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Subject: Trimming veneer

Posted by [colinhester](#) on Tue, 11 Sep 2007 13:29:17 GMT

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About to do a large box in teak veneer. In the past I've laid the veneered box face down on MDF and trimmed with a very sharp knife. Seems to work well, but very time consuming. I've also used an edge band trimmer, but always get tear-out going in and coming out, even with a new blade. Also, I've used a laminate trimmer bit designed for the roto-zip - the bit looks like a cylinder with a square notch. Again, not much luck as it tended to score the edge beyond repair. Any ideas?.....C

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Subject: Re: Trimming veneer

Posted by [Bob Brines](#) on Tue, 11 Sep 2007 21:56:03 GMT

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1. (this is what I do) Use a new, repeat, new blade in a utility knife. Cutting with the grain is almost automatic. Be careful across the grain. Saw with the blade rather than force it through in a single pass or you will crush the edge and cause tear-outs. Don't try to get flush with the knife. Leave 1/32" or so for sanding. Sand the edge down flush applying pressure only on the stroke into the box. Sanding out from the edge will cause tear-outs. To avoid cutting into the previous panel, you might lay a thin metal rule against the bottom of the veneer being cut and cut to this edge. That will give some support and make the cut a shearing action rather than a crushing action. 2. Use a down-cut spiral bit in a router. The best bit is 1/2" diameter pattern following bit. I tried a 1/4" bit, which worked OK, but the bearing failed. It was not a ball bearing. I believe that the 1/2" bits do have ball bearings. Bob

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Subject: Re: Trimming veneer

Posted by [colinhester](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2007 01:09:03 GMT

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Bob, Sorry for the delay. Thanks for answering. I've done 4 small cabs using technique #1. The results were pretty good, but very time intensive. I was just hoping to find a way to speed the process up a bit, but it looks like I rally can't.....C

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Subject: Re: Downshear flush trim bit

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Sun, 23 Sep 2007 16:53:53 GMT

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This is what I use being very careful not to nick the adjacent panel. Blue taping that panel the bearing rides on helps and leaves just a whisker to trim off with sandpaper for unbacked or a scary sharp block plane for paper backed, then sand.

Bit

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Subject: Re: Downshear flush trim bit

Posted by [DaBase](#) on Thu, 25 Feb 2010 04:03:43 GMT

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Thank god I found this post because I have been going nuts trying to cut the veneer on my new box. No matter what I do I always seem to tear it or it doesn't look right. So, I'm going to try one of the tips on here and let you know how it goes.

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