

Grain Highlighting/Inlay or How to Make A Piece Look Pretty!

I. Crack Filling/Inlay

- a. Epoxy mixed with colored powders/stone and applied to the area
- b. Black (or brown) Superglue
- c. Sources
 - i. Most woodturning supply companies sell colored powders/stone
 1. 1 oz for \$8 - \$10
 - ii. Inexpensive powders (over 500 colors) can be found at www.Powderbuythepound.com
 1. 1 pound - \$15.99 to \$24.99 depending on color
 2. 1/2 pound - \$10.99
 3. 2 oz. - \$3.99 to \$4.99 depending on color

II. Grain Highlightening

- a. Wood Selection
 - i. Open grained wood works best, but any wood with grain will work
- b. Supplies Needed
 - i. Black (or color of your choice) gloss lacquer spray paint
 - ii. Rubber gloves
 - iii. Air compressor or strong lungs!
 - iv. Paper towels
 - v. Sandpaper up to at least 40 grit
 - vi. Rub 'n Buff color of choice
- c. Process
 - i. Sand through the grits ending with at least 400 grit
 - ii. Using compressed air, blow the sanding dust out of the grain
 - iii. Spray a light coat of gloss black (or color of your choice) lacquer paint covering the area to be highlighted completely and let dry
 - iv. Wearing rubber gloves and using a **very** small amount of Rub 'n Buff on a paper towel, gently work the Rub 'n Buff into the grain with straight wiping motions – use more Rub 'n Buff as needed
 - v. Gently wipe off the excess from the non-grain areas, again with straight motions (sometimes an oil based finish will help remove the Rub 'n Buff from non-grained surfaces)
 - vi. Finish with either oil or spray lacquer
 - vii. *IF YOU ARE DOING JUST THE RIM OF A PIECE, DO THE ABOVE STEPS BEFORE YOU HOLLOW OUT THE CENTER AS YOU WILL GET A MUCH CLEANER EDGE.*
- d. Sources
 - i. Any craft store such as Michael's (limited selection - usually only 2 or 3 colors)
 - ii. www.amaco.com - 14 different colors at very competitive prices