

Finishing Approaches for Woodturners

Preface

This document is a collection of experience and knowledge from many sources. It began when woodturner Louis Vadeboncoeur discovered a tremendous resource of information on a website called [WoodCentral](#). The site has a special section that was created by Russ Fairfield, an acknowledged expert on finishing techniques. Russ died recently, so this document is a tribute to him and his willingness to share his knowledge.*

In the process of absorbing all Russ's information, Louis used a technique shared by all successful students. He started to summarize the information in study notes. Then he realized that the whole field of finishing was so vast that there were gaps in the information – techniques that Russ did not touch on. Louis then shared his document with Bill Neddow and the duo worked together making many more additions to bring it to the state it is in now.

There have also been dramatic changes in technology in the past few years, and the document needs to reflect these changes to remain useful. For example, manufacturers have had to respond to new environmental rules, and have reformulated their products, changing the way they can be used and opening up new avenues for us to explore. Louis started seeking information from other sources and involving others in the project. Gradually, it became a much broader document than that envisioned by Russ – a sort of Wikipedia drawing together knowledge and experience from people all over the world.

This document is not intended to make you an expert. It is meant to give you sufficient knowledge and technique to try something new and the confidence to let you experiment and then perfect your own techniques.

Woodturners have developed a wonderful spirit of giving and sharing. Hopefully you will want to share your discoveries or specialized knowledge through this resource. With the contributions of many other woodturners, which we more than welcome, over time we hope this document will grow to become a “go-to” resource for the whole woodturning community. *Please send your suggestions for improvement and special recipes that you would like to share with fellow woodturners through the "Contact Us" page. Although we cannot guarantee that everything will be included in subsequent versions, it will guide us in including information pertinent to*

woodturners.

The Editors