# Are You Finishing Shop Ready?

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**UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS** 

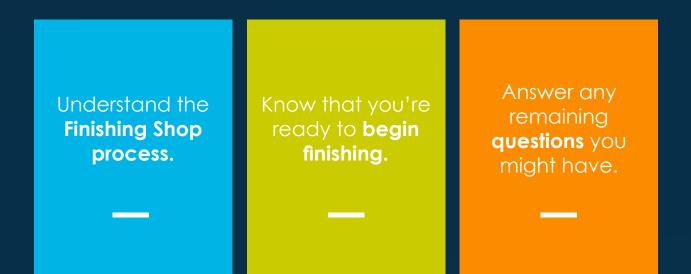


# the **FINISHING** shop

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The purpose of this book is to **help you understand what it takes to work with a professional wood finishing shop.** We hope this book will help you:



## Understand the **Process**

At Swedish Door we want to provide you with the highest quality wood finish available. One way of doing so is to be completely transparent about the Finishing Shop process.

Our goal is to provide our clients with the best finish possible the first time, every time.

To demonstrate this process, we've detailed each of the 8 steps in the pages to follow. Any steps that require your Input or participation are marked with the following icon:

YOUR INPUT

# Step 1: Get Aquainted



Not only do we want to get acquainted with you and your project, we want you to get to know us and our shop.

#### There are 4 key ingredients to make a professional finish:



These ingredients come together in the Swedish Door Finishing Shop to provide you with the highest quality product, ready on time.



### A picture is worth a thousand words, but a visit to our shop is worth a million more.

We invite you to meet with us at our shop so you can see the quality of our service first hand. You'll also kick-start your project by meeting with one of our Finishing Shop specialists.

If you can't make it out to the shop, don't worry, we'll have the initial meeting over the phone.

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## Step 2: Make your Picks

### YOUR INPUT

Pick your colour or stain

> Pick Your finish

Choosing your colour and finish is an important step to determining the final look of your products.

#### **COLOURS & STAINS:**

There are two options here: either you already know which colour or stain you want, or you don't.

- If you know which colour you want, bring it in with you. Preferably from a paint swatch or stain sample we can match any colour as long as it's not on a screen.
- Don't know which colour you want or you don't have a sample? We can help you out. We have books filled with colours we know we can match.

#### **FINISHES:**

Whether you pick the industry standard (35 degrees), or you pick your own, we can make it happen.

## Step 3: A Sample is Made for You

We will shoot a sample of the finishing combo you've selected so you can see what the final product will look like. This process can take up to a week.

Bring us material used in your project for sampling, it will give a more accurate stain match.

## Step 4: Sign off on the Sample 🖈 YOUR INPUT

Once you have reviewed the sample and are happy with the result, you will sign off and approve the colour and finish. We can ensure that the final product will meet your project requirements.

## Step 5: Product is Prepped

In this step, we inspect every piece you've brought us and make sure it's ready for our finishing shop experience. This helps us deliver the best quality finish.

## Step 6: Product is Finished

Our professional Finishing Shop specialists, who provide you with the highest quality finish, handle your product with care throughout the process.



## Step 7: Product Cures

Once the product has been finished, it's important to let it cure. Finished products will be stored on our professional drying racks to keep them from from being damaged as they cure. Most projects require a full week to cure, though we'll suggest a drying time based on each individual project in order to provide you with the best finish possible.

Swedish Door Finishing Shop does not take responsibility for the quality of finish for items requested before the minimum 48 hour curing time.



# **Step 8:** Your Product is Ready for Pickup

**YOUR INPUT** 

Once the curing is complete, your product is ready to ship. We do not provide shipping as part of our service, but we can recommend a partner that is well-equipped to transport your product should you not have a means of transportation.



## Are you Finishing Shop ready?

We want to make the road to completion for your Finishing Shop project a smooth ride for you, and for us. **Are you ready to finish your product with us?** 

The following guideline will help to ensure the highest quality finish. If you meet all requirements listed in the following pages, we will be able to serve you better and it will speed up the process of finishing with the Swedish Door Finishing Shop.

# A quality finish starts with **proper wood preparation.**

Not able to get your products up to our guideline standard? We can work with you to get them ready for finishing\*.

\*Extra charges may apply.

WOOD PREPERATION & SANDING GUIDE >

## Wood Preparation and Sanding Guide

### HARDWOOD LUMBER AND VENEER

Sand bare wood with an open coat aluminum oxide paper as silicone carbide is too sharp.

Sand lumber no higher than a 150 grit.

Sand veneers one grit higher than lumber; but no higher than a 180 grit.

Use a progression of grits. Skipping a grit may cause uneven staining or even scratches to telegraph through the topcoat.

Break all edges including the backs of doors. The finish film shrinks as it dries. Sharp edges will rip the film and allow water and oil to eventually get in causing finish failure. Think of it as stretching a piece of Plastic Wrap over a knife blade.



Improperly prepared



Properly prepared

NEXT: MDF PREPARATION >

### MDF

MDF faces should be sanded with a 320 to 400 grit sandpaper. If there are scratches or imperfections, 220 grit can be used to remove the scratch or imperfection and then finish sanding with 320 grit.

MDF edges and profiles should be sanded with only 320 and 400 grit sandpaper. A course paper tends to pull out the wood fibers from the binder in the MDF, resulting in more pits in the surface. Use a course paper only when necessary.



Improperly prepared



Properly prepared

NEXT: SWIRL MARKS >

### **SWIRL MARKS**

**A word about swirl marks:** If you have them, there is a problem with your sander, your system or the person using it. Follow these simple precautions and you can eliminate them from your products:

Start with a good quality, adequately powered and maintained machine.
If you are using pneumatic sanders, check your plumbing. Be aware that the length and size of piping and hose will affect performance. A common culprit is the use of reducers to go in and out of improperly sized filters or regulators. Start at your compressor and look your way to the sander.
Check your equipment. Inspect, clean, lubricate, repair, replace; nothing lasts forever.
Check pads and bearings. Flat pads and smooth bearings are a good thing.
Check your technique. Let the tool do the work. If you slow it down, it will swirl.
Check your sanding schedule. Don't make big jumps between grits. Skip steps and it will swirl.
Check your paper. Keep it sharp. Micron graded paper will swirl less than CAMI or P graded papers.
Check the moisture content of your wood. If it's wet, it will swirl.
Use your instincts. If it doesn't look, feel or sound right, it will swirl.



Swirl Marks

No swirl marks

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How much is this going to cost me?

Every project is different. To properly estimate the cost of your project, a meeting should be scheduled with one of our Finishing Shop specialists.

### 2. How do I get products from your shop to my location?

Though we do not provide shipping, we do have a partner moving/shipping company that can deliver your finished products to their final destination. If you have your own method of transportation, feel free to use that.

### 3. Can you match any colour for my cabinets?

As long as it's a pre-existing paint or stain colour, and you provide a physical sample of the colour desired, we can match it. We do not accept digital copies of the colour as every screen has different colour settings.

### 4. How long will it take for my project to be completed?

The timing for your project depends on the quantity of product being finished and other project specific requirements. When you meet with one of our specialists, we will give you an estimated timeline. Keep in mind, rushing the curing or finishing process will have an effect on the quality of the finish. Receiving the proper finishing shop experience makes a difference.

### 5. Are your paints and finishes environmentally friendly?

Yes, we have paints that will suit your eco-friendly needs.



## **STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?**

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Feel free to drop in or drop us a line. We'll be happy to answer your questions.

850 Industrial Avenue, Suite 13 & 14 Ottawa, Ontario K1G 4K2

t 613.686.6306 f 613.686.6330 info@swedishdoorco.com

swedishdoorco.com