

North Devon Woodturners

Tips and Tricks

Final Sanding and Finishing your work

Tip obtained from : Mark Raby (at a Demonstration Evening)

Author : David Cloke

Mark's philosophy for sanding and finishing is :-

Never jump more than 100 grit when sanding your work

If your fingers are getting hot, something is wrong. You are either pressing too hard or sanding for too long. If your fingers are hot then so is the wood.

After sanding with a 600 grit, Mark then uses the coloured Scotchbrite type abrasive finishing pads to achieve a very fine finish, he does not recommend the use of steel wool.

The grit ratings of the Scotchbrite abrasive finishing pads are :-

- Green : 600-800 grit
- Red : 800-1000 grit
- Grey : 1000-1200 grit
- White :- is non abrasive

Last of all Mark uses a tack cloth to finish.

He says, don't bother to feel your work between the various grits as it doesn't achieve anything. Probably true, but for myself I think it will be a difficult habit to break.