

Homeowner Instructions

Please read ALL of the instructions before proceeding

Application of Fresh Topcoat

To apply a fresh topcoat (on top of worn finish, not complete re-finish)

- **Waterlox Original Sealer/Finish** – available at store.craft-art.com
- **Waterlox Original Satin Finish** – available at store.craft-art.com
- **Nitrile Gloves** – (Not Latex Gloves) available at most hardware stores and home centers
- **Safety Glasses** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
- **320 Grit Sandpaper** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
 - Optional – **220 Grit Sandpaper** for additional fine sanding if necessary
- **Sanding Block** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
- **Cotton T-Shirt Rags**
- **Tack Cloth** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
- **Short Bristled Paint Pad** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
- **Paint Tray** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.
- Optional – **Drop Cloth** – available at most hardware stores and home centers.

How much Waterlox?

- 2 oz. pouch –
Coverage is ~ 7.5
square feet for one
coat.

- Pint - Coverage is ~
60 sq ft for one coat.

- For a Quart –
Coverage is ~ 120 sq ft
for one coat.

-We highly recommend covering the floor surrounding your countertop with plastic before starting this process

-Turn off any overhead ceiling fans and ensure that you have a dust-free environment when following these instructions

-Start with 320 grit sandpaper wrapped around a sanding block. Rub in 1-2 foot, straight strokes, ***always with the grain***. You do not want to completely remove the finish. The goal is to just scuff the entire surface area to give a fresh coat something to adhere to. The pressure of the weight of your hand is

-If your top has a detailed (not flat) edge profile, take the steel wool or sandpaper in your hand and scuff the edge profile being careful around sharp edges as they are very easy to sand down



to bare wood. Again, you are only trying to scuff the surface for proper adhesion of the fresh coat.

-Clean scuffed area with a dry rag and follow up with a tack cloth to remove any debris from the area to be oiled. **DO NOT USE ANY WATER-BASED CLEANERS.**

-Wear Nitrile gloves and safety glasses while working with the Waterlox products.

-Mix equal parts Waterlox Satin Finish and Waterlox Sealer/Finish.

-Pour a generous amount (varying depending on the size of your top) of Craft Art 50/50 mix of Satin Finish and Sealer/Finish into a standard paint tray. Using a short-bristled paint pad (available at most hardware/home centers), spread the oil out to the edges of your top. Keep a clean rag handy to wipe away any oil that runs over the edge. Apply additional oil if necessary to cover entire top.

-Once your entire top is covered with a generous coat of oil (thick enough to write in with your fingertip, but not so thick that it will continue to run over the edges after wiping them), use the short-bristled pad to even the oil out. Starting at one end of your island in the center (or at the wall on perimeter tops), drag the pad all the way down the top in one long pass, going ***with the grain at all times***. Do this in long, straight strips, applying just enough pressure to smooth out the oil, but not enough to drag a large build-up of oil along with the pad. *Stopping at any point before reaching the end of the top will result in a noticeable 'lap mark' in the finish.* Once at the end of one strip, have a clean rag handy to wipe up any oil running over the edge. Start back at the other end, moving the pad toward you to start another strip and repeat the process, barely overlapping the last.

-Repeat until the entire top has been smoothed out. This topcoat of oil should self-level, eliminating any bristle strokes in the finish.

-Using a clean rag, damp with oil, work your way around the edge applying an even coat (not so heavy that it will start to run). For more complex profiles make sure there is no oil built up in the sharp edges as the excess oil will eventually run down over the rest of the profile. Prevent this by folding a small corner on the rag and running it along the sharp edges, pushing the excess oil out. After that do one final pass around the entire perimeter edge.

-Do not place a fan near the top for at least six hours. Failure to follow this instruction will result in dust particles in your finish and potentially an uneven surface finish.

-Allow 24 hours for the oil to dry. There is a chance that you may have to apply multiple coats to achieve your desired look. If you choose to do another coat, repeat the instructions above. *Be sure the oil is not soft or tacky before starting the additional coat(s).* If it is, allow more time to dry.

-After the final coat is applied, allow to dry at least 24 hours before using your top. If after 24 hours the topcoat still feels soft or tacky, wait until fully dry and smooth before using.

-If your top is deeply scratched or worn down to bare wood, you will need a full sand and refinish. Please see our full refinishing instructions in this case.