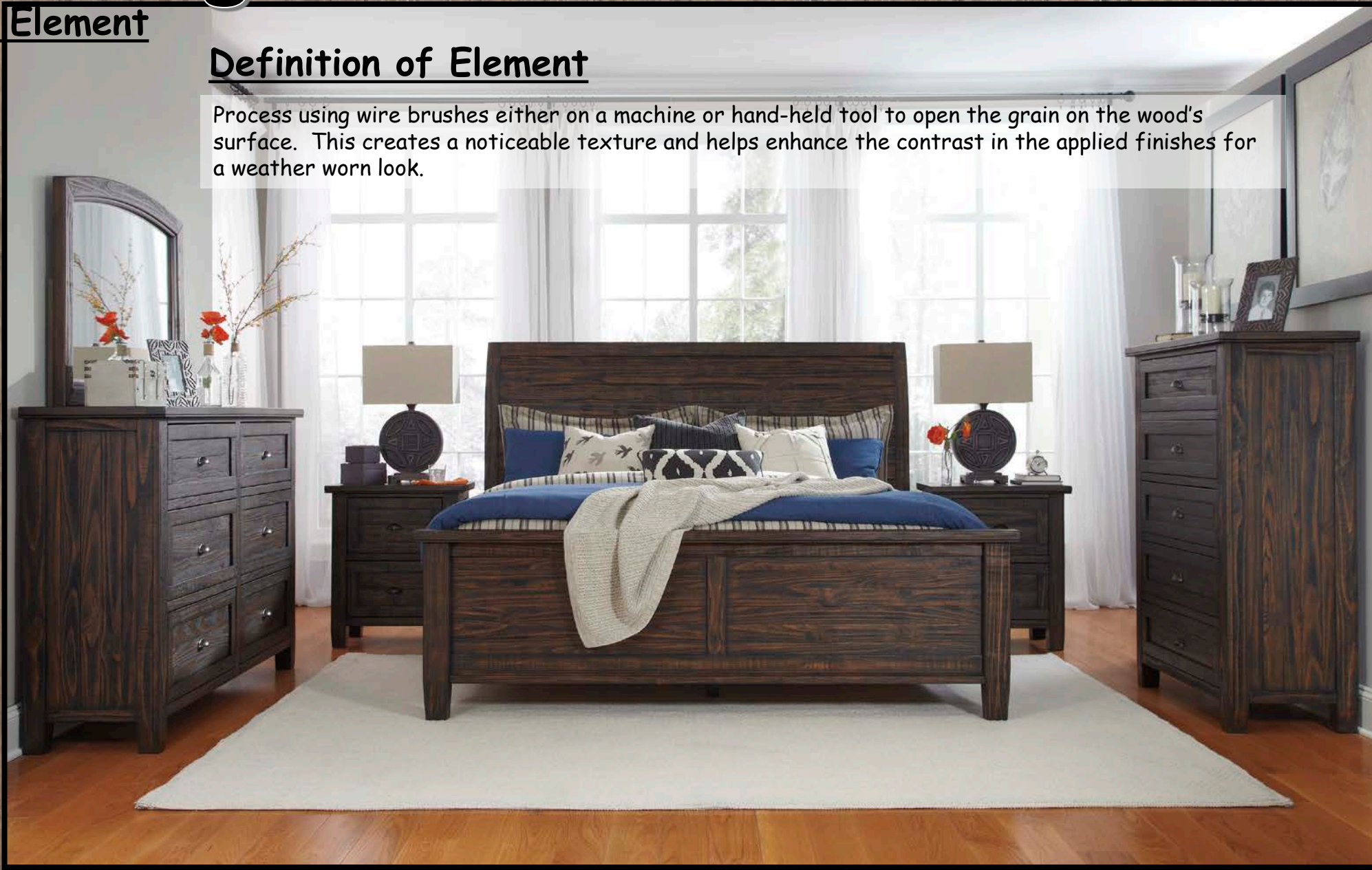
Wire Brushing

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Process using wire brushes either on a machine or hand-held tool to open the grain on the wood's surface. This creates a noticeable texture and helps enhance the contrast in the applied finishes for a weather worn look.



Saw Marking

Example of Natural Element

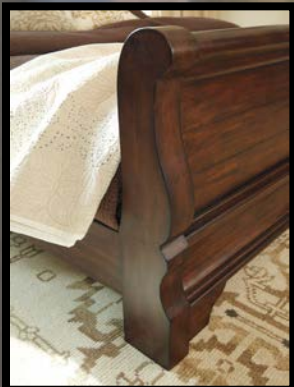


Definition of Element

The use of repurposed lumber for building furniture is a common trend in today's home furnishings market place. Complicated sourcing and cost makes this material more expensive than virgin lumber however and thus techniques for emulating the look of repurposed lumber have been invented. One such technique is the application of marks (called saw kerfs) often left by the saw blades used to cut lumber in rough mills. There are various ways to add saw marks in mass production depending on the size and geometry of each part, but essentially these character marks are indeed added with saw blades. Usually older blades that have been decommissioned from the factory floors and re-configured for use on other machines designed to add the authentic looking saw marks. Not only do these tools live a new life, they add beauty to our casual designs.

Halo'ing

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

A type of burnishing whereby select panels such as drawer fronts are accented by applying glaze to the outer most edges only. Leaving the center area cleaner and highlighted. When applied right to all the elements of a case this technique adds a greater dimensional quality to the piece of furniture.



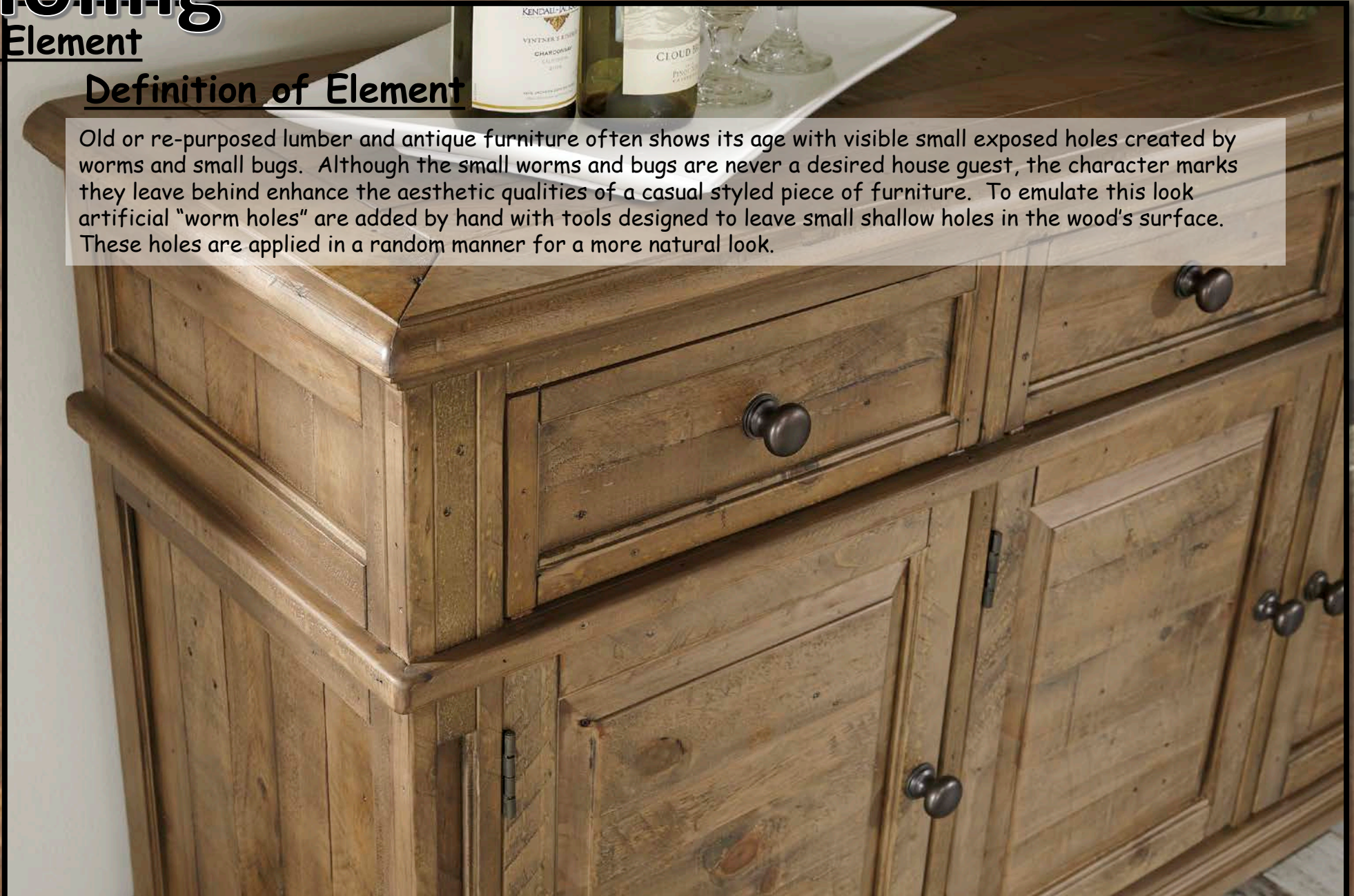
Worm Holing

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Old or re-purposed lumber and antique furniture often shows its age with visible small exposed holes created by worms and small bugs. Although the small worms and bugs are never a desired house guest, the character marks they leave behind enhance the aesthetic qualities of a casual styled piece of furniture. To emulate this look artificial "worm holes" are added by hand with tools designed to leave small shallow holes in the wood's surface. These holes are applied in a random manner for a more natural look.



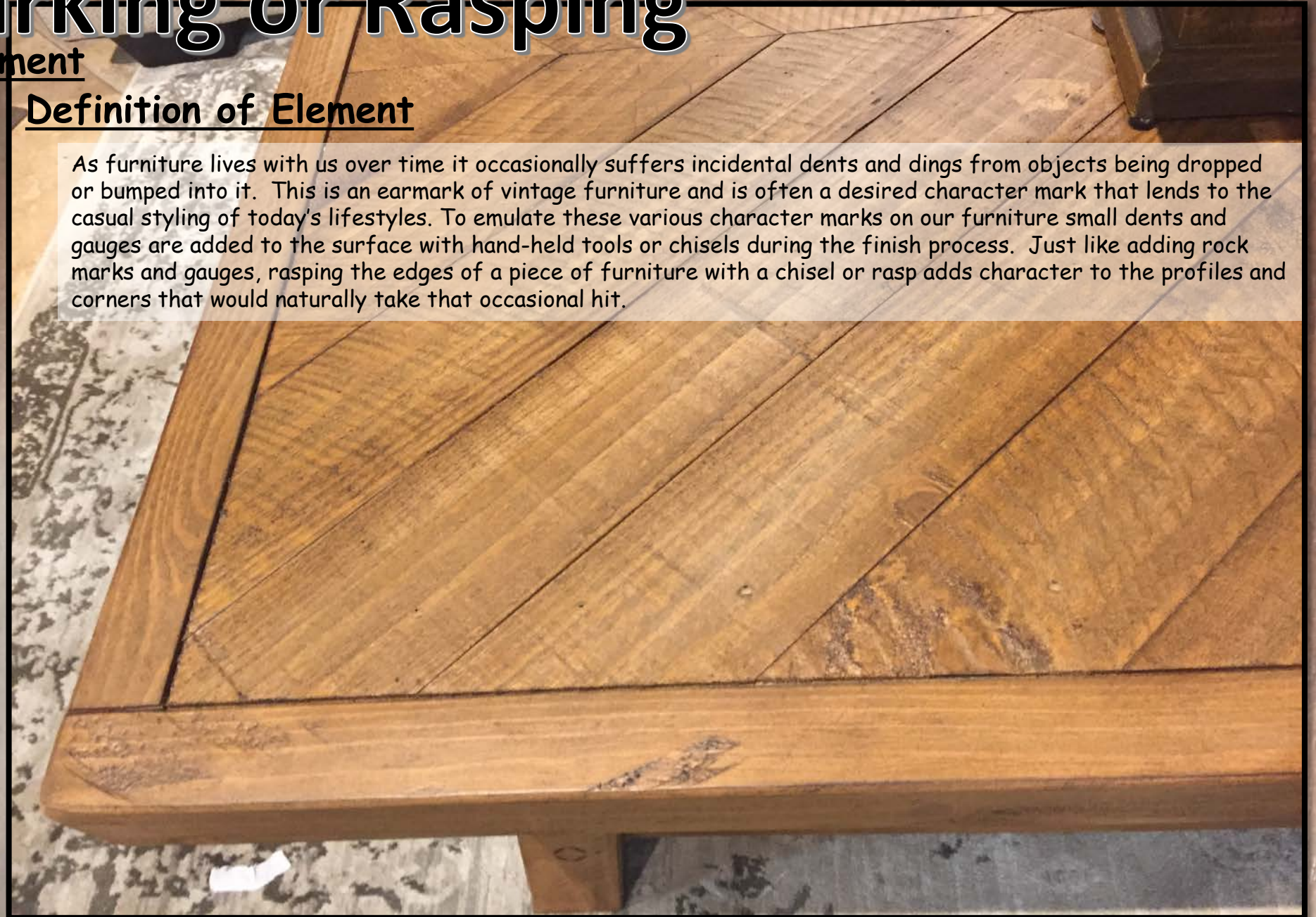
Chisel Marking or Rasping

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

As furniture lives with us over time it occasionally suffers incidental dents and dings from objects being dropped or bumped into it. This is an earmark of vintage furniture and is often a desired character mark that lends to the casual styling of today's lifestyles. To emulate these various character marks on our furniture small dents and gauges are added to the surface with hand-held tools or chisels during the finish process. Just like adding rock marks and gauges, rasping the edges of a piece of furniture with a chisel or rasp adds character to the profiles and corners that would naturally take that occasional hit.



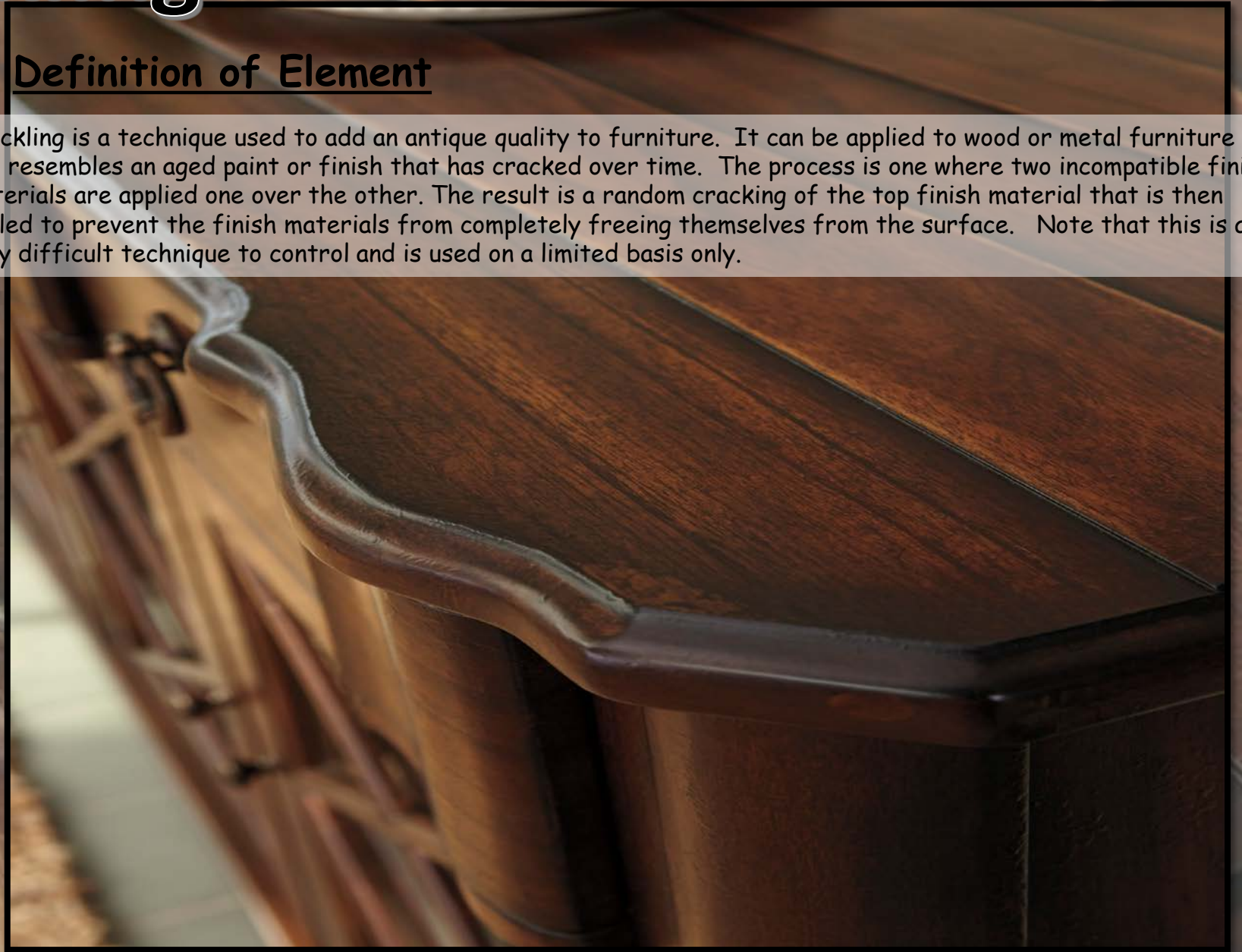
Finish Crackling

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Crackling is a technique used to add an antique quality to furniture. It can be applied to wood or metal furniture and resembles an aged paint or finish that has cracked over time. The process is one where two incompatible finish materials are applied one over the other. The result is a random cracking of the top finish material that is then sealed to prevent the finish materials from completely freeing themselves from the surface. Note that this is a very difficult technique to control and is used on a limited basis only.



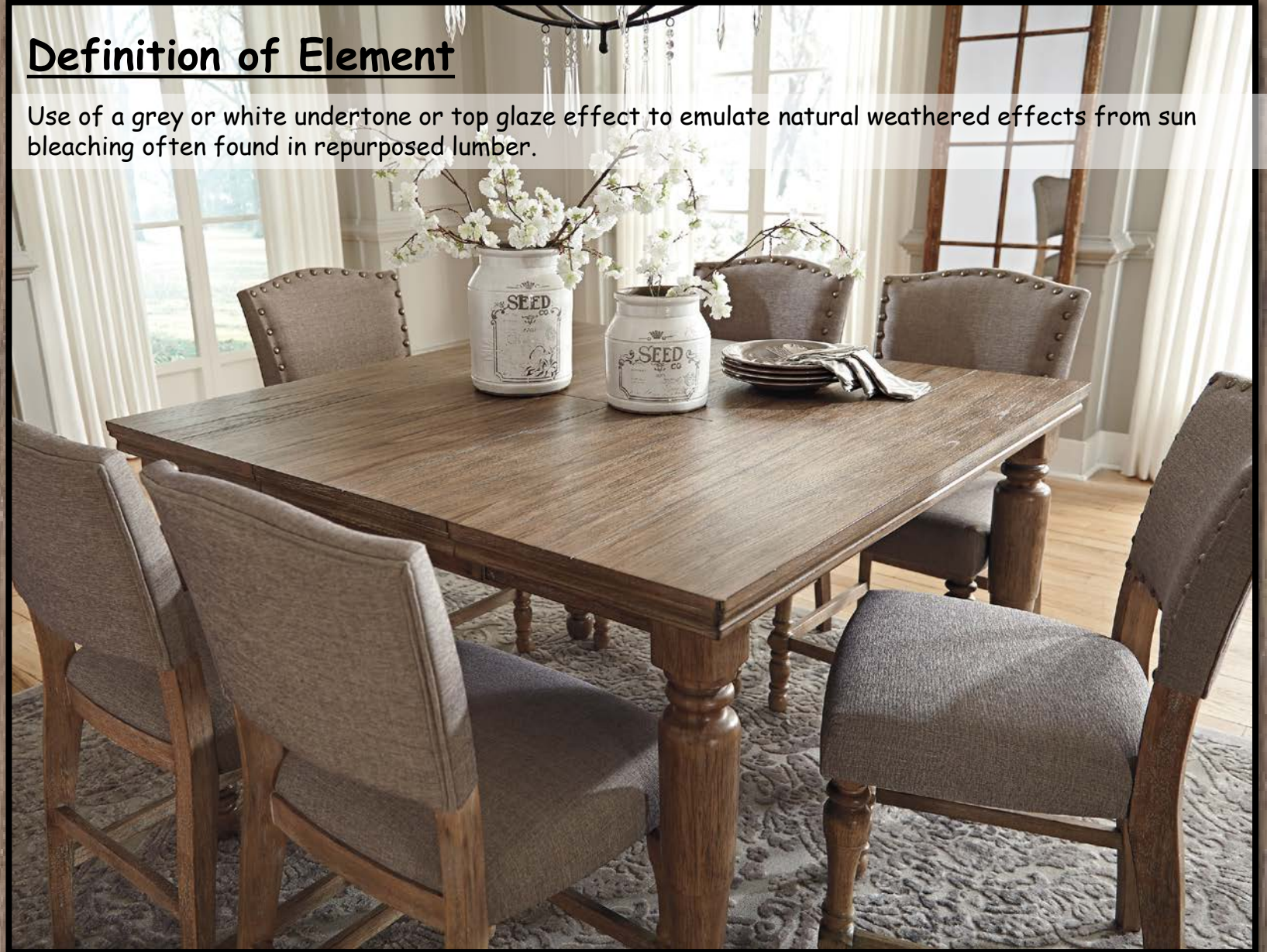
White Wash

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Use of a grey or white undertone or top glaze effect to emulate natural weathered effects from sun bleaching often found in repurposed lumber.



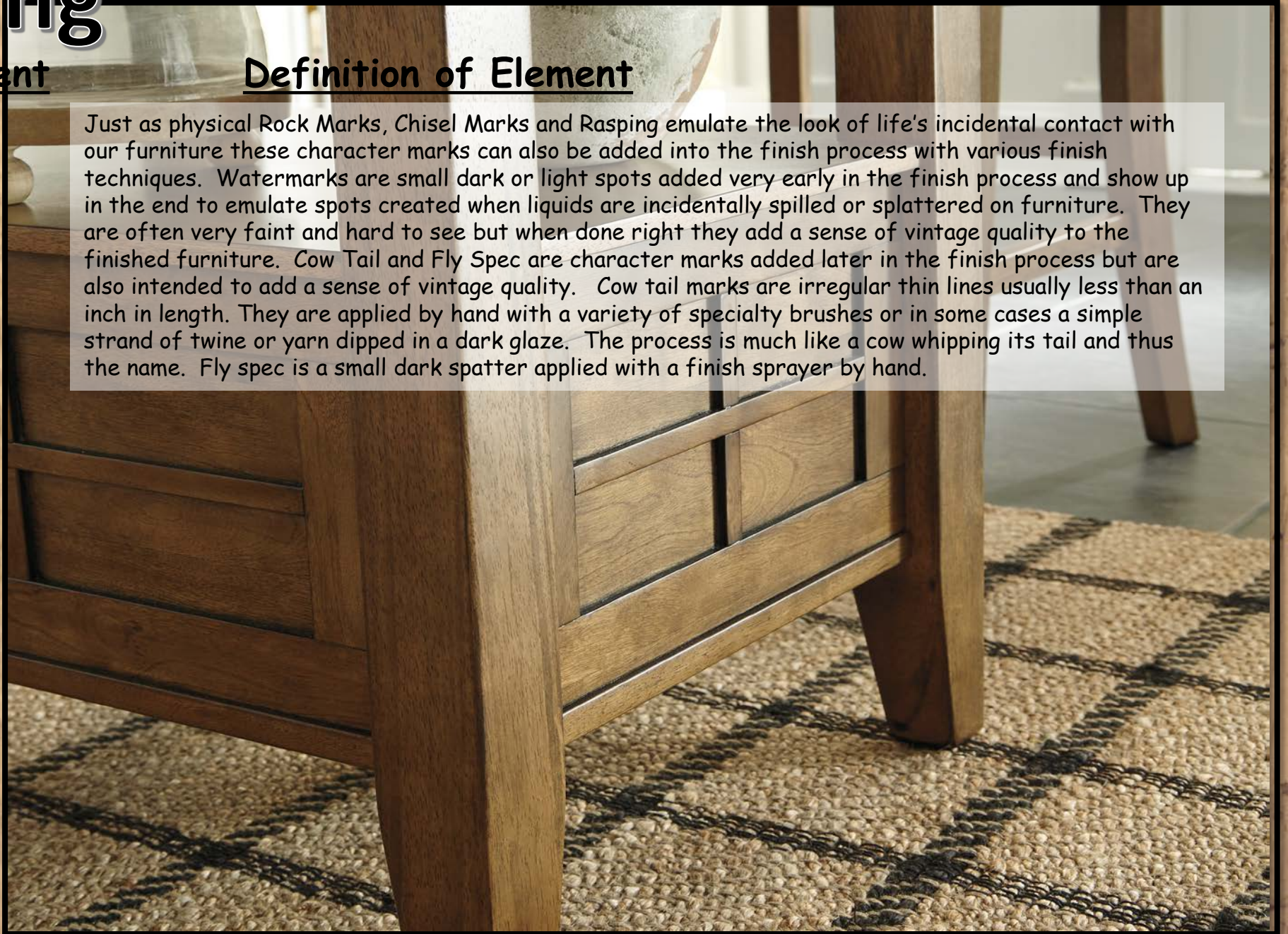
Fly specking

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Just as physical Rock Marks, Chisel Marks and Rasping emulate the look of life's incidental contact with our furniture these character marks can also be added into the finish process with various finish techniques. Watermarks are small dark or light spots added very early in the finish process and show up in the end to emulate spots created when liquids are incidentally spilled or splattered on furniture. They are often very faint and hard to see but when done right they add a sense of vintage quality to the finished furniture. Cow Tail and Fly Spec are character marks added later in the finish process but are also intended to add a sense of vintage quality. Cow tail marks are irregular thin lines usually less than an inch in length. They are applied by hand with a variety of specialty brushes or in some cases a simple strand of twine or yarn dipped in a dark glaze. The process is much like a cow whipping its tail and thus the name. Fly spec is a small dark spatter applied with a finish sprayer by hand.



Skiving-Planning

Example of Natural Element



Definition of Element

Skiving and planning is a distressing technique used to emulate the look and feel of older hand-crafted solid wood furniture. In shops where all the work of building a piece of furniture is done with hand tools, the results are often one of a kind and each piece has its own set of irregularities. One such irregularity might be the uneven surfaces of planked tops, case sides and chair seats. To emulate that look we can intentionally sand uneven surfaces into the substrate under the veneer before it is laminated. Or we can use thicker veneers and use hand held tools to sand or scrape irregular surface marks into the laminated board.

