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Subject: Veneer advice (contd)

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Fri, 13 May 2011 00:58:39 GMT

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One tantrum, several damage spots and a vow to never round-off a cabinet again later, today's advice is to go ahead and do it but not alone (unless it's one of those little poofter monitors).

I always use 1/2" dowel rods to separate the veneer from substrate for positioning; it was this step that caused the problems. I thought it would be easier to remove the dowels if positioned longitudinally but I failed to realise that they would roll as the box rolled onto it's side! How dumb is that!

Once I unstuck the unstuckable (which caused the damage you see) and re-positioned the dowels East-West, the Saguaro Guys roll onto the side technique worked stupid easy. No need to push out any lumps or bumps on the roundover save just using the soft pine 2x4 "squeegee" I always do.

Using NBL saves a lot of repair work, first, because the face layer remained mostly intact and, second, an all-wood, matching species 2nd ply means very little filling will be necessary before sanding away all but the memory.

Stay tuned...because no one asked, I'm taking fotos of the entire construction sequence.

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#### File Attachments

1) [Screw Up\\_1.jpg](#), downloaded 2320 times

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Subject: Re: Veneer advice (contd)

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 13 May 2011 02:25:14 GMT

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Oh, damn, Bill - I feel for you. I really do. I've had a few cabinets do that too.

Once upon a time, long, long ago, we used to make all cabinets with rounded edges. I thought the improvement from reduced edge diffraction would make it worthwhile. It was as great a radius as possible, which made it more likely that the veneer would cooperate. It also would theoretically reduce edge diffraction the most. We did this by using square wood stock in each internal edge, so they could be routed deeply.

Still, the cabinetmakers hated those cursed rounded corners of mine. They pleaded with me to relax that requirement, because sometimes the veneer split. They got pretty good at bending veneers, but it still happened occasionally.

Eventually, the guys at the shop built me two pairs of cabinets exactly alike in all respects except one had roundover and one didn't. We listened to them outdoors, on the porch. Had a group of

people listening, and it was unanimous, nobody could hear the difference. So I relented. No more rounded corners from that day on.

I still think it looks cool though.

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Subject: Re: Veneer advice (contd)  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Fri, 13 May 2011 02:48:53 GMT  
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It does look cool and since I invested \$42 in a 3/4" roundover bit and NBL veneer drapes like cloth, you bet-yer-ass I'm gonna keep doin' it!

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