

Wudtone Finishing – Hints and tips

Getting the best colour intensity

1 Any sealers etc must be completely removed so you are right back to clean bare / porous wood.

2 Too fine sanding. If you want the best colour intensity you need to have the best surface key, porosity for the fine dyes to grab and get into the wood.

To that end 180 grit is actually best, 240 OK , 400 is getting a bit too fine as the pores can be come clogged. Always final cut along the grain with fresh paper before applying the initial coat.

3 Oils, liquids, barriers unwittingly applied to the surface.

Always wear gloves handling the wood when sanding and do not use some old contaminated rag and wipe it without realising how this can cause issues with colouration.

Problems have occurred when old rags have been used to wiped clean the wood after sanding or rags with liquids applied like , meths, naphtha or white spirit, de natured alcohol, water. DO not use any liquids to clean the wood or contaminated rags.

All of these things do change the condition of the surface, they can put hand oils or petroleum based barriers that can inhibit the dyes and pigments in Wudtone colouring as well as they can and so as a result the colouration isn't what it could be if the wood was fresh sanded with suitable grit, bare and porous.

Achieving solid colouration with [Wudtone dye and pigment kits](#).

Use this simple technique to help you achieve a solid colour.

Basically to solid colour you need to get enough of the pigment onto the wood.

Sand to 180 grit and then apply the finish around the edges, circle onto the flat top surface with a bit of pressure. Once the top is fully coated and quite wet, maybe even with a little bit of excess here and there, loosely slap the rag onto the finish as if you were stippling with a brush. This helps to leave a slightly thicker coating that is also nice and even in colour.

Once you have finished slapping with the rag, it may look a bit orange peel like in texture but as the product cures, it self levels and so this disappears within a couple of hours.

After the first coat has cured overnight , very very lightly use a bit of fine steel wool just to remove any high dust spots. You really don't want to smooth it. Leave it feeling matt rough and use the same technique to apply a second, 3rd coats in the same way. In between each coat level a little more with fine steel wool and apply 3rd / 4th base thinly. If you want to really smooth in between coats use some 1500 grit wet and dry with olive oil as lubricant.