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## Creating a Rustic Finish

Taught by Matt Basford of General Finishes

What you'll need:

- Pallet Board – Roughly Planed to Desired thickness (  $\frac{1}{4}$ " is what I used today) glued and nailed to a substrate. ( I like to use MDF to help keep it straight)
- Water Based Black wood stain
- Water based Blue Dye stain
- Foam Brushes
- Wiping clothes
- Sandpaper -150-220 grit
- Tac Cloth

Step 1: Apply with a foam brush a heavy coat of the black stain to the whole piece.

Step 2: Grab your wiping cloth and work the excess stain into the grain, make sure to work the rough areas really well, this is what will be left behind after we sand.

Step 3: Let the stain dry. The longer we let it dry the easier it sands off.

Step 4: Sand off the stain. I start with 150 and then move to 220. Sand lightly over rough area's so you see more of the character, saw marks and markings in the wood that gives you that rustic look.

Step 5: Wipe down your piece with a tac cloth. I would do this several times there will be a lot of black dust to remove.

Step 6: Apply with a foam brush your dye stain of choice. Today we will use blue but you can use whatever color you like. Again apply a nice liberal coat of Dye, make sure to go back and wipe off the excess. Because there is stain in the grain the dye may take differently in some areas.

Step 7: Once this is dried, if you'd like to offer more protection you can go ahead and topcoat your piece with any GF Topcoat.

### **Things to remember.**

- Use stain **FIRST**. If you use the Dye stain first it will not sand off and won't give you the same look
- Work the stain into the grain
- The longer you let it dry the easier it will be to sand off.
- You can apply 2 coats of dye if you'd like a deeper color.