

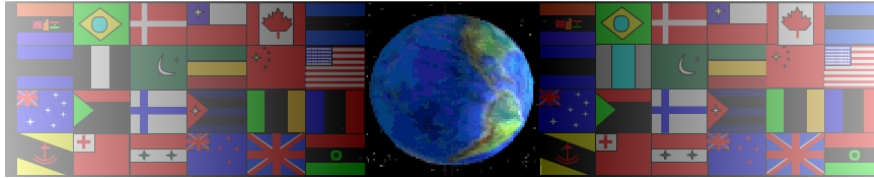
# REVISION CARDS - WOOD FINISHES - 3

## WAX, OIL AND POLISH FINISHES

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On behalf of The World Association of Technology Teachers

# W.A.T.T.



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# REVISION CARDS - WOOD FINISHES - 3

## NATURAL WOOD AND WAX FINISHES

Wax - for interior use. Popular, in Victorian times and has recently seen a resurgence. Supplied as a liquid or paste. It is good practice to apply a coat of wax periodically, which helps to refresh the finish.

A first coat of wax is quickly rubbed into the surface, in a circular fashion. Use a clean cloth to remove surplus wax. Leave to dry over night and then apply another coat, following the grain. When dry, polish the surface with another soft cloth.



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## NATURAL WOOD AND OIL FINISHES

Oil - applied using a brush or a cloth. **Teak oil** (a blend of solvents and linseed oil) is for external garden furniture and **Danish oil** for interior furniture and woodwork.

**Danish oil** is a mixture of thinned oil and varnish. The oil penetrates the wood fibres, whilst the varnish leaves a layer on the surface. It gives a natural glaze to wood and is a good choice for kitchen worktops or surfaces, being used for food preparation.



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## SHELLAC AND POLISHES

Shellac is a non-toxic, natural finish, produced from processed resin, that is secreted from the forest inhabiting insect, Laccifer Lacca, found from India to the Far East. The processed resin, which, in the form of light brown flakes, are mixed with alcohol, producing a liquid. Shellac is the basic ingredient of a range of polishes, including white polish and button polish.

Shellac based polishes, produce a high quality finish, typical of vintage furniture, but they do not withstand water or heat very well.



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1. What is furniture wax and how is it applied to natural wood? 4 marks

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2. Name two oils used to finish natural wood. Select one, and explain how it is used. 5 marks

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