

General Guidelines for Finishing HempWood®

Like any wood, HempWood® can be modified to accommodate almost anyone's preference. Below serves as a general guide for finishing HempWood® with various products. Additionally, there are tips about working with HempWood®.

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 choose to purchase wood fill, we suggest Minwax Sustainable Wood Fill. Wood fill can also be made from HempWood® sawdust and a small amount of wood glue of your choice. When deciding between purchasing and making your wood fill, consider 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 than oak to dry due to the density of the wood. When desired levels have been reached, wipe off the excess stain.

Sealer

When applying sealer to HempWood®, it is recommended to apply multiple times throughout the process. First, apply after staining the wood. Secondly, apply before adding the Bona coating.

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 few VOCs. Because Bona coatings are water-based, we strongly suggest applying a sealer before applying Bona coating. HempWood® that has not received sealer before 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 woodturning to ensure that the integrity of the wood is secured. There are many brands of wood hardeners. When applying coats, lightly sand in between coats.

Water-Based Stains

Water-based stains are not recommended for HempWood®. Water-based stains tend to raise the grain of the wood. If a water-based stain is used, 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.

Walnut Oil

Walnut oil can be used to achieve a very natural look to the wood. For application processes, it is suggested to apply 2 coats. After applying 2 coats, apply paste wax. Keep in mind that applying paste wax is not a complete finish to a stain. Due to the nature of wax, this final step is not the best option for protecting the wood.



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Epoxy

While HempWood® strives to ensure that our products are eco-friendly, epoxy can be applied to our lumbers and unfinished flooring.

Refinishing

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