

## Step-by-step process for completing a colored and lacquered piece

by Sam Angelo

### A. Wood preparation

1. After turning the piece, sand by your favorite method to 600 or 800 grit and eliminate all visible scratches
  - i. I usually power sand to a fine grit and wet-sand by hand with the lathe stationary while I inspect for scratches.

### B. Coloring

1. Apply color (s) by your chosen delivery system
2. Allow to dry and inspect with magnification for scratches.
3. It may be necessary to sand more and apply more color to even out appearance.

### C. Filling (optional)

1. Make sure "color" is well dried
2. Fill open pores in wood---let filler dry---sand
3. Repeat as necessary. Depending on filler, this may take several applications

### D. Sealing: This process creates a bond between the wood and the final finish

1. Sealing can also complete the filling process by providing a smooth, level surface for the finish
2. The particular sealer used will depend on your preference and the choice of the final finish.
  - i. I use several coats of Stewart MacDonald's Vinyl sealer
  - ii. I have also used Shellac as a base or sealer for some pieces: Shellac can make a good bond for most finishes
3. Sand to eliminate scratches in preparation for Spraying final finish

### E. Application of Lacquer

1. Spray 5 coats of lacquer
  - i. Start sanding with 600 grit if possible-(by sanding with a coarser grit, you may sand through the lacquered finish). Sand to 1200: after each sanding session, inspect with magnification for scratches
2. Spray coats 6-10 of lacquer
  - i. Sand from 800 to 1500
3. Spray coats 11-15
  - i. Sand to 2000 to 4000
  - ii. Inspect before buffing

### F. Buffing. The buffing process you choose depends on your desired finish and the buffing supplies you select.