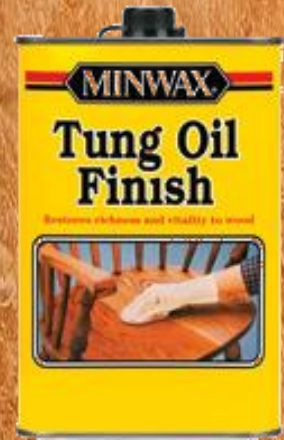


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TUNG OIL FINISH

Canadian
How To
Series

*Darkwood-woodcarving
Gary & Marie Crosby*

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ISBN: TBC

Printed and bound in Canada.

DEDICATION

First and foremost I would like to acknowledge and thank my wife Marie for her many years of standing behind me in this endeavor and assisting me in creating this e-book.

And

To all the woodcarvers that will use this book to create their own works of art.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are indebted to the thousands of Canadian and World woodcarvers and wood workers who have shared their ideas and

experiences with us over the years through the internet and personal contact.

PREFACE

Over the past 27 years of carving and furniture designing Marie and I have gathered tremendous amounts of knowledge and skill learning from master craftsman the world over, from the shores of Africa to the jungles of Honduras, to the depths of the Black Forest in Germany, and Eastern Europe, with their historical cultures steeped in tradition. We have taken all of this knowledge combined with a little Canadian flair and are now putting pen to paper to ensure this knowledge is passed on to future generations of woodcarvers and woodworkers.

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CHAPTER 2. Applications and Project Preparation, Recommended Schedule . Safety Equipment Recommendations





TUNG OIL

China-Wood Oil

By: Gary A Crosby
of
<http://darkwood-woodcarving.com>



General

1. *One of the most attractive finishes I know is Tung Oil, but just like all other applications it has its downfalls. It may take longer to complete but it will last much longer. Tung Oil finish can provide a high gloss shine or a smooth mat finish. In this short e-book we will take a good hard look at the use and application of a Tung Oil finish.*

Pure Tung oil

2. *Tung oil or, as it is know in Asia, "China wood oil" is made from the pressed seeds from the Tung nut. Tung oil is considered a drying oil like linseed Oil. When applied in layers it will provide a tough, very water-resistant finish. I like to use Tung Oil due to the fact that it provides me with a deep rich wood finish. To date I have not been able to find that kind of finish in any other type*



of finish. No matter what anybody says, Tung Oil does not provide a clear finish but rather a slightly golden tint which I find enhances the wood grain.

Polymerized Tung Oil

3. Like any material, heating or chemical treatment of pure Tung oil will increase its viscosity (make it thicker). There are several brands on the market that you can choose from. I like to pick my Tung Oil up from my local hardware store, but if you're the type of person that likes to use the net, jump on Lee Valley tools and you will find good quality Tung Oil.



Warning! Allergic Reactions

4. Tung oil is a nut, and as such will cause allergic reaction in some people and, in some cases it can be Severe. Make sure that you read the label before using, especially if you have had allergic reactions to nuts in the past. (Remember safety first)

Application

5. First you must ask the question what type of finish you need, and on the amount of time you wish to spend on finishing your project, will be determining factors in the finish on whether you use oil or something else. Should you decide to go with Oil then you've decided that your project is worth the extra work. Tung oil application is very time consuming but provides an outstanding finish. Like any finish your project will need to be prepared. So your project will need to be prepared prior to the application of Tung oil.

Project Preparation.

6. You do this by sanding your project first with 80, then 120 and finishing off with 220 sandpaper and then, if the project is smooth, I use fine steel wool. But if the project has been carved or wood burned then I would not use steel wool because once it gets into the cracks it's a pain to get out and all of it must be out before applying Tung oil. Once your project is to the standard you want it, it's time for the real work to begin. I've laid out a schedule below that should give you a rich and exceptional finish. If you divert from the recommended schedule you must expect a lesser than perfect quality finish, but still a good one.

Recommended schedule

Day 1 Complete the sanding procedures listed above, just use the 220 only and, depending on the texture of your carving, apply the oil with either a brush or rub it on using a lint free cloth. I personally like to use a brush, just because I never have a carving without texture. It's very important that you don't let the oil pool in any cavities. If it starts to pool, dip your brush into the cavity and try to prevent it from pooling. Pooling is one of the worst things that can happen with Oil, so it's critical not to let the oil pool. After an hour, brush or wipe off the excess oil, again make sure there is no pooling. Then let it sit for 24 hrs in a dry dust free room if possible and allow the oil to cure.

Day 2 You will need to sand the project down again, this time with 220 grit sandpaper or finer. At this stage of the game, and for the rest of the stages other than the last one, never use steel wool. It has a tendency to gather in the carved areas and sharp points and it's next to impossible to get out. Once you've completed sanding it's time to start another coat. So first ensure that you have removed all the sanding dust from your project, either by wiping it off with a damp lint free cloth or by using a

clean brush. Once this is complete you can now start applying your oil again in the same manner as in day 1.

Day 3 *Is the same application as day 2*

Day 4 *Is the same application as day 2*

Day 5 *On the 5th day all you need to do is use super fine steel wool and rub down the project. Once that's done I use old English polish and wipe off all the dust from the steel wool. I suggest that you use old English polish on the carving once a day for a week.*

Safety Equipment Recommended

5. The manufacture has spent money and time researching what is required to ensure your safety when using their products. So I would recommend that you follow the instructions on the can to the letter in ref to safety.

Gary A Crosby

Author / Woodcarver and all around good guy

darkwood-woodcarving.com

