

## General Guidelines for Finishing HempWood®

Similar to any wood, HempWood® can be modified to accommodate almost anyone's preference. Below serves as a general guide for finishing HempWood® with various products.

### Wood Fill

Wood fill is often utilized in our cabinet and table kits to make cracks and seams less visible. Wood fill can be purchased or made. If you chose to purchase wood fill, we suggest Minwax Sustainable Wood Fill. Wood fill can also be made with HempWood® sawdust and a small amount of wood glue of your choice. When choosing between purchasing and making your wood fill, take into account the targeted color for the final product. Minwax Sustainable Wood Fill tends to leave an orange-yellow color while the sawdust wood fill gives a natural look. Below are pictures of both options.



### Oil Based Stain

HempWood® receives oil-based stains very well. When applying oil-based stains, it is advised to apply at least 1-2 coats. In comparison to oak, the stain on HempWood® takes longer to dry due to the density of the wood. When desired levels have been reached, wipe off the excess stain.

### Sealer

Bona sealers come in Nordic (white tint), Classic (natural), and Amber (light brown tint). It is recommended to apply 1 or 2 coats pending color and water resistance requirements. Apply sealer after sanding and staining the wood.



Bona NordicSeal



Bona ClassicSeal



Bona AmberSeal

## Bona Coating

Bona offers a wide variety of lacquers. At HempWood®, we use Bona Traffic HD. Bona Traffic HD is a water-based lacquer that omits very little VOCs. While Bona coatings are water-based, we strongly suggest applying a sealer before applying Bona coating. HempWood® that has not received sealer prior to Bona application will tend to swell and rise. In between each coat of Bona, we suggest sanding lightly.



## Wood Hardener

Wood hardener can be used when stabilization is required in vulnerable areas. Wood hardener also aids in moisture resistance. Wood hardener is often used in wood turning to ensure that the integrity of the wood is secured. There are many brands of wood hardener to consider. When applying coats, lightly sand in between coats.

## Water-Based Stains

Water-based stains are not recommended for HempWood® until further field tests are conducted. Water-based stains tend to raise the grain of the wood. After applying the stain, lightly sanding the wood may be required.

## Catalyzed lacquer

Catalyzed lacquer is used for a high gloss finish and resistance to moisture. After sanding the HempWood® with 400 grit sandpaper, it is suggested to apply 3-4 coats to achieve a very fine finish.

## Epoxy

While HempWood® strives to ensure that our products are eco-friendly, epoxy can be applied to our lumbers and unfinished flooring. This has the potential to make the product waterproof.

## Refinishing

The beauty of HempWood® is endless. Like other woods, HempWood® can be sanded and refinished to fit your vision.

HempWood® hardness is very high and often scratches are only on the finish. If you are not trying to change the color, you can lightly sand or screen the topcoat and refresh with Bona coating (saving a lot of work and mess).