Sanding information

* **Sanding and color**
* Sanding can have a profound effect on the final color. Simply using a different grit of sandpaper on a job can cause a noticeable change in color.
* The courser the grit- the darker the color
* The finer the grit- the lighter the color
* Using a coarse grit will make the surface rough and opens the pores allowing the stain to penetrate further, causing the color to be darker. Finer grit papers smooth the surface and close the pores keeping the stain from penetrating as much, resulting in a lighter color.

* Sanding Basics: Sandpaper comes in a series of numbered grits, from coarse to fine. The sequence is 60, 80, 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 240, 280, 320, 360, 400, 500, 600, 1000, 1200, 1500, 2000.
* The higher the grit number, the finer the abrasive. The lower grit number, the more-coarse the abrasive.
* White wood sanding is the first and most critical step in finishing. Improper white wood sanding can have a dramatic effect on color, adhesion and appearance. Properly performed, sanding is a multi-step process. Rough boards will typically be sanded with 80-100 grit to start, then 120,150 etc. working their way up to the final sanding grit like 220 to 320 before beginning the finishing process.
* Red Oak, White Oak, Ash, Cherry, Alder, Hickory, Mahogany, Poplar, Pine, Walnut. The Final sand should be 150-180 grit. It is acceptable to go up to 220 grit on Alder, Poplar, and Pine if needed.
* Maple, Birch, Beech, - 120-220 grit max
* Maple especially, is so dense and hard, that sanding finer than 180 grit will tend to polish the wood beyond just sanding. When sanded this fine, stains will have a difficult time penetrating the wood.
* Seal coats will also have a hard time penetrating the surface leading to poor adhesion, even without using a stain first.

