SANDING LUMBER AND VENEER

- Sand bare wood with aluminum oxide paper
- Sand lumber no higher than 150 grit.
- Sand veneers no higher than 180 grit.

Aluminum Oxide

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SANDING MDF

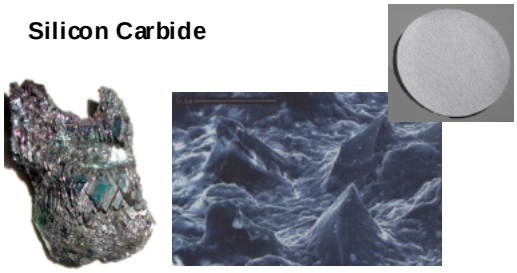
- MDF faces should be sanded with a 320 silicon carbide paper.
- MDF edges and profiles should be sanded with only 400 and 600 grit sandpaper. Start with a course paper only if there are saw marks or chatter. A course paper tends to pull out the wood fibers from the binder in the MDF, resulting in more pits in the surface.

SANDING BETWEEN COATS OF FINISH

Just as we sand to create scratches in the wood to give the surface a "tooth" for your stains and finishes to grab on to, we also need to create a texture, or scratch, between coats of finish so that the next layer has something to grip. Remember that only the old nitrocellulose lacquers melt into the previous coat of finish. All catalyzed finishes bond to the previous layer by a mechanical link; they need a rough surface.

How large of a scratch we need depends on how thick of a film we applied; how smooth and uniform the film is; and how old the film is. To sand between coats of finish use a silicon carbide paper (gray). ScotchBrite pads, usually the maroon, are good for scuffing toner and washcoats. Never use Steel Wool, especially with waterborne finishes.

Silicon Carbide



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SANDPAPER IS MORE THAN ROCKS ON PAPER

GRIT GRADING RULES

US CAMI	FEPA 'P'	MICRON
36	36	500
40		430
	40	425
50		350
	50	336
		300
60	60	270
		260
		250
		210
	80	200
80		192
		177
	100	162
		149
100		140
	120	125
120		116
	150	100
150		93
180	180	82
220	220	68
	240	60
240	280	52
	320	46
280		42
	360	40
320	400	35
	500	30
360		28
	600	26
400	800	22
500	1000	18
600	1200	15
	1500	13
	2000	10
	2500	8
		7
		6

SANDPAPER SPECIFICATIONS

Understanding all of the elements of sandpaper will help you choose the correct combination that is right for your application.

- **Mineral -** the abrasive particle
  - *Aluminum Oxide*
    - White wood sanding
  - *Silicone Carbide*
    - Sanding finishes
  - *Ceramic*
    - Aggressive wood sanding
- **Backer** - what the mineral is applied to
- Each backer type is available different weights
- The heavier the weight the longer it lasts & the more aggressive it sands
  - *Cloth*
    - Aggressive sanding
  - *Paper*
    - Wood and finishes
  - *Plastic*
    - Fine finish sanding
- **Coat**
  - *Open Coat*
    - No space allowed between particles aggressive sanding
  - *Closed Coat*
    - Space allowed between particles to prevent clogging
- **Stearated**
  - *Stearate* act as a lubricant to prevent clogging

SOMETIMES 320 GRIT IS NOT 320 GRIT

Know what you really sanding with

- **Grade -** a sandpapers grit is determined by an average of the applied particle sizes.
- ***CAMI Grade*** - Widest range of particle sizes allowed
- ***P Grade*** - Narrower range of particle sizes allowed
- ***Micron Grade*** - Most uniform range of particle sizes. Most often used for Solid Surface sanding

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