





Everything you should know about humidors and correct cigar storage

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#### **1 Humidor Construction**

#### 1.1 Does it always have to be Spanish cedar?

Primarily three types of wood are used for the humidor's interior lining:

- · Spanish cedar (by far the most popular)
- · American (or Canadian) red cedar
- Honduran mahogany

**Spanish cedar** offers the following advantages (botanical term "cedrela odorata"):

- Protection from tobacco worms through the cedar's special odoriferous quality
- **High humidity absorption capacity** this ensures that a stable climate will be maintained inside the humidor and mold is prevented
- Supports the cigar aging process
- Positive effect on the flavor of the cigars

Spanish cedar does not originate from Spain as one might assume but is generally imported from Brazil and other countries of South and Central America. In some individual cases resin may form on the surface of the wood (See also Chapter 6.5: Humidor is secreting/resin). The risk of resin formation can be substantially reduced by previously drying the wood carefully.

American red cedar is inferior to Spanish cedar in humidity absorption and it exudes a more intense aroma. Some humidor manufacturers use American cedar because it is less expensive and with this wood there is no danger of resin formation. Particularly when storing cigars for longer periods the cigars will adopt a strong woody flavor that is generally not desired.

**Honduran mahogany** has a humidity absorption rate comparable to that of Spanish cedar and at the same time has a less intense odor. Thus, unfortunately, the deterrent effect on worms and the desired flavoring of cigars is also not as good as with Spanish cedar.

The veneer of the interior wood should be untreated.

For long-term cigar storage those humidors should be preferred, which are lined with Spanish cedar.

All adorini humidors are made exclusively with an interior lining of Spanish cedar.

#### 1.2 Veneer or solid wood construction

There are basically two different options for constructing humidors:

- Based on MDF (medium density fiberboard), the interior is lined with a veneer of Spanish cedar and the exterior consists of a veneer of some type of hardwood (often cherry).
- The **entire humidor case is manufactured of solid wood** and is lined inside with Spanish cedar (sometimes the entire humidor is made of solid Spanish cedar without any interior lining).

Contrary to popular belief, solid wood humidors are not necessarily superior to veneer humidors. The higher price of the material of solid wood humidors will usually be far outweighed by the substantially more complicated construction of veneer humidors.

Since the humidity inside the humidor is much higher than the external humidity, the internal wood expands and it leads to tensions in the walls of the humidor.

Here veneer humidors have the advantage that the internal MDF will expand less with an increase in humidity. Thus, fewer tensions in the inside of the humidor will develop - tensions which might otherwise lead to cracks and deformations in the humidor's lid. A further advantage of the veneer construction is that high gloss lacquer finishes can be better applied on hardwood veneers.

Solid wood humidors of Spanish cedar are more susceptible to dents and damages since the wood is very soft. As previously mentioned, the softness of the Spanish cedar limits the gloss and durability of the exterior lacquer. For these reasons, the construction of humidors based on MDF instead of solid wood has become the standard in humidor production.

#### 1.3 Does the humidor have to have an airtight seal

Humidors should close so well that a constant level of internal humidity can be maintained.

#### 1.4 Glass or wooden lid

For the storage of cigars that are to be consumed within a few months, humidors with glass or wooden lids are equally suitable. However, if cigars are to age over several years in a humidor then humidors with wooden lids are definitely preferable. When using humidors with glass lids avoid exposing the humidor to direct sunlight. Longer storage times may cause discoloration in the first few rows of cigars . On the other hand, glass-lid humidors have an advantage over wooden lid humidors in that they have to be opened less frequently and that they will be opened for shorter periods. Therefore a more constant interior humidity can be maintained. This is particularly useful for humidors in restaurants, clubs, and hotels.

Glass doors on cabinet humidors do not have any negative impact on cigar storage, as long as cigars are stored in their original boxes. With respect to the placement of cabinet humidors, the glass door should never be exposed to direct sunlight.

#### 1.5 Quality criteria for humidors

Recently, the average prices for humidors have dropped significantly. Many buyers are confused about the huge price differences that can be found in the market, especially when humidor models are frequently of similar appearance.

First of all, what functional characteristics does a humidor need to fulfill? Basically a humidor must be able to maintain a constant humidity level of approcximately 70% and should maintain even climate conditions within the different parts of the humidor interior.

This basic functionality of the humidor is determined by the following criteria:

- Use of an adequate and efective humidification system. Electronic an polymer based humidifiers preferred to sponge baed models.
- Interior lining of Spanish cedar which absorbes humidity well and ensures constant climate conditions. Apart from using the correct type of Spanish cedar wood, the thickness of the Spanish cedar is critical. Common Spanish cedar linings of only 1-2mm do not permit taking full advantage of the characteristics of the Spanish cedar.
- Air circulation within the humidor. The construction of the humidor interior and the design of tray elements should permit free air circulation to all areas of the humidor interior. Insufficent air circulation is a weakness of many humidors of all price levels. In addition, the quality of a humidor is also determined by the following criteria:
- Hinges should be durable and ensure a low-friction functioning for many years. In quality humidors quadrant hinges are preferred.
- Use of an accurate hygrometer. Hygrometers based on hair mechanism preferred to those based on metal spring.
- Strength of wooden humidor corpus. A strong humidor corpus improves isolation of the humidor and forms an important part of a higher value construction.
- · Quality of lacquer application.

In the development of the Adorini deluxe humidors we aimed to find the best possible solution for each of the aforementioned criteria. Combining the the most sophisticated components, high quality material and innovative constructional design the adorini deluxe series sets quality standards in the construction of humidors and demonstrates that high quality humidors do not necessarily have to cost a fortune.

#### **Quality Criteria of Adorini Deluxe Humidors**



**Pre-calibrated high precision hair hygrometer,** optimized for cigar storage.



Innovative **divider system** for flexible individual separation. **Protected adorini innovation.** 



Gold plated acryl polymer based adorini deluxe humidifier with adjustable ventilation openings for an optimum regulation of the humidity level.



Label clips for dividers. Protected adorini innovation.



Unique **ventilation ribs**("RibTech") for improved air circulation within humidor. **Protected adorini innovation.** 



Innovative **tray design** ("AirVent") to allow maximum air circulation and **compatibility** with new generation electronic humidifiers.



**Extra-strong humidor corpus** and extra-strong **Spanish cedar lining**.



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**Extra-strong quadrant hinges -** 24K gold plated and hand polished.



Hygrometer and humidifier fixed with magnet to **invisible metal plate** under wood veneer.



Life-time warranty

#### 2 Humidifier

#### 2.1 Optimum level of humidity

Inside the humidor cigars should be stored at a relative humidity of approximately 68-74%. Generally it is assumed that the typical cigar flavors can best evolve in such a climate. This level of humidity supports an even burning of the cigar. At a relative humidity level of 70%, and a temperature of 64°F (18°C) the air contains approximately 10 grams of water per cubic meter of air. In such an environment, the cigar should absorb the ideal rate of humidity of 14% of its weight.

Dry cigars become fragile and burn faster since their burning is not slowed down by the cigar's natural humidity. The cigar takes on an aggressive and slightly bitter taste.

Damp cigars, on the contrary, burn unevenly and take on a heavy and acidic flavor.

A few aficionados appreciate these modifications to the cigar flavor and therefore intentionally store their cigars in a drier or damper environment. In the 65-75% range cigars can be stored for long periods of time without any concern. Caution is required, however, if the humidity level should exceed 80%. In this case the cigar can begin to rot and mold.

#### 2.2 Sponge or acryl polymer humidifier

Until recently all humidifiers employed the same simple mechanism. Thez were equipped with a plastic or metal case containing a sponge as a humidifier. The most prominent manufacturer of these humidifiers was the French company Credo. The term Credo is therefore frequently used as a synonym for such sponge-based humidifiers. Since it is not particularly difficult to manufacture these items, they were soon copied by manufacturers in Southeast Asia who offered the humidifiers for a fraction of the price of Credo humidifiers with comparable functionality. When using sponge humidifiers the use of special propylene glycol solutions is recommended, which improves the characteristics of sponge humidifiers.

During the last few years, manufacturers have been experimenting with alternative systems of humidification. Unfortunately, in some occasions at the expense of the humidor buyer, because even recognized humidor manufacturers offered embryonic systems which did not stand the test

of time. Ultimately, only humidifiers based on polymer acryl have become widely established among the various humidor brands as an alternative to the still prevalent sponge-based humidifiers. If the correct polymer is used they have the very positive feature of being able to stabilize relative humidity at a level of approximately 70-72% and adjust to fluctuations in the humidity level faster than traditional sponge-based humidifiers. Unfortunately, it is not always guaranteed that the correct polymer is used inside all the acryl polymer humidifiers. The high-tech acryl polymer inside the humidifier element can absorb large amounts of liquid. It must be filled with distilled water only. One should note however that the humidity level inside a new humidor also stabilizes with acryl polymer humidifiers only after about two day's time.

All in all, acryl polymer humidifiers are very recommendable since they maintain a more stable humidity level and require less frequent monitoring and maintenance by the user. In addition, the danger of bacterial contamination is lower in polymer humidifiers than in sponge-based humidifiers. However, the danger of bacterial contamination cannot be completely eliminated, as is often claimed. In order to minimize the danger of bacterial contamination. Each humidifier (sponge or polymer based) should be replaced after about two years!

Adorini offers with the "adorini deluxe premium humidifier" one of the worldwide leading humidification systems based on high-tech polymer acryl fleece. The self-adjusting effect of the acryl polymer fleece is complemented by the possibility to fine-tune the emitted humidity via adjustable openings of the humidifier case.

Overall the simple sponge-based humidification systems provide sufficient humidification performance if the aforementioned propylene glycol solution is applied regularly (See Chapter 2.3). Humidifiers based on acryl polymers possess a superior capacity to maintain a constant humidity and to quickly offset short-term drops in humidity as they regularly occur when opening the humidor. Using acryl polymers also minimizes the dan ger of bacterial contamination and over a longer period of time the higher purchasing price of polymer-based humidifiers is offset by the savings of not having to purchase special propylene glycol solutions.

#### Perfection – adorini deluxe Premium Humidifier

- Individually adjustable vents
- Self-regulating humidity and antibacterial feature
- · Gold-plated aluminum face
- No special humidifier solution required
- Based on the new generation of acryl polymer crystal fleece





# 2.3 The secret of the correct liquid or the magical effects of propylene glycol

Please note that new acryl polymer humidifiers (such as the **adorini deluxe premium humidifier**) can be filled with distilled water only. Therefore, the following explanations are only applicable for traditional spongebased humidors.

The following two liquids should be used for filling sponge-based humidifiers:

- **Distilled water** (available in supermarkets, auto parts stores, pharmacies, etc.)
- **Special solution** consisting of 50% propylene glycol and 50% distilled water.

Propylene glycol is a colorless innocuous liquid, which has two extremely favorable characteristics for its use in humidors. Firstly, the formation of mold as well as bacteria is actively prevented. Secondly, propylene glycol forms a thin layer on the surface of the humidifier, which absorbs humi-

dity at humidity levels of over 70% and which emits humidity at humidity levels below 70%. In this way, the humidifier is self-adjusting and will automatically stabilize the humidity level at an optimum level of approximately 70%. It might take a few days in the beginning until the propylene glycol forms a surface layer and an optimal humidity level is reached.

Propylene glycol is also known as 1.2 Propanediol. However it should never be confused with ethylene glycol (often referred to as glycol)! The purity of the propylene glycol should satisfy drug and food safety standards

Distilled water has an advantage over normal tap water in that it protects the humidifier against calcification and mold. Normal tap water contains minerals, which can clog the pores of the humidifier sponge. Additionally, normal tap water contains chlorine and bacteria, which might impact the aroma within the humidor and may lead to mold.

#### 2.4 Refilling - how often?

Polymer-based humidifiers (e.g. the adorini deluxe premium humidifier) should be refilled with distilled water about once a month. How often the humidifier needs to be refilled depends on several factors: Frequency of opening the humidor, number of stored cigars, size of the humidifier, external humidity, outside temperature, etc.

With sponge-based humidifiers the process of refilling is a little more complicated. For the first filling the humidifier should be filled up with the special propylene glycol water solution only. The distilled water evaporates substantially faster than the propylene glycol content. Therefore, the humidor should be refilled approximately once a month exclusively with distilled water. The special propylene glycol solution should be applied only when the humidity level in the humidor suddenly drops. Depending on the outside temperature this might be the case after approximately 3-6 months. Under no circumstances should the solution be refilled more frequently nor should a solution of propylene glycol exclusively ever be used since the humidification system will not be able to absorb liquid and the humidifier may hence become unusable.

## 3 Hygrometer

#### 3.1 Analog or digital

Humidors are generally offered with analog hygrometers. Three systems of analog hygrometers must be differentiated:

#### · Analog hygrometers with a metal spring:

Hygrometers with a metal spring are used in the majority of all humidors. These hygrometers are less expensive, but are only of limited accuracy.

#### · Analog natural hair hygrometers:

Hygrometers with natural hair are more accurate. Unfortunately, the maintenance work required to maintain the accuracy of these hygrometers is substantial. Therefore, these hygrometers are generally not the first choice for use in humidors.

#### · Analog synthetic hair hygrometers:

Synthetic hair hygrometers are approximately as accurate as natural hair hygrometers. However they do not require any maintenance on the part of the user. Therefore, they should be the first choice for use in humidors.

Adorini hair hygrometers measure humidity based on high-quality synthetic hair. They are produced exclusively for adorini by a renowned German manufacturer in a special "cigar edition" optimized for the high levels of humidity within humidors. Hygrometers reach the highest accuracy within a limited interval of humidity. Normal hygrometers are therefore set to achieve highest accuracy at a much lower humidity level of room humidity in a range from 30% to 60%. For the typical humidity levels for cigar storage of over 65%, the accuracy of these normal analog and digital hygrometers decreases significantly.

The adorini hair hygrometer is shipped pre-calibrated so generally no laborious calibration is required prior to operation.

Alternatively, the humidor can be equipped with a digital hygrometer. Digital hygrometers allow for an easier readability and do not require calibration. Please note that also digital hygrometers need some time to adapt to changes in humidity and will not show changes instantaneously. The adorini digital hygrometer is one of the few digital hygrometers on the market that is optimized for best accuracy at humidity levels of over 65%.

#### 3.2 Measuring accuracy

Analog hygrometers must be calibrated prior to first use. Exception to this rule is the adorini hair hygrometer, which is carefully calibrated before shipment. Nevertheless, even the adorini hygrometer may require re-calibration in cases of strong shocks during transport.

As previously mentioned, the accuracy of the prevalent metal spring hygrometers is limited. Higher is the accuracy of the adorini hair hygrometers, which are optimized for the high level of humidity found inside a humidor. Still one should be aware that, in comparison to measuring temperature, measuring humidity is physically less accurate. Even in hygrometers for professional laboratory use at prices of more than \$100, manufacturers guarantee an accuracy of only + / - 2%.

Analog hygrometers should be re-calibrated once a year. If a humidor is equipped with a traditional metal spring hygrometer, it is particularly important to pay attention to changes in the humidity level. When using humidifiers based on acryl polymers or sponge-based humidifiers with propylene glycol solution (See Chapters 2.2 and 2.3 on humidifiers) the humidity should automatically stabilize at around 70%. Here one simply needs to refill the distilled water or propylene glycol (for sponge-based humidifiers) as soon as the humidity drops. In the event of doubt, touching the cigars should ascertain whether they are being stored in a suitable climate

#### Highest precision – adorini hair hygrometer

- Highest precision
- High-tech synthetic hair
- Optimized for humidity of over 65% in humidors
- Life-time warrantv



## **4 Humidor Preparation**

After purchasing a humidor some simple preparatory steps need to be carried out prior to storing cigars in the humidor. Otherwise, the dry cedar wood lining will extract the humidity from the cigars. Adorini deluxe humidors contain the accurate **adorini hair hygrometer** and the **adorini premium deluxe humidifier** based on acryl polymers.

#### 4.1 First step: Calibrating the hygrometer

Please note that this step is not necessary if one has purchased the **adorini hair hygrometer**, which ships with the adorini deluxe humidors. The adorini hair hygrometer comes pre-calibrated and re-calibration may be necessary only in cases of strong shocks during transport.

There are two methods to calibrate an analog hygrometer:

- The recommended and most accurate calibration method is to place the hygrometer together with a salt solution into a small plastic box. One should take a cup or spoon filled with salt and moisten it with a few drops of water. The salt should not dissolve, but merely be damp. Afterwards, place the hygrometer and the salt in a well-sealed plastic box and wait. After about 8 hours the humidity within the box should have reached a humidity of 75%. Then adjust the needle of the hygrometer with a screwdriver at the rear to indicate 75% humidity.
- Alternatively, remove the hygrometer from the humidor, wrap the hygrometer in a thoroughly moistened cloth, wait about one hour and then adjust the hygrometer on the rear with a screwdriver to 96% rel. humidity.

#### 4.2 Second step: Filling the humidifier

Put the humidifier on a plate and moisten it with the propylene glycol solution (for sponge-based humidifier) or distilled water (for **adorini delu- xe premium humidifier** based on acryl polymers). Leave the humidifier in the liquid for about 5 minutes. As soon as the humidifier has absorbed sufficient liquid, shake the humidifier so that liquid that was not absorbed will be removed. Now dry the humidifier with a cloth and place it in the humidor.

#### 4.3 Third step: Moistening the humidor

The inner walls of the humidor, dividers and trays should be wiped off with a cloth moistened with distilled water.

Place a glass filled with distilled water in the humidor and leave it for three days in the closed humidor. If the glass of water is heated beforehand in the microwave, the water will be absorbed more quickly and



## **5 Storing Cigars**

the humidor will be operational after only about a day. The inner walls of the humidors should now have absorbed sufficient humidity.

#### 5.1 Fresh air supply

A well-filled humidor should be aerated at least once every two weeks to regularly supply it with fresh air (See also Chapter 1.3: Hermetic seal).

#### 5.2 Optimum temperature for cigar storage

A temperature of 64-70°F (18-21°C) is considered ideal. At lower temperatures, below 54°F (12°C), the desired aging process of the cigars is impaired. Therefore, cold wine cellars are only suitable for cigar storage to a limited extent. Even worse are high temperatures. Temperatures of over 75°F (24°C) can lead to worm infestation and cigar rotting. For this reason, the humidor should not be exposed to direct sunlight.

#### 5.3 Maximum duration of storing cigars

Cigars can generally be stored inside a humidor for an unlimited period of time, as long as a constant relative humidity of 65-75% and regular supply of fresh air are ensured. High-quality premium cigars develop a special flavor after many years of storage. In particular in Great Britain there is a long tradition of storing cigars for the optimum unfurling of the tobacco flavor.

#### 5.4 Do cigars mature over time?

Before premium cigars are shipped to tobacco shops, they should ripen for about six months in factories or in the distributors' air-conditioned compartments. Due to the increasing demand for cigars, this ripening period has apparently not always been observed in recent years. Therefore, it is recommendable to store cigars after the purchase for another 3-6 months in the humidor. During the aging process cigars develop a smoother, more balanced flavor.

Some premium cigars develop a particularly fine flavor after several years of storage. In the end, the duration of cigar storage is a matter of individual preference. One should compare the changing flavor of the preferred cigar brands within different storage times, in order to determine the perfect aging time.

#### 5.5 Cigar "marriage"

Cigars absorb aromas from their environment. They not only absorb the aroma of the humidor's interior wood lining but also aromas from other cigars stored in the same humidor. Dividers are used in humidors to minimize this aromatic discoloration. However, in order to prevent any flavor transfer, the cigars have to be stored in different humidors or in cabinet humidors, where cigars can be stored within their original boxes. Some aficionados, however, appreciate the mixture of the flavors of their favorite cigars and therefore intentionally store different cigar brands in one humidor for several months. In general, however, the storage of cigars of different strengths (in particular different countries of origin) should be avoided as well as possible. The not very aesthetic storage of cigars in cellophane wrap or alternatively storing cigars in their original boxes in large cabinet humidors can likewise prevent this aromatic discoloration. The innovative divider system of the adorini deluxe humidor series permits an efective seperation of numerous types of cigars and at the same time an efficient use of the storage space within the humidor.

## 5.6 Do cigars need to be regularly rotated in the humidor?

Uneven humidity levels within a humidor are a very common problem. Especially in humidors that are filled close to maximum capacity and in large humidors with trays, the humidity level will be higher in proximity to the humidification system. Therefore, cigars that are stored for long periods of time should be rotated every 1-3 months. The adorini deluxe humidor series has been designed with special attention to maximum air circulation within the humidor to ensure even storage conditions. Innovative features as the unique ventilation ribs at the bottom and the side walls of the humidor, as well as the special tray design with extra ventilation openings permit proper air circulation within the humidor and even cigar conditions without the need of rotating the cigars.

# 5.7 Should the cellophane wrap of the cigars be removed before placing cigars in the humidor

Cellophane protects cigars from losing too much humidity during transport. Within the humidor, however, the plastic foil is rather counter-productive for the preservation of an optimum humidity level. If cigars are

placed in the humidor with the cellophane the cellophane should be opened at the ends to ensure oxygen circulation. Whether the cellophane should be removed or not is also a question of taste. On one hand, removing the cellophane supports the desired aging process of the cigar and is the preferred option from an aesthetic point of view.

On the other hand, keeping the cellophane wrap on will protect cigars against the mixing of flavors of different cigar tobaccos. Consequently, if no divider is available for the humidor and the mix of flavors is to be prevented, then storing cigars with cellophane in the humidor might be an option.

Premium cigars are occasionally delivered in a Spanish cedar wrapping. Ultimately, it is here also a question of personal preference whether to leave on the cedar wrapping, which intensifies the cedar aroma of the cigars, or to remove the wrapping before placing the cigars in the humidor.



## **6 Frequent Problems & Solutions**

#### 6.1 Mold

Bright marks appearing on the cigars can basically have two causes. If the marks are light gray in color, dusty and can be easily wiped off with a cloth then the spots are only a result of the normal aging process of the cigars, which does not impair the taste of the cigars.

If however the spots are crusty and blue-green in color then the cigars are infected by mold. Mold may form if cigars are stored at excessively high humidity levels. In such cases the infected cigars must be removed and the humidor should be cleaned carefully with a dry cloth. The humidiffer should be cleaned carefully with warm water and if there is mold on the humidifier, the humidifier should be replaced. Under no circumstances should the infected cigars be put back into the clean humidor.

#### 6.2 Tobacco worm infestation (Lacioderma)

Tobacco worm infestation occurs above all if cigars are stored at excessively high temperatures. Cigars are infested by worms if small wormholes can be seen on the outer cigar leaves. During their two-month lifespan, the worms reach sizes of up to 5 mm. All infested cigars should be immediately removed from the humidor and carefully examined for indications of tobacco worm. After segregating the infested cigars and cleaning the humidor, the remaining cigars may be placed safely back into the humidor. To completely ensure that no further larvae have survived inside the cigars, one might put the cigars into a freezer for a few days. However, close attention should be paid that the cigars are well protected from ambient aromas. After freezing, cigars must be defrosted gradually to prevent the tobacco leaves from cracking. Otherwise, cigars should never be stored in a freezer or refrigerator because of the overly low humidity levels!

#### 6.3 Humidity is too low

If the humidity level is too low inside the humidor, then the following measures may be taken:

- It should be ensured that the hygrometer is calibrated according to the salt solution method, that the humidifier was filled with a propylene glycol solution (when using a sponge humidifier) and that the inside of the humidor was sufficiently moistened at first use.
- One may refill the humidifier with distilled water.
- If the decrease in humidity occurs after a long time of usage, it might be the case that the humidifier is defective. When using tap water for example the pores of the sponge can clog or with overly high propylene glycol levels the surface layer might prevent the further absorption of the distilled water.

The decrease in humidity immediately after putting dry cigars in the humidor is natural. After a few days, humidity in the humidor should stabilize. Also, opening the humidor leads to a short-term decrease in humidity wihin the humidor.

Deviations of a few percentages from the 70% mark should not be of major concern and one should also consider the explanations regarding the accuracy of humidity measurement (See Chapters 3.1 and 3.2 on hygrometers).

#### 6.4 Humidity is too high

If the humidity in the humidor is too high, one might do the following:

- Ensure that the hygrometer was calibrated according to the salt solution method, that the humidifier was filled with a propylene glycol solution (when using sponge-based humidifiers) and that the inside of the humidor was sufficiently moistened before its first use.
- Only for sponge-based humidifiers: If the propylene glycol solution has not been refilled for a few months then it might be time to refill the humidifier with the propylene glycol solution.

Deviations of a few percentages from the 70% mark should not be of major concern and one should also consider the explanations regarding the accuracy of humidity measurement (See Chapters 3.1 and 3.2 on hygrometers).

#### 6.5 Humidor is bleeding sap/resin

The special oils of Spanish cedar wood can lead over time to the formation of resin on the wood surface. This occurs particularly if, contrary to the wood used in adorini humidors, the wood has not been carefully dried before production. The resin is very sticky and can usually only be removed with acetone.

The locations where the resin appeared should be treated with fine-grained sandpaper. This cleaning process must be repeated 2-3 times, particularly if thick cedar lining was used. The sticky resin does not impair the quality of the cigars, however it may damage the outside cigar leaves if the cigars come into direct contact with the resin.

After the use of cleaning agents the humidor must be thoroughly ventilated before cigars are placed back into the humidor.

#### 6.6 Reviving dry cigars

Storing dry cigars in a humidor can restore them to their former condition. However, the increase in humidity should take place gradually. After approximately two months storage in a well-maintained humidor the cigars should have recovered. Dry cigars should be treated with caution. They are very sensitive and can break easily.

## 6.7 How to get rid of annoying smells inside the humidor?

After the use of cleaning agents the smell of the solvents may remain inside the humidor. One should note that cleaning agents are only to be used inside the humidor in emergency cases. To get rid of the smell one might try the following:

First, the humidor should be opened and thoroughly ventilated.

If this does not help and the smell has not disappeared within a few days one may want to place a glass of whisky/brandy in the closed humidor (Caution: This will influence the flavor of the humidor for a long time!) Some aficionados intentionally add a few drops of whisky or brandy to the humidifier liquid to influence the flavor of the cigars.





































































