
Subject: Re: Any advice on working with exotics?

Posted by [hurdy_gurdyman](#) on Sun, 04 Jan 2004 16:33:55 GMT

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Enough cannot be said about using proper dust mask at all times when sanding some types of wood. A few years ago I was building a mountain dulcimer as a Christmas rush project. Much of the instrument was made of mahogany. I was sanding a lot, but sometimes removed my mask because my cold workshop was causing my glasses to fog up with the mask on. On a Friday I started to get a swelling in my left upper leg. By Sunday I was one sick puppy. I went to the hospital Monday. My whole body was so swollen I couldn't lay down and had to be propped up in bed. I came down with Pneumonia that same day. I spent three days in a sitting position, propped up, gasping for every breath, sometimes not fully coherent. I almost died that week. On the fourth day, I got better and was allowed to go home in my wife's care. It was weeks before I could keep up just walking with her in a department store. A lesson for all to remember. Sawdust, especially certain more exotic woods, is nothing to trifle with. Wear that mask!Dave
