

## Things Not To Do If Your Cigars Dry Out

Most of the time, if you let cigars dry out, you have to write off your investment as a learning experience, albeit sometimes an expensive one. In some cases, cigars can be reconditioned through weeks in a good humidor, but it's a tricky business, and best left to someone with great patience and experience. If you insist on trying to do it yourself, proceed slowly. Over a period of several weeks, gradually move the cigars from the outer corners into the center of your humidor. All of the other myths about how to restore dried-out cigars are just that -- myths. Remember that a cigar has many layers of tobacco. It's disastrous for the various layers to become moist or dry out at different rates. For example, if a cigar is placed in a hyper-moist environment, and then taken out of that moist environment, the outside dries and shrinks while the inside is still swollen, and the cigar splits open. (Not a pretty sight.) Here are some of the odder suggestions we've heard. Don't try them. EVER.

&diams; Put your cigars in the bathroom and run the shower until the hot water gives out.

&diams; Steam them in the upper rack of a dishwasher.

&diams; Sneak them into the steam room at the health club.