

Strictly, Stickley oak

This is as true a finish as can be. Earlier, I mentioned the Stickley technique of coloring wood by fuming with ammonia gas — which was then shellacked and waxed with black wax to accentuate the grain markings. That's Stickley. With all that ammonia around, you can bet he never found himself falling asleep on the job.

Here is a way to arrive at the same effect while nixing the ammonia fuming, which can rid the nasal passages of, well, their passages!

Replace the coloring agent (80-100% ammonia — hard to find anyway) with artist's oil colors and you're on your way.

This finish will work on solid wood as well as plywood, although if used on plywood, remember to shellac first, utilizing the 1-to-5 ratio of thinned shellac for spit-coat. This will prevent too much absorption of color.

STRICTLY STICKLY OAK

Materials

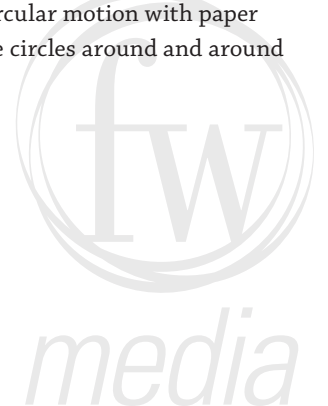
Burnt umber Japan color
Burnt sienna Japan color
Paint thinner
Assorted wire brushes
Black shoe polish
Rags



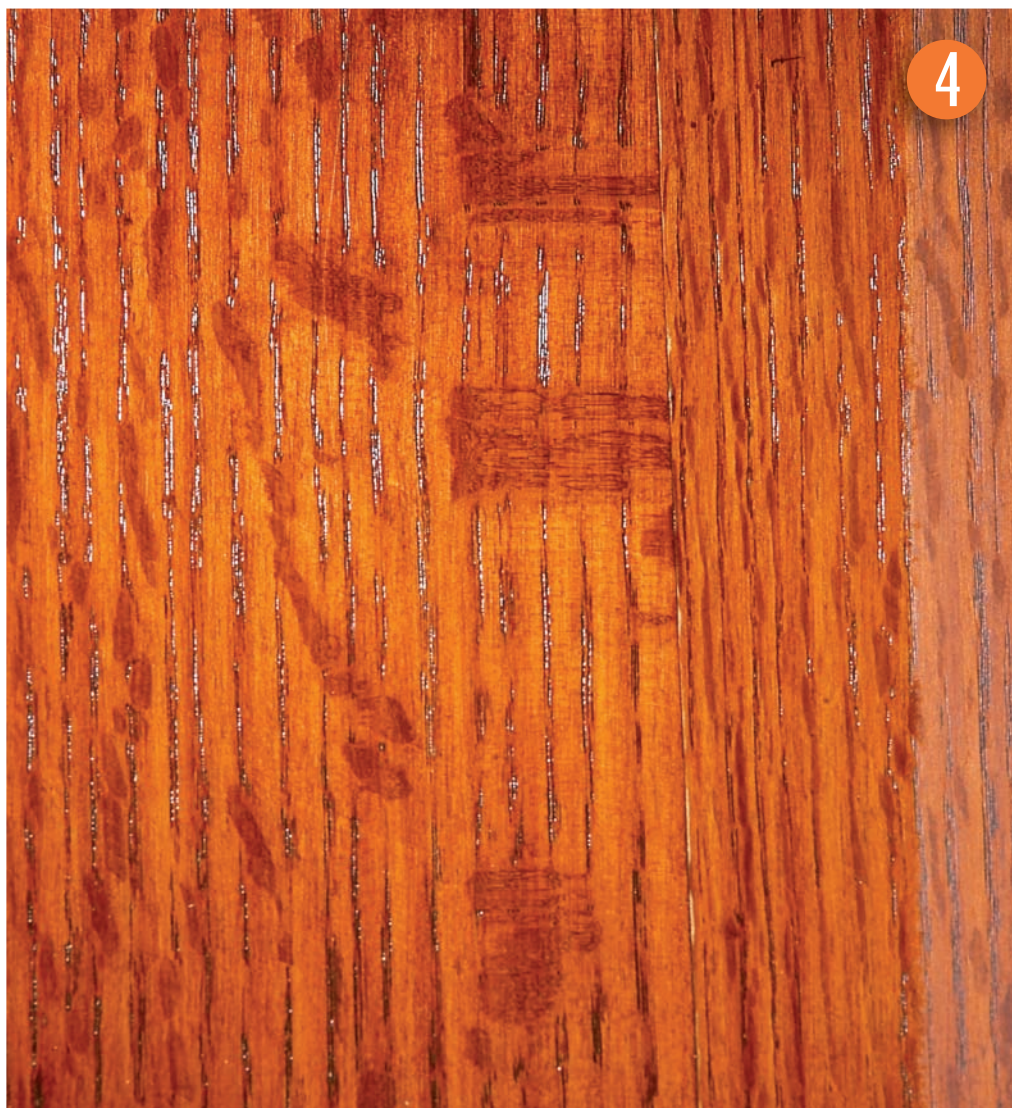
The wood should be sanded using 80-grit sandpaper. A wire brush is then pulled carefully parallel to the grain, always being careful to not cross the grain. Plywood should be prepped the same as solid wood. Apply the shellac spit coat.



Artist's burnt umber oil color thinned with paint thinner or turpentine is then applied in a circular motion with paper towels or a lint free rag. Move the circles around and around grinding the color into the pores.



Wipe across the grain and finish by wiping with the grain to even the surface of any smears. Allow this to dry for at least 48 hours, or longer if the humidity has been high when applied.



Apply a spit coat of shellac to all surfaces. When dry, sand with 320-grit silicon carbide paper. Then, apply a topcoat of Varathane, varnish or lacquer. Do not use a polyurethane topcoat.



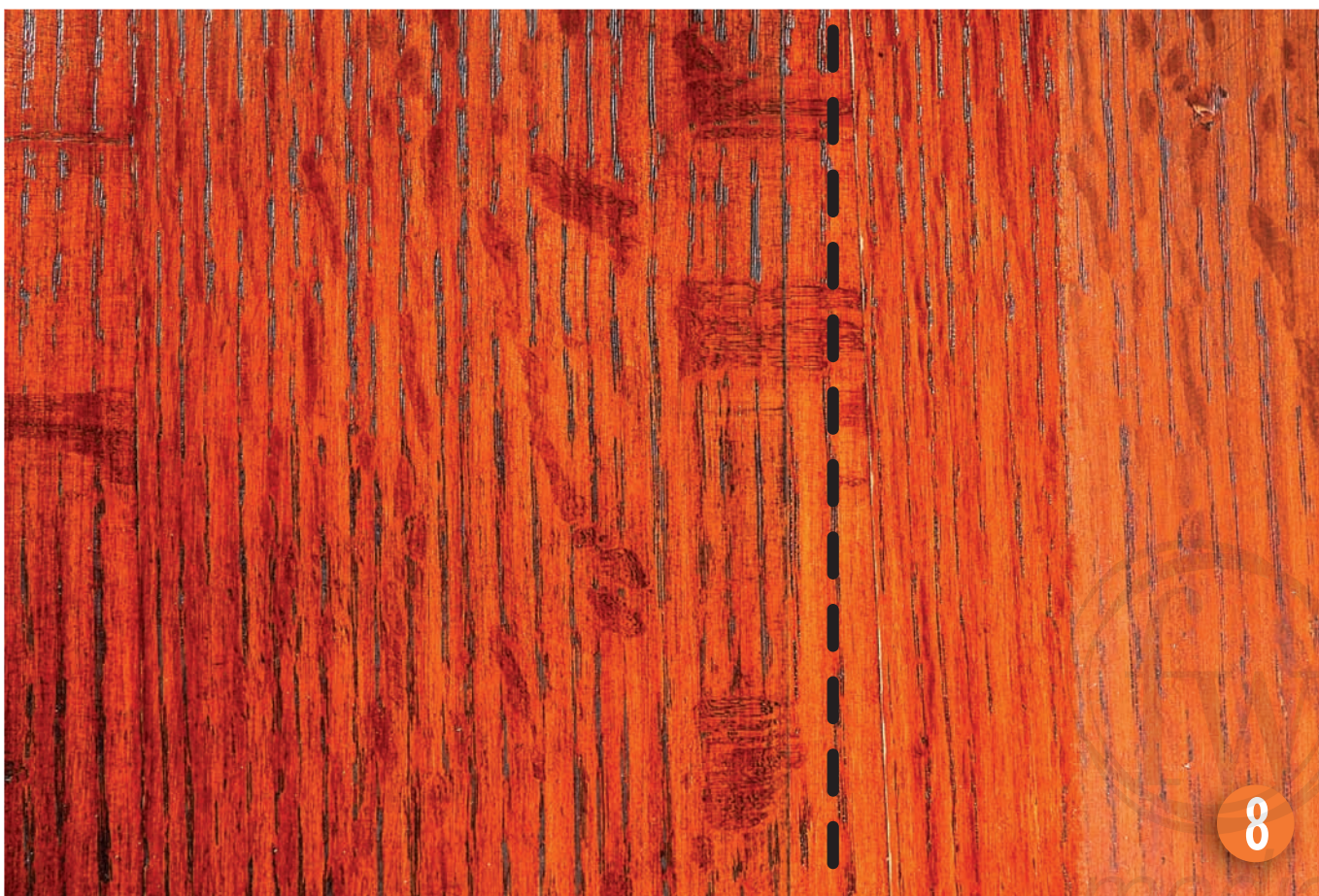
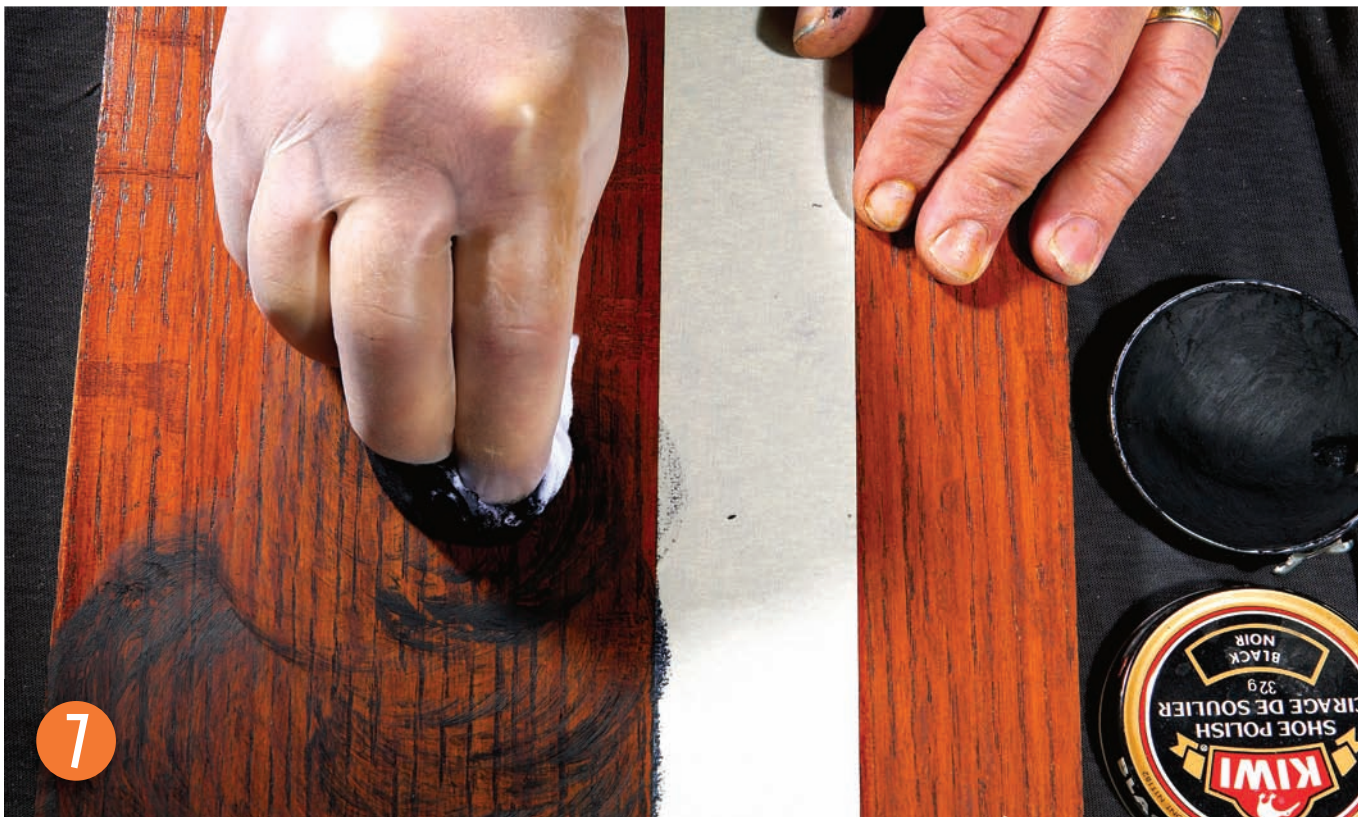


When dry, rub the topcoat using No.0000 steel wool.



Wax all surfaces using black shoe polish (photos 6-8). No foolin'!

Media



This side with black wax.

Media