

Instructions for glowing up veneer with paper backing using contact cement

What to do and what not to do

- ◆ Follow very closely the glue manufacturer's - instructions.
- ◆ Always apply 2 coats of glue on porous surfaces such as presswood, plywood, etc. Multiple thin uniform coats are the best technique for gluing. A thick coat will be a disaster.
- ◆ Apply a lot of pressure, use both hands and your body weight on the roller or the piece of wood. The entire surface must be rolled this way. The lack of pressure, the lack of glue and the open time of the glue not respected are the three principal causes of bad adhesion. (Bubbles, excessive wood movement, veneer cracking are the situations resulting from bad gluing.)
- ◆ Always roll starting from the center of the sheet towards the outside of your piece. This technique permits you to take out all of the air from under your sheet.
- ◆ Never use a block of wood and a hammer as an instrument to apply pressure on your veneer. You will mark your wood and will not apply enough pressure on the entire surface.
- ◆ If you use water based contact glue, it is very important to let the glue dry for the maximum time prescribed by the company. If humidity stays in between the sheets, it will affect the veneer and provoke the wood to expand in the long term. Never proceed to glue your veneer sheets with the humidity of your shop exceeding 60%.
- ◆ It is also very important to wait a minimum of 24 hours, in normal conditions of 20°C and at 50% humidity, before starting the finishing process. Adjust your waiting time with regards to the temperature and humidity level at the time of the application.
- ◆ If you must stain your surface it is preferable to apply multiple thin coats, waiting between each coat for it to dry before proceeding with a second application.
- ◆ Never apply veneer on drywall, a substrate without good adhering properties or of a bad quality surface.
- ◆ Never sand with sandpaper coarser than 150 grits.

VERY IMPORTANT

Material conditioning

Before taking the steps to glue the wood veneer to the substrate it is essential to condition the material together. This may be accomplished by alternating in a pile the substrate panels and the veneer sheets or cut pieces. This will permit different materials to arrive to the same temperature and the same humidity levels.