WOODSHEEN® GEL STAIN & FINISH

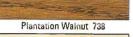


Rosewood 751











Natural 705

Windsor Oak 719

Manor Oak 714

Dove White 752

The colors shown are reproduced using modern printing techniques. Actual results on wood may vary. Always test first. See these colors displayed on real wood samples at your local MINWAX dealer.

Working on your home and furnishings can be both fun and rewarding if you follow simple safety guidelines. The following cautionary information applies to MINWAX products to ensure your safety and satisfaction. Please remember to read and follow all the label directions and warnings on the specific product you use. DAN-GER: Contains mineral spirits. Harmful or fatal if swallowed. Do not take internally. Skin irritant. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear rubber gloves and safety glasses when handling. Combustible. Do not use or store near heat, sparks, flame or other source of ignition. Close container after each use. Avoid inhalation. If using indoors, open all windows and doors to make sure there is fresh air movement. Keen out of reach of children. FIRST AID: If swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Call physician immediately. FOR SKIN CONTACT: Wash thoroughly with soap and water. If irritation persists, get medical attention. FOR EYE CONTACT: Immediately flush eyes thoroughly with water, then remove any contact lenses. Continue to flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes. If irritation persists, get medical attention. IF AFFECTED BY INHALATION: Immediately remove to fresh air. If symptoms persist, call a physician. IMPORTANT NOTES: 1. Rags from application of products high in oils such as Minwax Wood Finish require careful disposal. Place rags and waste immediately after use in a sealed, water-filled metal container. Dispose of in accordance with local fire regulation.

> The Thompson Minwax Company MINWAX COMPANY Div. Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

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TIPS ON WOOD FINISHING





This beautiful chair was once ready for the junk heav. Antique Refinisher and Tung Oil Finish by Minwax brought it back to life.



The table was transformed from bare wood to beautiful wood in less than a day with Polyshades® by Minwax.

THE MINWAX® SYSTEM OF WOOD FINISHING PRODUCTS

Since the turn of the century, the Minwax Company has been committed to finding new and better ways for you to bring out the best in wood. This chart will help you decide which Minwax product to use for your project.

PREPARATION



ANTIQUE FURNITURE REFINISHER: Gently dissolves old finishes without stripping. Leaves wood's rich patina undisturbed. Pg. 9



HIGH PERFORMANCE WOOD HARDENER: Penetrates deep to make soft, rotted wood rock hard, ready for filling. Pg. 26



HIGH PERFORMANCE WOOD FILLER: Handles virtually all wood repair problems, even big jobs. Pgs. 14-15, 26



PRE-STAIN WOOD CONDITIONER: Helps assume even staining on soft woods to avoid blotching and streaking. Pg. 17-18

COLOR



Wood Finish^{RM}: Penetrates and stains. Use on any interior wood surface. Available in 15 Wood Tone Colors. Pgs. 7-8, 16, 18, 22, 23, 28



PASTELSTM WOOD STAIN: Penetrates and stains in decorator colors to compliment the latest trends in home furnishings. Pg. 20, 30

TOP COATS



POLYURETHANE: Fast-drying and extra-hard for long-lasting beauty. Use on floors, table tops, furniture. Satin, semi-gloss, gloss. Pgs. 23-25, 27



HELMSMAN® SPAR URETHANE: A durable exterior/interior clear topcoat. Ultraviolet absorbers help resists sun damage. Pg. 25, 27



POLYCRYLIC® PROTECTIVE FINISH: Clear, non-yellowing finish that drys fast and cleans up with water. Pgs. 20-21, 27



Tung Oil Finish: A hard, hand-rubbed lustre recommended for interior stained or raw wood. Pg. 7, 9, 17, 27



Antique Oil Finish: A heat & stain resistant finish with soft lustre. Use on trim, fine furniture, etc. Pgs. 7-8, 18, 22, 27



Paste Finishing Wax: For a hand-rubbed lustre over stained wood. Pg. 17

ONE-STEP COLOR & TOP COAT



POLYSHADES[®]: Stain and polyurethane in one step for interior wood. Fast & simple to use. 6 colors, satin or gloss. **Pgs. 19, 27**



WoodSHEEN®: One-step rubbing oil stain and finish. Wipes on interior wood, dries in 2 hours. 5 colors plus Natural. Pgs. 20-22, 27

ENJOY THE FUN AND SATISFACTION OF FINISHING WOOD BEAUTIFULLY.

Today, the secret of a fine wood finish is no secret at all. Professional results are obtained easily and economically just by following a few simple steps, knowing a time-saving tip or two, and using wood finishing products by Minwax.

So, whether you're a regular in the workshop or a first-timer, you can benefit from the common sense approach to wood finishing contained in this booklet. Read it cover-to-cover to learn all the tips, then look up the project most like the one you're about to begin.

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GETTING STARTED

Because no special tools are needed, finishing wood is the ideal first project for a new do-it-yourselfer. In fact, the most useful finishing and refinishing tools are improvised from things found around the house, such as an old toothbrush. In this booklet, you'll find projects similar to those around your own home and all the how-to information you need for a top quality job.

IMPORTANT SAFETY TIP: For best results, and for your own safety, remember to read and follow all label warnings and instructions carefully.

WHERE TO WORK

Choose a place that's well-ventilated, dry and warm, with good light. Providing there's adequate ventilation, you can work virtually anywhere. Inexpensive plastic drop cloths can turn almost any room into a fine temporary studio.

Your basement, attic or garage may meet all your needs, but if it's cold or damp, allow for longer drying times between finish coats.

WHAT TO WEAR

Rubber gloves - good for keeping hands clean. Recommended when refinishing or stripping. Old clothes - not only because they are expendable but because they've been washed so many times they're lint-free. Special considerations - safety glasses or goggles are essential when you're using paint removers or other chemicals that can irritate eyes. If you're sanding floors or using a sprayer you will want to wear a face mask, too.

BASIC EQUIPMENT

These are the things you're most likely to want on hand for almost any finishing project; drop cloths and newspapers, rags and inexpensive paint brushes, steel wool or sand paper, a putty knife, wide top jars or coffee cans with lids, waterless hand cleaner and paper towels.

PREVIOUSLY FINISHED WOOD

If you're thinking of refinishing your project, take a close look at it first. Antiques — or potential antiques — deserve special consideration. Always try to restore the old finish rather than stripping down to bare wood. Stripping an antique can destroy the soft mellowed look wood gets with age (patina) as well as depreciate its value considerably. Restoring is much faster than total refinishing and much less work. Experiment with the following restoration techniques. It could add up to great time, labor and dollar savings in the long run.

1. CLEANING

Is there beauty beneath all that dirt?

To remove old wax and dirt build-up, clean with a soft cloth moistened with mineral spirits (paint thinner). Be sure to change the cloth frequently. When the surface is clean, it will look dull, but if most of the original finish is intact — and you like the color — consider restoring it.

TIP: The white glove inspection. Wax and dirt prevent new finishes from bonding to old. To be sure the wood is clean, go over the entire piece with a fresh cloth and mineral spirits. Cloth should stay clean.

2. RESTORING

Two ways to save time, money and effort.

THE TOUCH-UP TECHNIQUE

Match the color of the old finish with Minwax Wood Finish (How-to instructions page 16). Daub on color to bare or worn spots. Allow time to dry and apply a protective finish. Paste Finishing Wax is a common choice, but for greater protection, Antique Oil Finish or Tung Oil Finish may be used.



INTERIOR
WOOD FINISH™ penetrates deep into fibers to become an integral part of the wood.
Available in a wide range of wood tone colors.

THE ANTIQUE OIL FACELIFT

This can be a one-step method to wake up a tired, dry and dull-looking finish. Simply wipe the surface with a



ANTIQUE OIL FINISH

provides hand-rubbed beauty in minutes. A lustrous finish, it forms a resilient surface that is easily spot-repairable. lint-free cloth moistened with Antique Oil Finish. Then, buff evenly when the surface is tacky to the touch. This will give the wood a new healthy glow and a tough layer of protection at the same time.

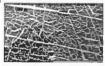
For more severe cases, apply Antique Oil with a fine grade of steel wool, rubbing with the grain. The steel wool will bite into the old finish to give the Antique Oil Finish a deeper footing.

REFINISHING

Complete restoration without stripping

You're in total control with Antique Furniture Refinisher. It gently dissolves old finishes without disturbing wood's rich patina. Please carefully read and follow usage instructions on can label. After using Antique Furniture Refinisher apply a protective finish such as Tung Oil Finish by Minwax which will restore lustre to the wood. And again you control the brightness with each coat of Tung Oil Finish you apply. Antique Refinisher is an excellent solution to these old finish problems:

- 1. ALLIGATOR HIDE: This is the dried out and crazed appearance that occurs when dry air and changing temperature and humidity cause crack lines in the finish.
- 2. WHITE HAZING: Old shellac and lacquer finishes are vulnerable to water damage. White rings and hazing result when moisture is trapped inside the finish.
- 3. PEELING FINISH: When one layer of finish fails to bond properly to another, or to the wood itself, flaking or peeling results.









ANTIQUE FURNITURE REFINISHER

dissolves old finishes without stripping, scraping or sanding.



TUNG OIL FINISH

is ideal for refinished wood because it penetrates wood pores to restore vitality. Remarkably durable and easy to maintain.

STRIPPING

Even an antique should be stripped if it was painted a psychedelic orange in the '60's. In general, whenever you object to the color or type of finish on an object, that's the time to take it down to bare wood.

Professional "dip strippers" do a very effective job, but use caution with more delicate pieces. This process involves soaking wood in stripper to remove old paint and finishes.

When in doubt, do it yourself and enjoy the satisfaction one gets seeing the goopy old finish come off and clean bare wood appear.

PROJECT 1

FURNITURE STRIPPING

To remove paint from this Colonial end table or similar piece you will need:

One gallon paint and varnish remover

Two boxes of steel wool (fine and medium grades)

wide-topped can or jar putty knife

paint brush

rags

rubber gloves and safety

glasses



TIP: If your project has carvings or grooves, an ordinary can opener and old toothbrush make handy refinishing tools. To remove paint from turnings, use steel wool twisted into a string.

TIP: When stripping chair or table legs, place a tin can or aluminum pie pan under each leg. Recycle remover that runs down the leg.

No-wash removers are most practical. This is a one step process that requires no neutralizing with water. So old finishes are removed without raising the grain of the wood. There's also little waiting time for wood to dry after being stripped. And since no-wash removers are less messy, they can be used indoors or out. On any project, remove hardware, drawer pulls and mirrors before stripping. Then just apply a liberal amount of the remover, following the manufacturer's instructions.

TIP: Brush remover in one direction. Do not overbrush. Brushing back and forth will cause evaporation and weaken the remover's strength.

Try to work on one horizontal surface at a time, turning the piece as necessary.

When the old paint or finish has softened and raised, scrape flat surfaces gently. (The wood itself will be temporarily softened and susceptible to gouging.) Use steel wool on curved surfaces. Wipe up remaining residue with rags.



TIP: Because dirty rags and papers are combustible, dispose of them outdoors immediately.

To Sand Or Not To Sand?

To preserve that glowing quality wood gets with age, we suggest you not sand refinished wood. Refinishing floors is one exception (see page 24). And of course, you may have to sand a piece that has been stripped with materials that have raised the grain or to remove imbedded wax or stearates

TROUBLE SPOTS

& WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

After stripping, trouble spots are more apparent. Here are tips on how to handle the most common. These cosmetic repairs should be made before staining.

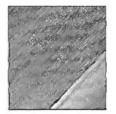


DARK RINGS AND SPOTS

Bleach out old moisture stains with chlorine bleach. Sponge bleach over the entire surface surrounding the stain, wait 5-10 minutes and wipe dry. Then apply bleach to just the stain itself. The spot will fade as the bleach dries. Repeat spot treatment as necessary.

PAINT IN PORES

Apply fresh stripper, give it time to work, then use a nylon scrub brush to get the paint up and out. This process may have to be repeated several times. Be patient or consider the country-primitive look of leaving some paint in the pores.





CIGARETTE BURNS

Scrape away blackened area with steel wool, razor or knife. Shallow burns will fill in with finishing. For deeper burns, fill with a mixture of wood glue and sanding dust from your project. Tamp it in, let cure, smooth with a razor blade.



DENTS

Dents are the result of wood fibers being crushed and compressed. To raise a dent, simply swell the fibers back up with moisture in the form of steam. Place a damp cloth over the dent and hold a medium-hot iron on it. Check progress frequently.

LOOSE VENEER

To melt old glue under loose veneer, place several layers of paper between the veneer and a warm iron. When veneer begins to stick, apply pressure until glue dries. If no sticking occurs, regluing is needed. For a good bond, clean



away any dirt and old glue before applying new.



WARPED WOOD

Wood warps when moisture loss on one side is greater than on the other. To straighten a warp, add moisture to the dried outside. Place the wood cupped side down on wet grass or damp towels in strong sun. Place some light

weights on top of the wood during the flattening process.

RUSTY TIN

Projects such as trunks and iceboxes often include large areas of tin. To refinish these surfaces, clean with a rust remover. Dry the tin thoroughly and prevent future rusting with a light application of Satin Polyurethane.



BEFORE FINISHING

Remove all hardware, including hinges. Mask mirror edges with tape if they cannot be removed.

Reglue any loose joints. Wrap any loose screws with steel wool before replacing.

Sand off glue on any spot to be stained; otherwise, stain will not penetrate.

Wipe wood surface with a tack rag or cloth dampened with mineral spirits.

GLUING TIPS

Scrape off any old glue. Use a white or tan water-base glue.

If you don't own a set of clamps, use a pile of books to apply pressure to glue points. For chair and table legs, a string tourniquet is as effective as a belt clamp.



When regluing drawers, always test the fit *before* the glue dries. But remember to remove the drawers immediately.

Wipe off excess glue around joints with a cloth *before* it dries.

WOOD REPAIR

Use High Performance Wood Filler by Minwax to replace missing, badly damaged, or rotted wood. It can be used for everything from nailholes, nicks and cracks, to major repairs. If area to be repaired is especially large, cut and test-fit dry blocks of wood to





HIGH PERFORMANCE WOOD FILLER

Repairs almost anything made of wood and can be drilled, screwed, sanded, carved and painted or stained in an hour.

start the building-up process. Butter the surfaces of the void with approximately 1/4" of filler and firmly press in blocks. Use more filler to fill any remaining void and to match existing contours.

SANDING

To provide a smooth, uniform surface, sand with successively finer grades of sandpaper. If the area you are sanding is large, a power sander will speed your work. For smaller jobs, use a sanding block. There's nothing difficult about sanding. Just be sure to sand in the direction of the grain. And be careful not to round off square edges!



TIP: To test for rough spots after sanding, put a sock on your hand and rub the surface of the wood. Sand where you hit a snag.

FINISHING BARE WOOD

The Minwax name is your assurance that even your first wood finishing project will look as though a seasoned professional did it. It's not surprising so many of the country's finest cabinetmakers use our products too.

STAINING

Wood Finish by Minwax stains and seals wood surfaces. It penetrates deep into wood fibers, so surface scratches will not expose bare wood. Here's how to finish freshly stripped or unfinished furniture.

- 1. Choose from the many wood tone colors. Your dealer's sample board or Minwax Color Card will give you a good idea of the effect you'll achieve. But remember: different species of wood absorb stain differently.
- 2. Test the color on a hidden section of wood. Soft woods like pine, spruce, or fir will absorb more color, taking on a darker, more intense tone than hardwoods like oak or walnut. If you wish to create a custom color, see "how to mix and match color" on page 18.



3. Brush or wipe on a liberal coat of Wood Finish. Allow 5-15 minutes for penetration and wipe off excess. To help prevent warping, finish all wood surfaces, even under the tables and inside the drawers. A second coat may be applied 4-6 hours later.

16





FINISHING WAX

protects and ads lustre.

4. After 8 hours, you're ready to top it off with any of the protective finishes made by Minwax. The hand-rubbed look of Tung Oil Finish looks great over traditional pieces. For Project 1, however, we chose a classic paste wax finish.

To apply, simply put a scoop of wax into a piece of clean cheesecloth. Fold the cloth. Wax squeezes through onto the wood surface. Let dry a few minutes and buff lightly. For deeper body, apply a second coat.

5. IMPORTANT: Oil soaked rags may spontaneously catch fire if improperly discarded. Place oily rags and waste in a sealed, water-filled metal container immediately after use. See package for additional instructions.

HOW TO HANDLE THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF SOFT WOODS

In addition to absorbing more color, soft woods (from needle-bearing trees such as pine, fir and spruce) may take stain unevenly. To help avoid a blotchy look, apply Minwax® Pre-Stain Wood Conditioner before staining.



PRE-STAIN WOOD CONDITIONER

prepares soft woods for staining. Controls color penetration to help avoid blotches or streaks.

TIP: Watch maple. It frequently absorbs dark finishes unevenly. To minimize a blotchy effect, pre-treat with Wood Conditioner.

HOW TO MIX & MATCH COLOR

It's easy to lighten any shade of Wood Finish just by adding Natural. However, if you're after a special effect or trying to match a color,

remember that any color of Wood Finish can be mixed with any other color within the same letter series.

TO INCREASE:	ADD:
Brown Tones	Dark Walnut
Red Tones	Cherry or Red Mahogany
Yellow Tones	Golden Oak
Orange Tones	Colonial Maple

Intermixing colors will enable you to match a pine chair to a cherry or walnut table. For added protection apply Antique Oil Finish by Minwax. Use Natural to intensify grain without changing the color of the wood.

BLEND-FIL® PENCILS

are available in eight colors. Colors can be mixed to match any wood tone.



WHAT TO DO FOR BLEMISHES

Minor imperfections in wood can be "written off" with Blend-Fil Pencils. A specially compounded filling material, Blend-Fil can be rubbed into nail holes or smoothed over scratches for a virtually undetectable repair.



INTERIOR WOOD FINISHTM

penetrates deep into fibers to become an integral part of the wood. Available in a wide range of wood tone colors.

ONE-STEP FINISHING

Minwax makes wood finishing easier than ever with its one-step finishes. These products combine stain and topcoat, so you apply both color and protection in the same stroke. They're easy to use, and give you beautiful results with half the time and effort.

PROJECT 2

UNFINISHED BOOKCASE

Save money by buying an unfinished bookcase, and save a lot of time, too, by finishing it with Polyshades. Each coat of Polyshades provides both stain and lasting polyurethane protection, so you cut finishing time in half.



- 1. Sand the wood smooth and brush on a THIN even coat of Polyshades in the direction of the grain.
- **2.** After the first coat has dried, rub the surface with fine steel wool or sandpaper and apply a second THIN coat.





POLYSHADES®

provides both rich stain color and polyurethane protection in one step. This can save time, and you get a top quality finish.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

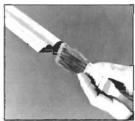
Wood finishing projects shouldn't be limited to furniture you put into your home. Make wood a more significant part of your house itself. Here are four easy home improvement projects for you and wood finishing products by Minwax.

PROJECT 5

PANELING

- 1. To clean and restore vitality to existing wood paneling, wipe the surface with a lint-free cloth moistened with Antique Oil.
- 2. Installing new paneling? Finish bare tongues and edges with Polyshades, Wood Finish or WoodSheen. Then if boards shrink, unfinished areas won't show. Finish baseboards and other trim after exact size cutting but before nailing them up. The range of colors allows you to match trim to almost any paneling.





TIP: Nail holes. After you've countersunk all the nails in your paneling, conceal the holes with a Blend-Fil pencil of matching color.

PROJECT 6

FLOORING

If your floors need more than a good waxing to restore them, call a professional or consider refinishing them yourself. Floor sanders and edgers can be rented at many hardware and paint stores.

- 1. Begin by removing shoe molding (baseboards) and countersink floor nails.
- **2.** Use a medium grade of sandpaper while you get the hang of the sander. Finish with a finer grade to remove all imperfections and sanding marks.

TIP: Many people assume all wood floors are hardwood floors. Rough sanding with coarse sandpaper can take down too much of the floor along with the finish.

Even if your floors are hard oak, start with a medium grade paper. Then when you re familiar with the sanding machine, you can judge if a coarser grade of paper is in order.

- **3.** Vacuum thoroughly *twice*. Allow time for airborne dust to settle between vacuumings.
- **4.** Finish floors by applying your color choice of Wood Finish. Since Wood Finish does not raise the grain of wood, there's no need for
- 5. After drying, give the floor a durable, protective coat of Polyurethane by Minwax. Apply a uniform coat. Recoat in 6 to 8 hours, sanding lightly between coats.

additional sanding.



FAST-DRYING POLYURETHANE

offers durable protection and exceptionally long-lasting beauty. Excellent for floors, furniture and other wood surfaces subject to heavy use. In clear gloss, semi-gloss or satin.



PROJECT 7

LOUVERED SHUTTERS

Thanks to innovative spray polyurethane finishes from Minwax, louvered shutters have never been easier to finish.

- 1. Size shutters to fit your window or opening. Sand rough edges and make sure corner joints are glued securely.
- **2.** Wipe on stain in the usual manner using Wood Finish by Minwax.
- **3.** Then simply spray on a top coat of Minwax Polyurethane. The can is equipped with an adjustable spray valve for better control and even coverage without causing the drips and runs usually associated with spray paints. Apply 2 -3 thin coats; recoat when first coat is dry to touch.
- **4.** Allow to dry overnight, before hanging.



PROJECT 8

OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Springtime is the best time to spruce up tables and chairs and other outdoor patio furniture.



- 1. Check all nails, bolts and joints to be sure they're in place.
- **2.** Sand unfinished wood until smooth or old finishes until they start to dull.
- **3.** Remove all dust and apply Helmsman Spar Urethane for both durability and long-lasting good looks.
- **4.** Keep the finish looking bright. That's easy because the smooth, durable surface of Helmsman is easy to keep clean with soap and water.



HELMSMAN® SPAR URETHANE

is wood's best protection against moisture, sun and salt air. It's especially resistant to sun damage because it contains modern ultraviolet absorbers.

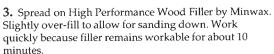
PROJECT 9

ROTTED WINDOWSILL

Why go to the expense of replacing windows and other items containing rotted wood when you can repair them?

- 1. Completely remove decayed and very soft crumbly wood until you reach reasonably sound wood. Be sure wood is dry, free from dirt, grease, oil and paint.
- 2. With disposable brush, apply High Performance Wood Hardener by Minwax to the softened wood, saturating the area.

Allow 2 to 4 hours for hardening.



4. Complete the job with any necessary filing, planing, sanding and painting or staining approximately one half-hour after you have completed the filling.

HIGH PERFORMANCE WOOD REPAIR

rescues even rotten wood. You can repair wood instead of replacing it with this complete wood repair system.







CARING FOR YOUR NEW FINISH

The Minwax finishes listed below can be maintained easily. Follow these simple steps and your wood will actually improve with age and stay looking good for years.

TUNG OIL FINISH Occasional dusting is all that's needed. Over the years, you may wish to add more body and lustre to the wood. Simply apply a light coat of Tung Oil and buff with a clean cloth.

ANTIQUE OIL FINISH Same care as above. Renew lustre in 2-3 years with light application of Antique Oil and buffing.

WOODSHEEN® Same care as Tung Oil Finish: occasional dusting, and a light coat of Tung Oil to renew lustre after 2-3 years.

POLYURETHANE Even dust has a hard time setting on this fast-drying, glass-smooth finish. Liquid spills bead up and wait to be wiped away with a towel.

POLYSHADES® This finish requires the same clean up as Polyurethane.

HELMSMAN® This finish can be wiped clean with a damp sponge or washed thoroughly with mild detergent and water.

POLYCRYLIC® Simply wipe clean with a damp sponge and let dry.

WOOD FINISH INTERIOR COLORS



POLYSHADES® STAIN & POLYURETHANE IN ONE STEP



PASTELSTM WOOD STAIN

