stain like a pro

When using a stain concentrate to stain wood, the more coats applied - the darker the colour. Whilst most colours can be achieved with three coats, it is sometimes necessary to apply more coats for a deeper, richer colour.

I have discovered an easy way to determine the colour that I want, and that is to use a scrap piece - or offcut - of wood that is split into segments. Each segment receives a certain number of coats and the final result will ensure that I get the perfect colour when matching to other projects, or furniture that I need to match.

Here's how to stain for the perfect colour combination:

1. Mix a 20ml Woodoc Stain Concentrate in a one litre tin of clear Woodoc Sealer. Stir thoroughly to ensure that the stain and sealer are mixed well together. It is also important to stir before use and to stir regular during use to keep the mix consistent.

2. Make up a test board with your chosen sealer concentration. Then stain the entire board. Let it dry and add a second layer of stain to all but one section. Continue in this way until you have a board that is stained in three to four coats of stain, or until you get to the desired colour depth.

DIY Tip:
It is important to wait for each layer to dry before adding the next coat.

How to achieve a high gloss shine

If you want your finished project to feel silky-smooth and have a high gloss shine, have plenty of Woodoc SteelWool on hand.

ONE COAT OF STAIN

TWO COATS OF STAIN

THREE COATS OF STAIN

FOUR COATS OF STAIN

After each coat has dried use the steel wool to lightly sand the surface - remembering to go with the grain of the wood. This process removes any sticky residue that is left behind by the stain/sealer and allows the next coat to be absorbed by the wood.

DIY Divas in the wood finishing class

Woodoc — FOOD FOR WOOD