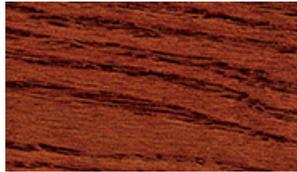


What Color is Your Existing Finish?



Sedona Red



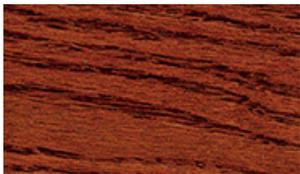
Red Oak



Red Mahogany

Sedona Red

If your color is similar to [Minwax® Wood Finish™](#) Sedona Red, Red Oak or Red Chestnut, use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Sedona Red



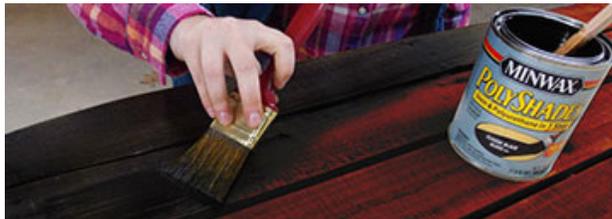
PolyShades® Antique Walnut



New Color

Changing the Color of a Dark Finish

If your existing finish is one of the darker Minwax® Wood Finish™ colors, such as Sedona Red, Red Oak, Red Mahogany, Red Chestnut, English Chestnut, Dark Walnut, Jacobean or Ebony, follow these tips.



Tip 1

Light PolyShades® colors, such as Honey Pine, Classic Oak, and Pecan will have very little impact on the existing color. If you wish to turn your dark color into a lighter one, you will have to strip it first.

Tip 2

PolyShades® Bombay Mahogany and Classic Black will turn the existing finish into their respective colors.



Bombay Mahogany

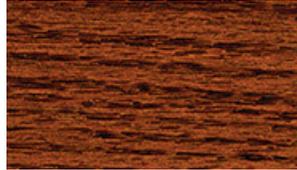


Classic Black

What Color is Your Existing Finish?



Sedona Red



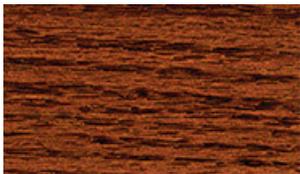
Red Oak



Red Mahogany

Red Oak

If your color is similar to Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red, Red Oak or Red Chestnut, use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Red Oak



PolyShades® Mission Oak



New Color

Changing the Color of a Dark Finish

If your existing finish is one of the darker Minwax® Wood Finish™ colors, such as Sedona Red, Red Oak, Red Mahogany, Red Chestnut, English Chestnut, Dark Walnut, Jacobean or Ebony, follow these tips.



Tip 1

Light PolyShades® colors, such as Honey Pine, Classic Oak, and Pecan will have very little impact on the existing color. If you wish to turn your dark color into a lighter one, you will have to strip it first.

Tip 2

PolyShades® Bombay Mahogany and Classic Black will turn the existing finish into their respective colors.



Bombay Mahogany



Classic Black

What Color is Your Existing Finish?



Sedona Red



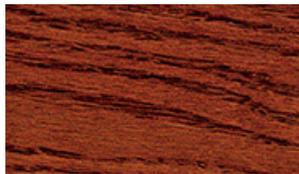
Red Oak



Red Mahogany

Red Mahogany

If your color is similar to Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red, Red Oak or Red Chestnut, use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Red Mahogany



PolyShades® Natural Cherry



New Color



Wood Finish™ Red Mahogany



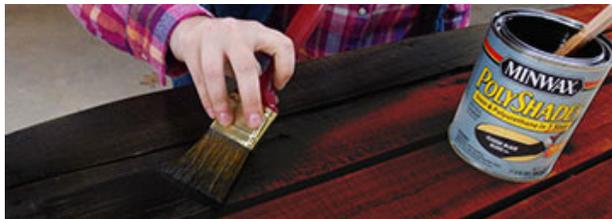
PolyShades® Mission Oak



New Color

Changing the Color of a Dark Finish

If your existing finish is one of the darker Minwax® Wood Finish™ colors, such as Sedona Red, Red Oak, Red Mahogany, Red Chestnut, English Chestnut, Dark Walnut, Jacobean or Ebony, follow these tips.



Tip 1

Light PolyShades® colors, such as Honey Pine, Classic Oak, and Pecan will have very little impact on the existing color. If you wish to turn your dark color into a lighter one, you will have to strip it first.

Tip 2

PolyShades® Bombay Mahogany and Classic Black will turn the existing finish into their respective colors.



Bombay Mahogany



Classic Black

What Color is Your Existing Finish?



English Chestnut



Dark Walnut



Jacobean

English Chestnut

If your color is similar to [Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red](#), [Red Oak](#) or [Red Chestnut](#), use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



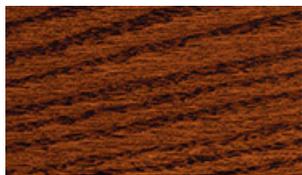
Wood Finish™ English Chestnut



PolyShades® Olde Maple



New Color



Wood Finish™ English Chestnut



PolyShades® Natural Cherry



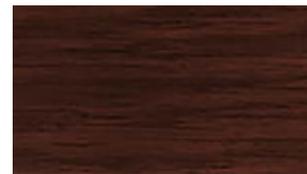
New Color



Wood Finish™ English Chestnut



PolyShades® Mission Oak



New Color



What Color is Your Existing Finish?



English Chestnut



Dark Walnut



Jacobean

Dark Walnut

If your color is similar to [Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red](#), [Red Oak](#) or [Red Chestnut](#), use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Dark Walnut



PolyShades® Natural Cherry



New Color



Wood Finish™ Dark Walnut



PolyShades® Antique Walnut



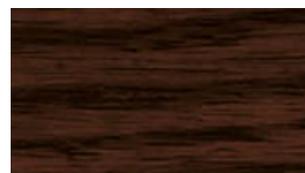
New Color



Wood Finish™ Dark Walnut



PolyShades® Mission Oak



New Color



Wood Finish™ Dark Walnut



PolyShades® American Chestnut



New Color



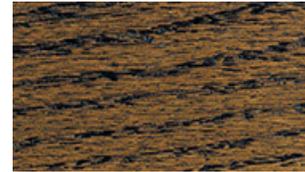
What Color is Your Existing Finish?



English Chestnut



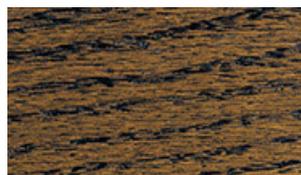
Dark Walnut



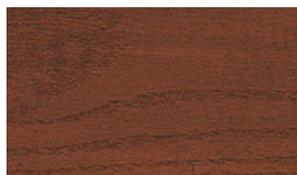
Jacobean

Jacobean

If your color is similar to Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red, Red Oak or Red Chestnut, use Polyshades® Antique Walnut to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use Polyshades® Mission Oak to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Jacobean



PolyShades® American Chestnut



New Color



Wood Finish™ Jacobean



PolyShades® Olde Maple



New Color

Changing the Color of a Dark Finish

If your existing finish is one of the darker Minwax® Wood Finish™ colors, such as Sedona Red, Red Oak, Red Mahogany, Red Chestnut, English Chestnut, Dark Walnut, Jacobean or Ebony, follow these tips.



Tip 1

Light PolyShades® colors, such as Honey Pine, Classic Oak, and Pecan will have very little impact on the existing color. If you wish to turn your dark color into a lighter one, you will have to strip it first.

Tip 2

PolyShades® Bombay Mahogany and Classic Black will turn the existing finish into their respective colors.



Bombay Mahogany



Classic Black

What Color is Your Existing Finish?



Dark Walnut



Jacobean



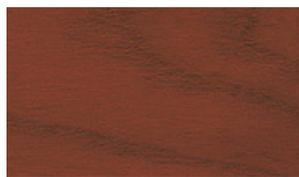
Ebony

Ebony

If your color is similar to [Minwax® Wood Finish™ Sedona Red](#), [Red Oak](#) or [Red Chestnut](#), use [Polyshades® Antique Walnut](#) to tone down the red and bring out more amber tones. Use [Polyshades® Mission Oak](#) to add more brown.



Wood Finish™ Ebony



PolyShades® Olde Maple



New Color



Wood Finish™ Ebony



PolyShades® Mission Oak



New Color

Changing the Color of a Dark Finish

If your existing finish is one of the darker [Minwax® Wood Finish™](#) colors, such as [Sedona Red](#), [Red Oak](#), [Red Mahogany](#), [Red Chestnut](#), [English Chestnut](#), [Dark Walnut](#), [Jacobean](#) or [Ebony](#), follow these tips.



Tip 1

Light [PolyShades®](#) colors, such as [Honey Pine](#), [Classic Oak](#), and [Pecan](#) will have very little impact on the existing color. If you wish to turn your dark color into a lighter one, you will have to strip it first.

Tip 2

[PolyShades® Bombay Mahogany](#) and [Classic Black](#) will turn the existing finish into their respective colors.



Bombay Mahogany



Classic Black



Keep on Finishing™

PolyShades®

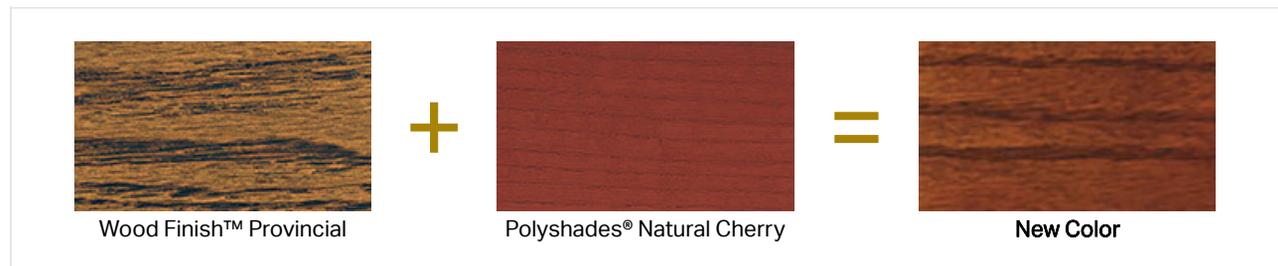
Color Transformation Guide

Learn the easy way to change the color of your already-stained or polyurethane-finished wood.

Why PolyShades®?

Minwax® PolyShades® is an easy way to change the color of your currently stained or polyurethane finished wood. There's no stripping or heavy sanding necessary to remove the old finish! Simply give it a light sanding with fine-grit sandpaper, remove sanding dust, and brush on a coat of PolyShades® (see step-by-step instructions provided in this Guide).

Example:



Why change the color? There could be various reasons. You may want to match a particular furniture item to your décor, update a tired room, or re-style an older piece. Whatever your specific reasons, this Guide will help you figure out which PolyShades® color you need to transform your existing finish into your desired color.

Will PolyShades® Work for Me?

Before you start, there are a few things you need to do to ensure the success of your project:

- 1 **Always test the color on a small hidden area first to verify results.** This can't be stressed enough, as every piece of wood will accept color differently. Color testing is especially important when using PolyShades® over an existing finish, because the result will be a combination of the old and new colors.
- 2 **Determine if you want to lighten or darken your piece.** If a darker color is what you want, you are in the right place. Even if you simply want to change the tone of your color (e.g. make it more red or brown) without darkening it, PolyShades® can help. However, if you wish to lighten the color, it is not as simple as applying a light color of PolyShades® over it—you will need to strip the existing finish first.

- 3 **Test for adhesion.** If the wood you are refinishing already has a clear protective finish, you need to test for adhesion before applying PolyShades®. A few simple rules to keep in mind:

- PolyShades® will work over stained wood (meaning it does not have a clear protective finish) or wood topcoated with a polyurethane-based finish. Proper surface preparation is necessary to ensure adhesion, so make sure you follow preparation tips provided in this Guide.
- Many of the older finishes are not polyurethane based, so testing is a must!
- PolyShades® is not recommended for use over lacquer.

- 4 **Read and follow all label instructions and warnings carefully.** This will ensure you get beautiful results.

How to Prepare Your Project

For wood previously stained with Minwax® Wood Finish™, but not yet finished:

- If the wood is dirty, first make sure that it's carefully cleaned with [Minwax® Wood Cabinet Cleaner](#) and a soft cloth.
- If the wood has been recently stained, it should NOT be cleaned as the cleaner may remove or dilute the colorants.
- If the wood has been stained but not finished, DO NOT scuff or sand. Doing so will remove the color from the edges, leaving the project looking uneven.
- Next, apply PolyShades®.

For wood previously coated with a clear protective finish:

- Clean the existing finish with [Minwax® Wood Cabinet Cleaner](#) to remove dirt and grime.
- Lightly scuff the clean, dried existing finish with a synthetic sanding pad or #220-grit sandpaper.
- Use a bristle attachment on a vacuum to remove all of the dust.
- Next, apply PolyShades®.

How to Apply PolyShades®

After the wood has been prepared according to the steps above, it's time to transform your wood with [PolyShades®](#). For the best results, follow these instructions:

- Stir PolyShades® thoroughly, using a clean stirring stick. Gently repeat the stirring every 10 minutes to assure that the color remains evenly distributed throughout the polyurethane.
- Using a high-quality, tapered natural bristle brush, dip only ½ to ¾ of an inch of the bristles into PolyShades®.
- On a scrap piece of wood, practice brushing out a few strokes of PolyShades® to get a feel for how it flows onto the wood. Take care to apply an even coat of the product and remember: thin coats are easier to control than thick ones.



- Work quickly as you apply PolyShades® the length of each board in smooth, even strokes. Use the tip of your brush to gently smooth out the finish. Always apply PolyShades® moving your brush back and forth in the direction of the wood grain.
- As you return to the board with a freshly dipped brush, start brushing a few inches beyond where you left off, and then carefully blend the new PolyShades® back into the PolyShades® you previously applied. Doing so will help eliminate "lap marks."
- Once you have achieved an even layer of PolyShades®, leave it alone. "Dabbing" will leave deposits of color in each spot touched by your brush. "Over-brushing" will drag the color with your bristles, resulting in an uneven application.