



Tips when using Osmo products

1. Don't over sand your timber. OSMO Polyx Oil has a thick consistency, and if you sand the timber too fine, it will close the grain, and stop the Polyx oil from penetrating. For very dense timber such as Jarrah, Eucalypts and Matai, we recommend sanding to a maximum of 100 grit. Medium density timbers such as Rimu, Oak, Tawa, Beech and Macrocarpa should be sanded to 120 grit, and softwoods like pine, cedar and kauri should be sanded to 150 grit.
2. Don't over apply Osmo finishes apply very thinly and evenly. Remember – less is best.
3. Use the right equipment for preparation and application – Application should be by new bristle brush such as Osmo's 220mm floor brush or by roller. **ONLY USE** Micro Fibre Rollers with a short nap of no more than 5mm – we recommend Osmo Rollers. Remember Micro Fibre Rollers are directional, so avoid lap marks by keeping the roller frame on the same side for the whole job (if you start with the frame on the right hand side you finish with the frame on the right hand side) – **DO NOT FLIP THE ROLLER FROM SIDE TO SIDE. DO NOT USE** Mohair or Lambswool Rollers.
4. When sanding with a Polivac or similar machine – it must be a proper sanding machine and not a polisher. It is also recommended that any single disc rotary sander be one which spins at low speed (192 rpm). Faster machines are not recommended, as they spin at about 350 rpm and may close the pores of the timber down too much. This will stop the oil penetrating. Using worn sand paper under faster machines is not recommended as it can "burn" the surface of the timber closing the pores even more, and preventing the correct penetration of Osmo Oils.
5. On oily tropical timber species such as Matai, Kwila and Merbau, as well as some dense Australian Hardwoods such as Spotted Gum, we recommend the use of Osmo Wood Wax Clear Extra Thin, rather than Osmo Polyx (Hardwax) Oils. Polyx Oil may be able to be used under certain circumstances, and we strongly recommend doing a testy first.
6. We also recommend wiping the surface of oily timbers with a solvent such as Citrus Turps or white spirit prior to oiling. This will remove the timber's oils from the surface and assist both penetration and drying of the OSMO product.
7. OSMO products dry by air exchange or movement. A closed up house will slow the drying time considerably. During the day – if practical – it is better to have all the windows open to create air movement. Overnight, or during the day where windows cannot be opened, we recommend using a small fan heater. This should be placed off the floor on a bench top or shelf. Use it on a low heat and have the fan pointed towards the ceiling on low speed.
8. Last but not least make sure you **stir the can well for at least 5 minutes before use**. We recommend a proper flat paint stirring stick. A tip for storing half used cans is to cut a piece of glad wrap slightly larger than the lid size and push it down onto the top of the oil before replacing the lid. This will ensure a crust will not form, and will extend the shelf life of the can.