

Results

Each sample board was sanded and had three finishes applied. The difference, or lack thereof, between the highest and lowest sanded grits is depicted in the photos at right.

WHITE OAK

The oak boards showed the least difference over the range of grits. Under the shellac and polyurethane finishes, all six boards were identical. The Danish-oiled panels were slightly lower in luster with the coarsest two grades of grit than with the finest two grits.



CHERRY

There was a slightly lower luster on the oil-finished P120-grit board compared with the P400- and P600-grit boards. I had expected to see some blotchy cherry, but the sample board behaved fairly well. However, based on previous experience, I would still sand cherry up to at least P400 grit if I were going to use an oil finish.



TIGER MAPLE

The coarser grits were expected to leave the stripes more porous, resulting in more finish penetration and more pronounced figure. Instead, the degree of figure was equal on the extremes of grit with all three finishes. As with the other woods, higher grits brought out a higher luster under an oil finish.

