

Finishing

What is Finishing?

- Surface Preparation
- Coloring
- Protection
- Polish

Surface Preparation:

This was discussed last year. It includes all the steps necessary to create a surface that is ready to be colored, if desired, and then protected and/or polished. Refer to last years notes concerning Surface Preparation.

Coloring:

Stains – A stain is a pigment ground up very small and put in solution with other chemicals such as binders, dryers and sealers. The pigment collects in the pores of the wood to color the wood. The binders and sealers enable the pigments to bond to the wood.

Dyes – Dyes will color the wood uniformly and are either water-based or alcohol based. Alcohol dyes are called non-grain-raising (NGR) dyes. If using a water-based dye, pre-raise the grain by using water and lightly sand. Dyes can be layered and/or mixed to create a unique color. Use shellac between layers to prevent bleed-through.

Example products: General Finishes Stains
 General Finishes Dye Stains
 Trans-tint dyes

Markers, pencils, paints – all can be used to provide color to a more select portion of the turning

Protection:

A solution is added to the wood to protect the fibers from mechanical and/or chemical damage. The solution can penetrate the wood and strengthen the fibers below the surface but add little surface protection all the way to forming a 'plastic-type' film on the surface of the wood.

Penetrating Finishes: Oil-based products. Any oil from a nut tree.

Example products: Walnut oil
 Tung oil
 Teak oil

Wiping Finishes - mixture of oil and varnish/urethane; Formulations (ratios) vary by product

Example products: Danish oil (more oil than varnish)
 Seal-a-Cell (more oil than urethane)
 Arm-R-Seal (more urethane than oil)
 WaterLox

Dale's Finish