Sutherland Welles Ltd.®

Sustainable, natural & earth-friendly Polymerized Tung Oil wood finishes.

GREENGUARD GOLD — PRODUCT CERTIFIED FOR LOW CHEMICAL EMISSIONS UL.COM/GG UL 2818

Interior Walls, Insets, & Trim

Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil

We recommend working with the Botanical Sealer or Low Lustre as uniformity of sheen can be hard to achieve with vertical surfaces. That is not to say that Medium or High Lustre can not be used, but if a more polished, finished look is desired, we recommend using the Murdoch's Hard Sealer instead for ease of application.
Our Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil line has a strong citrus scent while working & is Greenguard Certified.
~Best option for folks with petroleum sensitivities.~

Before You Get Started

Applicator Options

- **Rag:** Scott® blue paper shop towels or non-treated, lint free cloth
- **Brush:** Natural white china bristle brush
- **Spray:** HVLP compatible *(no dilution necessary)*
- **Roller*:** Short Napped Synthetic Applicator

**will require back brushing off the excess while working*

Other Tools For Project

Sandpaper (or Steel Wool & Pad Equivalents)
- 220 (Max before first coat)
- 400 & 600 (Between coats)

Mineral Spirits or Di-Citrusol™ (citrus solvent)
Tacking Cloth (Scott® blue paper shop towels)
Helpful Tools: Vacuum, Dust Brush, & Fan

Optimal Finishing Conditions

- Weather conditions 55-75ºF
- Humidity: 65% or less

Working outside optimal conditions can lengthen curing time between coats and overall. Air flow helps finish the cure. **Tacky surfaces are NOT cured.**

Do I have to wipe off the excess?

No. You can apply each coat and let sit as is, but this will build sheen VERY quickly which cannot be easily taken back down. Wiping excess off on topcoats slows build of sheen.

Application Instructions

Wood Preparation: Wood surface should be free of lint, dirt, grease, wax, oil, and old paint. If refinishing old wood, make sure to remove any loose old finish or results may not be even. Oil will not bond over wax.

Before Applying FIRST Coat: Sand the wood up to 220 grit paper. Avoid higher grits as they close wood pores, interfering with maximum penetration in the initial coat.

Strategy: THIN upper coats with NO puddles. Sanding in between coats using decreasingly light pressure as you build. Wipe off excess with a clean, dry blue shop towel.

Step 1:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil**
- Don't wipe off excess.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Step 2: *Cure Test*
Finger tips gliding easily against the grain & a fine, white powder from sanding indicate that you can safely apply another coat.
Give the finish more time to cure if the coat has not passed this test.

Step 3:
- Lightly Sand with 400 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

(*use Mineral Spirits on a blue shop towel to clean surface)*

Step 3:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil**
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Step 4:
- Cure test.
- Lightly Scuff with 600 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

Step 5:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil*
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

For More Sheen Step 6:
- Cure Test
- Lightly Scuff with 600 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

For More Sheen Step 7:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil*
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Gentle touch after 24 hours. Light use after 72 hours. Do not cover from airflow for two weeks minimum.
Full Polymerized Tung Oil cure through after 30 days (+/- based on local humidity/elevation/temperature)

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Frequently Asked Questions

Care Instructions for a Polymerized Tung Oil Finish

How Do I Care for a Polymerized Tung Oil Finish?

- **CLEAN:** Use *Sutherland Welles Ltd® Wood Cleaner* OR *1 cup vinegar or ammonia to 1 gallon warm water** with a soft, clean cloth. Do not use any cleaner with a SOAP base (Murphy's Oil Soap/Bona etc.) under any circumstances, as they will leave a film that will gum up the surface of the oil. Do not use a steam cleaner. **Ratio is 1 part vinegar or ammonia to 16 parts water to scale up or down as needed.*
- **REFRESH:** Apply Sutherland Welles Tung Oil Polish and buff with a clean dry cloth. This will help with the longevity of the finish, delaying the need to re-coat.
- **RE-COAT:** Scuff lightly with fine steel wool, sandpaper or pad. Vacuum & Tack. Re-apply finish as needed.

Can I spot repair a polymerized tung oil finish?

Yes, you can if there is a scratch or blemish on the finish. Sometimes wiping our polymerized tung oil over a scratch will make them disappear and blend in. Blemishes or marks in the surface layer of finish will need to be removed by lightly sanding with fine sandpaper first. Sometimes the entire board will need to be refinished to have it blend in or the entire surface of a counter top or table.

Can I use a wax over your products?

If you choose to, we recommend using Teddy's Polymerized Tung Oil Paste a week after the last coat is applied. Keep in mind that wax has a tendency to "halo" or leave rings on a dining room table under hot drinks/ food. It will also need to be removed before any re-coating can occur. We suggest not using wax on dining tables, counters, or coffee tables if wet drinks will be placed there. Sutherland Welles Ltd.® also has a Tung Oil Polish that is a great alternative to paste wax. It can be used as extra protection and as maintenance product.

Storing Polymerized Tung Oil

I have an unopened can of finish. How long is it good for?

With the exception of our Exterior line of products, any unopened can of our finish has no shelf life. The citrus solvent in the Botanical line may shift in color over time, but it is still workable as a finish.

What's the BEST way to store an opened can of finish?

These are the two most reliable way to store residual finish. Both options are available for purchase on our website:

- StopLossBags®. The bags are made with a plastic that can withstand a variety of solvents and not breakdown so the product is preserved in an oxygen free environment and remains shelf stable indefinitely.
- Bloxygen displaces oxygen with ultra-pure Argon, a nontoxic, inert gas naturally found in the air. It prevents thickening, gelling, skinning, and clogged spray guns caused by oxygen exposure.

Other methods:

- Clean the inner rim of the can well so the plug seats uniformly and firmly in place and store it inverted.
- You can also pour it into a smaller container (metal or glass) leaving little air space- make sure to label it properly. Perfect way to reuse old sauce or jam jars!
- Marbles or clean rocks can also be dropped in to take up the airspace.

What can I do if my finish gels up in the can after I have opened it?

This only happens in a partially full can that has been used. If the finish is thick and gel-like, the finish has oxidized in the can. You can attempt to thin it down by adding mineral spirits or our Di-Citrusol™ and stirring it gently to see if you can coax it back into solution. You may need to pass it through a fine paint strainer to remove any small globs.

For more tips & tricks, visit our Youtube page for video tutorials:
youtube.com/@sutherlandwellesltd

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General Instructions

Botanical
Polymerized Tung Oil
High Lustre

We recommend our Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil to create a natural hand-rubbed look on moderate traffic surfaces, hard to finish facades (chairs/walls), food prep surfaces & utensils, or on other interior projects where no resin fortification is desired.
Our Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil line has a strong citrus scent while working & is Greenguard GOLD Certified.
~Best option for folks with petroleum sensitivities.~

Before You Get Started

Applicator Options

- **Rag:** Scott® blue paper shop towels or non-treated, lint free cloth
- **Brush:** Natural white china bristle brush
- **Spray:** HVLP compatible *(no dilution necessary)*

Other Tools For Project

Sandpaper (or Steel Wool & Pad Equivalents)
- 220 (Max before first coat)
- 400 & 600 (Between coats)

Mineral Spirits or Di-Citrusol™ (citrus solvent)
Tacking Cloth (Scott® blue paper shop towels)
Helpful Tools: Vacuum, Dust Brush, & Fan

Optimal Finishing Conditions

- Weather conditions 55-75ºF
- Humidity: 65% or less

Working outside optimal conditions can lengthen curing time between coats and overall. Air flow helps finish the cure. **Tacky surfaces are NOT cured.**

Do I NEED the Sealer?

Use Sealer for the first coat or two if:
- Working with an exotic, oily wood. Sealer will help prevent over saturating the oil in the wood on early coats. A non wax shellac could also seal the wood.
- Working with stain. Use Sealer to mix with an oil stain or as the first coat for less stain penetration.

Do I have to wipe off the excess?

No. You can apply each coat and let sit as is, but this will build sheen VERY quickly which cannot be easily taken back down. Wiping keeps a more controlled build of sheen. Apply additional coats if not shiny enough.

Application Instructions

Wood Preparation: Wood surface should be free of lint, dirt, grease, wax, oil, and old paint. If refinishing old wood, make sure to remove any loose old finish or results may not be even. Oil will not bond over wax.

Before Applying FIRST Coat: Sand the wood up to 220 grit paper. Avoid higher grits as they close wood pores, interfering with maximum penetration in the initial coat.

Strategy: THIN upper coats with NO puddles. Sanding in between coats using decreasingly light pressure as you build. Wipe off excess with a clean, dry blue shop towel.

Step 1:
- Generously apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil**
- Don't wipe off excess.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Step 2: *Cure Test*
Finger tips gliding easily against the grain & a fine, white powder from sanding indicate that you can safely apply another coat.
Give the finish more time to cure if the coat has not passed this test.

Step 3:
- Lightly Sand with 400 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

(*use Mineral Spirits on a blue shop towel to clean surface)*

Step 4:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil**
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Step 5:
- Cure test.
- Lightly Scuff with 600 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

Step 6:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil*
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Step 7:
- Cure Test
- Lightly Scuff with 600 grit.
- Vacuum & tack surface.

Step 8:
- Apply *Botanical Polymerized Tung Oil*
- Wait 10-15 minutes. Gently wipe off excess finish.
- Let cure 24 hours minimum.

Repeat steps 7-8 for higher sheen & protection.

Gentle touch after 24 hours. Light use after 72 hours. Do not cover from airflow for two weeks minimum.
Full Polymerized Tung Oil cure through after 30 days (+/- based on local humidity/elevation/temperature)

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