



CARVEWRIGHT™

WOODWORKING SYSTEM

TIPS & TRICKS

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Finishing Techniques - Part 2

Michael Tyler, Editor



This Tips & Tricks issue continues a series of some finishing techniques described by our fellow woodworkers and members of the CarveWright Forum. A very special “thank you” to

Jerry B., Ray Glenn, and Sharon B. for sharing some of their finishing methods with us in this issue!

Jerry B. Finishing Tips!

by “chebytrk” on the CW Forum

Here’s the Spring Wreath Project of the Month (POM) that I completed and some of the steps that I used in making it. (fig.1) The only thing I added to it in Designer were the Butterflies which I took from other mpc’s that I have.

After carving and sanding (with sander and a rotary tool with 3M sanding discs), I followed the POM instructions given in applying the sanding sealer. I then let it dry and sanded a little more to get rid of any small “rough” spots.

Once that was finished, I wood glued the top and bottom halves of the wreath together. I also used wood glue mixed with sawdust to fill in any gaps where the two halves were joined. I let it dry overnight and the next day began painting. I used acrylic paints purchased at Walmart and small brushes.

After painting all the flowers I used a dark brown paint pen (Walmart) to fill in the “Welcome” banner. Even though I accidentally ran the paint out of some of the letters, I continued to paint. After it all dried, I used a sander on the banner to sand “erase out” some of the paint smudges. I used Pecan stain on the banner and wanted it to be a little darker on the wreath so after pecan stain I mixed Pecan and Walnut stain together. Don’t know the exact mixture, but just enough to shade the stain just a little. Wasn’t sure if it would work as I know very little about painting or staining but I did it anyway. I then put on 2 more coats of that mixed stain making sure it was completely dry between each staining.

So... that’s about all there was to it and now my kids want one! I’m proud of it and like to show it off, but when I do... everyone wants one!

Thanks,

— JerryB



fig. 1

Please visit the manufacturer’s website for more information about the CarveWright machines and see the Pattern & Project Depot at:
www.carvewright.com

For Additional Patterns you can add to your Designer software library, please visit:
www.carvebuddy.com

Sharon B. Finishing Tips!

by "SharonB" on the CW Forum

I love my machine and look forward to many more great projects. I use a lot of the Metallic paints (from Michael's Arts & Crafts) and Patio Paints (for any sign being used outdoors). Some time ago, I was introduced to "Interference paints" an acrylic paint manufactured by GOLDEN (<http://www.goldenpaints.com>). This paint comes in a limited number of colors, is a milky white color ... until you layer it over the top of another color. Then, WHAM the colors just pop out. I used them over the top of my wine and grapes project. (fig. 2)



fig. 2

Manufacturer's website quote: "GOLDEN Interference Acrylic colors offer a unique 'interference flip'. When viewed from different perspectives, Interference colors 'flip' between a bright opalescent color and its complement. When applied over white or lighter surfaces, the Interference color is less obvious and the 'flip' effect is more obvious. When applied over black or darker surfaces, the Interference color is more obvious and the 'flip' effect is less obvious."

The Interference paints are not cheap...about \$8.00 per medium size tube at the time of this writing. But if you want something to really "pop", these paints are for you! I also use metallic acrylic paints on some projects. Most of my metallics are "DecoArt" brand.

I apply the paints using a brush, my fingers, toothpicks and sometimes even with paper towels. I guess this wide variety of applying paints is a habit left over from techniques I've used on other crafts. I may try air brushing when I have the opportunity. I've included some photos of a few more of my projects, finished with metallic and/or the interference paints.

The first one is the "Trout Clock" - a Project of the Month project that went wrong, somehow. The back side didn't carve correctly so I just converted it to a wall clock instead of the intended shelf-type clock! (fig. 3)



The fish and the rocks in my "modified" Trout Clock Project incorporated some metallics as well as some of the Interference paints.

fig. 3

Here are additional photos of other projects that I have done. Many were finished using stain and a top coat along with the paints I've already described. I hope you enjoy trying some new finishing techniques!

— Sharon B.



Ray Glenn's Finishing Tips!

by "RayTrek" on the CW Forum

The following describes the procedure I used for applying the finish on my Spring Wreath Project, but this technique is similar for other projects I've done.



First, I brush on a coat of Varathane wood conditioner/pre-stain. This works under any oil-based stain.

While it is still wet, I brush on a coat of Minwax Gel Stain (Antique Maple #603 in this case). I blow out heavy accumulated areas and 'puddles' (such as in the recessed text) with compressed air before wipe down. I let it set for about 10 to 15 minutes, then dampen a brush with mineral spirits and apply an even coat over all. This will reactivate the stain and makes it easy to spread it more evenly with the brush. Do not wipe after this step - let it dry. If the room temp is 60° or higher it should self level on its own.

I'll often do a very light sanding using 600 grit wet/dry sandpaper just to remove any dust particles or fuzziness from the grain lifting. This leaves a nice smooth surface for the final paint application.

I use airbrush paints by Createx and brush them on. The air brush paints are from Michael's Arts & Crafts. They are water-based and can be thinned down for a 'transparent' look when brushed on. (fig.4)

fig. 4



On the Spring Wreath, I used a pearlized copper and satin gold base, then blended in a tint of color using pearl red, pearl green and transparent sunrise yellow for the floral areas. After drying, I applied two coats of Helmsman spar urethane by Minwax. For the eyes and nose of the bear I added, I simply used an ultra fine point Sharpie pen. (fig. 5)



fig. 5

Here is my Breadbox Project. (fig.6)



fig. 6

Preparation starts the same way as described previously, using the pre-stain and then Minwax Sedona Red #222. When dry, I sanded the frame area of the door, then applied paint to the wheat heads, leaf scrolls and text. Next, I dampened a brush with mineral spirits and brushed on some Minwax Gel Stain Antique Maple 603, cleaned the brush with mineral spirits and while it was still wet, brushed on a couple coats of Zinsser Bulls Eye amber shellac, and let the brush strokes self level.

I hope these techniques will prove useful for you on some of your own projects!
— Ray Glenn

Editor's Note: Thank you all for the great tips! Happy Carving!

Michael

Michael Tyler - Editor

Additional Resources

RESOURCES...

There are numerous resources for the CarveWright/CompuCarve owner to make their experience with these machines much more enjoyable.

Every owner should join the CarveWright User Forum (<http://forum.carviewright.com/forum.php>) where fellow users share their experiences and knowledge with these machines on a daily basis. It is a FREE service that you will surely appreciate. A handy Search Feature helps you find answers to any questions you may have.



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