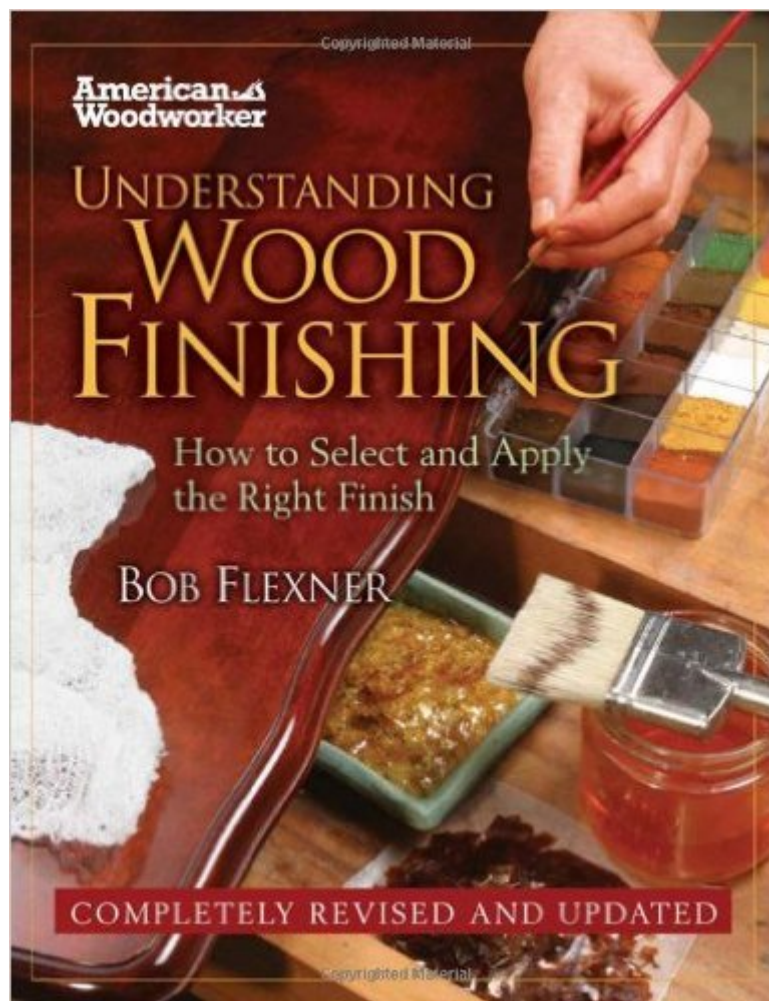


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# Understanding Wood Finishing: How To Select And Apply The Right Finish (American Woodworker) (American Woodworker (Hardcover))



## Synopsis

For more than 18 years, Bob Flexner has been inspiring woodworkers with his writings and teachings on wood finishing. Now, from this best-selling author comes the long-awaited and completely updated second edition of *Understanding Wood Finishing*, the most practical, comprehensive book on finishing ever published. The first edition of *Understanding Wood Finishing* has sold hundreds of thousands of copies and is widely regarded as the bible of wood finishing. We use *Understanding Wood Finishing* as the textbook for our students training to go into the furniture industry, says David Miles, wood technology professor at Pittsburg State University. It is the best written, most accurate, and most thorough wood finishing book in print, by far.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (137 customer reviews)

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#611 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies](#)

## Customer Reviews

*Understanding Wood Finishing* is aptly titled. Unlike most books I have read on wood finishing, Flexner's work gives a great deal of attention to understanding the subject. Other books I have read, including one of my favorites, *Finishing Methods of Work*, are compilations of methods and instructions. Flexner explains the mechanics of the finishes instead of just the properties and dogmatized applications. Make no mistake, he provides instructions on those areas as well, but he leaves the reader with an understanding of the products that will allow him or her to improvise with a high likelihood of success. Another strength this book has is the classification he provides of many finishing products. I especially appreciate the breakdown of "oil" finishes, an area of consternation for many woodfinishers. This arrangement allows Flexner to provide more accurate definitions and

instructions for application than if he had grouped them all together. Furthermore, Flexner provides troubleshooting sections for most chapters covering various finish types. As a bonus for beginners, many of the problems are well illustrated with vivid photographs (vivid photographs and illustrations being commonplace throughout the entire book). The problem is always accompanied by at least one potential problem and at least one potential solution, giving the wood worker a number of options. There are also photos of examples the author has prepared to show the difference in different finishes and techniques.

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