

WoVA Finising Discussion

Factors in Creating a Quality Finish

- Safety
 - Dust
 - Collect at the source
 - Dust masks
 - Fumes
 - Eye Protection
 - Liquid flying off of moving wood
 - Hands
 - gloves

- Surface Preparation
 - Smooth Surface “Off the Tool”
 - Sharp Tools
 - Learn to sharpen
 - Rotate carbide blades
 - Shear Cut
 - “Allows you to start sanding with 240 grit instead of 60 grit” – David Ellsworth
 - Bowl gouge – use side of the gouge with shaft at 45 degrees
 - Carbide cutter – use new Woodpeckers Ultra Shear tools

 - Sanding
 - Some Fundamental Truths
 - Smoothness is an illusion – Even a highly polished metal surface has a collection of scratches but they are so fine you just can't see them. The same is true with wood.
 - Your final sanding should be with the grain
 - Dull 180 grit is not the same as 220 grit – sharp grit cuts dull grit burnishes
 - Do not sand on top of a defect, sand around it
 - You can actually sand too much – Finer and finer grits will start to burnish the wood which will prevent the wood from absorbing finish (you may want this on end-grain)
 - Techniques
 - Pick your starting grit
 - The first grit cleans up the surface – tool marks, small defects
 - Subsequent grits clean up previous grit scratch marks
 - Important: Total sanding time is faster if you start with the correct grit so don't be afraid of a courser grit if necessary (or go back to a tool).
 - Slow the lathe down
 - Heat means you are creating friction and not cutting
 - Give the paper time to do it's work – dust collects in-between grit particles and needs time to clear out
 - Watch the dust coming off the paper
 - you should see dust, if not you are no longer cutting and need new paper
 - Look for dust collection on surface – could indicate a low spot which needs attention.
 - Keep the abrasive clean and do not allow to burn into the abrasive surface