

FINISHING TECHNIQUES WITH PETER GEDRYS

AUGUST 6-10, 2012

The finishing class will have a basic schedule as follows:

1. The rudiments of color. This will take the guess work out of color matching for everything from new projects to repair and restoration.
2. Surface preparation: This critical step is the foundation for your finish. Sanded and scraped surfaces will be prepared. Students that prefer a scraped surface are encouraged to bring their own scrapers with them.
3. Dyeing and staining. There is a great difference between these colorants and you'll learn to use them to their fullest advantage. You will make a variety of sample boards employing both dyes and stains. Basic and advanced color layered boards will be produced.
4. Sealing and isolating the surface. Here we will work with sealers with particular attention paid to shellac. Once the surface or ground has been isolated, you will practice pore filling and glazing. Pore filling helps you achieve that perfectly flat surface for formal finishes. Glazing, which is a translucent color over a sealed surface, will allow you to produce your own custom patinas.
5. Finishes. Understanding the pros and cons of each coating; oil, water, and alcohol based products will be covered and you will have the opportunity to work with all three types. Application techniques will include ragging, padding, brushing and spray application. Extra time will be spent on padding shellac. You'll learn to make and manipulate a pad to its fullest advantages.
6. Rubbing basics. Here we'll "finish the finish" by using a variety of agents including rubbing compounds, steel wool and wax.

**** Please note: These steps may overlap on a daily basis as we progress****

I encourage students to bring a small piece to class with them. This could include something like a chair, box, small side table etc. While sample making is an invaluable step in finishing there is nothing like working on a "real life" piece of furniture you will live with.

These small pieces will need the pre-approval of the instructor.

Please bring:

Apron, safety glasses, dust mask, gloves and your imagination

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