RJF Finishing Method 2018-02-12

FOR WOOD.

The finish starts with the turned surface it should be as smooth as possible with no tear-out.

A sharp tool with a slicing cut is needed. See Mark Silay:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCikQVvx5P4

Dry-Sand to 240: Start with the finest grit that will get the job done.

At each grit sand out all the lines of the previous grit. You are looking for consistant sanding scratches.

Sanding Sealer: After 240 grit clean the surface & apply sanding sealer, dry the sanding sealer.

(I use Zinsser Bulls Eye Shellac (comes ready mixed in the can) and denatured alcohol mixed 50/50 for my sanding sealer. It buffs dry quickly)

Denib: with 320 grit.

At this point, you can Wet or Dry Sand 320 or higher if you want.

Higher grits will produce a slightly finer finish. (I use mineral oil for wet sanding)

OR: go straight to Orbital Hand Sanding. (Currently, I go straight to Orbital Hand Sanding at 320)

Orbital Hand Sanding: Using one grit finer than the finest grit used so far, and with the lathe rotated by hand, sand with an orbital motion, then dry with a paper towel.

At 600 grit & up no sanding lines should be visible to the naked eye.

Ford's Nova-Silk: * Apply a thin coat with a folded pad of paper towel to all surfaces.

A strip of paper towel or a 2" square of cotton cloth wrapped around the end of a popsicle stick works well for me.

Start with the lathe turning slowly apply pressure to the paper towel rubbing the Ford's Nova-Silk into the surface while slowly speeding up the lathe to a high speed. The paste will get finer and finer producing a smooth silk-like surface. Refold the paper towel and apply a clean patch to the surface until all the Nova-Silk is rubbed into and cleaned from the surface.

Additional applications of Nova-Silk can be applied if needed. Just put on the paper towel and rub in. See a Club Demo of this on youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGtsfdMu6wI&t=21s

With oily wood: You may need to clean the surface with alcohol & denib before finishing.

Apply your desired finish:

Mineral Oil: I use Mineral Oil on Food containers and utensils.

2 Minute Finish: My Favorite Friction Polish (A Turners French Polish):

Zinsser Bulls Eye Shellac (Bought ready mixed in the can) and Boiled Linseed Oil mixed 50/50. (Shake before use) This is a friction polish apply with a paper towel and finish at high speed. OR

For water/alcohol & wear resistance:

Wiping Varnish: 2 Parts Varnish Mixed with 3 Parts Mineral Spirits

Any type of oil-based varnish will work I prefer a high-gloss polyurethane.

Another finish choice mught be:

BLO-CA: Boiled Linseed Oil and Thin CA see:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-FXOsMR2tY&t=200s

These are 2 choices there are others, use your favorite, maybe a Lacquer.

White Diamond Buff: Use as & if needed.

Wax-Buff: A thin coating of wax polish buffed to a high shine finishes the job.

I like to use Carnauba wax.

^{*}If you don't have any Ford's Nova-Silk you could try EEE, White Diamond Buff or sand up to 2000 grit.