Subject: Veneer finishing
Posted by Adrian Mack on Fri, 19 Dec 2003 06:08:01 GMT
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Hi everyoneI'm wondering what I should do for the finishing on my 3-way towers. Its veneered with Tasmaian Oak, what should I put over that? Some sort of lacquer? In the past thats basically what I've done with veneers, but perhaps theres something better I can do. Any advice welcomed! Here is the veneered MDF, the one with masking tape around it (although you cant really see the grain on the veneer properly in the pic): Thanks!Adrian

Subject: Re: Ask the Other Bill
Posted by BillEpstein on Fri, 19 Dec 2003 11:07:56 GMT
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Martinelli is the lacquer guy, at least until OSHAA and the Rochester FD finds out what's going on in his basement. I like the Tung Oil/Linseed Oil stuff and lately have come back to Watco 'cause it's easier than 6 coat's of Waterlox. And, over MDF there is a certain unpredictability for oils, i.e., absorption. Soooo, lacquer would be best.

Subject: I'm New at this but . . .
Posted by elektratig on Fri, 19 Dec 2003 18:00:04 GMT
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Tung oil works! See the last couple of pictures on the link.
 Adire Tempest Construction Pictures

Subject: Re: Veneer finishing
Posted by Bill Martinelli on Sat, 20 Dec 2003 00:52:09 GMT
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Hi Adrian, I like the way your speakers are looking. It will be a great set up when your done. The stripes and grain in that oak should really come to life and show some vivid color contrast too. As suggested, the tung oil is nice finish. It will get into the wood and the protection will be in the surface fiber of the wood. The oil penetrates and then cures. The film finishes don't penetrate but instead form a protective film that covers the wood. Both can bring out the grain in the wood and make your speakers look alive. If you have spray equipment then lacquer is a great finish. As Bill suggested you need some special things to be safe while spraying. A mask is a must and you

need to have exhaust fans that don't pollute with filters as well as explosion proof lights. If the weather is nice and your neighbors don't mind you can work outside. Thinners and thinning is temperature and climate dependant. If you don't want to spray but still want a film finish I suggest Varnish. Spar varnish is very nice and water proof. If your interested I can tell you how I apply lacquer or varnish.Bill

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Subject: Re: Tell, Tell! nt
Posted by BillEpstein on Sat, 20 Dec 2003 02:54:23 GMT
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Subject: Re: Veneer finishing
Posted by Adrian Mack on Sat, 20 Dec 2003 10:57:13 GMT
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I think its decided then, Tung oil is the way to go! Is this an expensive finish? I lacquered a shelving cabinet I made before, but the pictures of "elektratig's" Tempest sub with Tung oil looked real good, way better than the laquer I used. Adrian

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Subject: Re: I'm New at this but . . .
Posted by Adrian Mack on Sat, 20 Dec 2003 10:59:36 GMT
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That looks really good! Great work. The tung oil finish looks really nice too, I have to use that on mine!

Subject: Re: Veneer finishing
Posted by billfort on Sun, 28 Dec 2003 02:23:15 GMT
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I'm no wood finishing expert but I prefer natural Watco Danish oil and a hand rubbed wax finish. There are lots of techniques for applying this stuff and they all require a fair bit elbow grease &

time but it's foolproof - just what a fool like me needs.For my speakers (behind amps in pic, cherry veneer), I rubbed in about 6 coats of oil by wet sanding - starting with 200 grit and working up to 800. I soaked the wood and kept the paper clean and wet, let dry for maybe 20 minutes, rubbed off the access and let dry overnight before the next coat. To seal things a little I rubbed in a few coats of Watco's satin finishing wax.On the amp bases (South American mahogany) I used the same oil technique but tried Goddards furniture polish for the final finish - a little glossier and really brought out the depth of the grain. One thing to point out here, the Watco natural oil color has an orangey hue on some woods and may not be to your liking - definitely try it on some scrap first to make sure you don't make a very large mistake.Billfort

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Subject: Re: Veneer finishing
Posted by Adrian Mack on Sun, 28 Dec 2003 03:47:10 GMT
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Hi BillThat looks really great as well. Looks like there are quite a lot of options for me to choose from! Since I really like the look of yours and also that Tempest sub finished in Tung oil, price may become a deciding factor too as they both look very nice. Adrian

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