

Applied Finishes

Osmo Polyx

PolyX, PolyX Professional, or Top Oil from Osmo® is a great choice for all around applications. The finish is a hard wax-oil combination that is highly refined so that it does not separate. It performs like an air cured wood finish and does not stay waxy or soft like most oil-wax products. It also acts as a better repellent to water marks, stains, etc. This is the preferred finish for residential use as it has low VOCs and can be field applied. It is compatible with the Richlite enhancer and can be used to spot repair on top of both enhancer and itself. The cure times are longer than a solvent-based product but will set up to the hardness of such finishes at full cure.

Applying Osmo PolyX

DO NOT USE THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE OSMO® CAN. These instructions are for the floor application of the product and not for Richlite. When selecting to finish the surface with Osmo®, first abrade the surface as detailed above. Apply the finish as desired, including the edges.

The Osmo® has a much longer dry time so you can work at a normal speed compared to the Richlite Enhancer product. Follow with clean dry rags, wiping in a large circular motion to remove excess finish. Buff to an even, matte finish. When the rag becomes saturated, use a fresh rag to avoid streaking.

Osmo® will blend into previous coats and can be used as spot repair for both itself and Richlite Enhancer in the field. Apply one coat, allowing 12-48 hours for curing. It can be put into use sooner but it is best to leave it as long as possible. Full cure is after 48-72 hours. A second coat can be applied for a slightly higher sheen but is not required.

Richlite Color Enhancer

Richlite Color Enhancer is a food safe polyurethane finish. It is recommended for both residential and commercial projects and should be applied in a shop environment. It has a very quick flash time which is an advantage for turnaround, but does require skilled application and training to apply correctly. For high water exposure applications, it is not recommended as it tends to show water rings.

Applying Richlite Color Enhancer

When selecting to finish the surface with Richlite Color Enhancer, first sand the surface as detailed above. Although not recommended, if the surface is being finished in the field, it is important to mask adjacent edges and walls to protect them from the finish. Apply the finish, liberally across the entire surface, including the edges. Work quickly to avoid streaking. Warm or circulating air will speed the drying time, so these conditions should be avoided. Follow with clean dry rags, wiping in a large circular motion to remove excess finish. Buff to an even, matte finish. When the rag becomes saturated, use a fresh rag to avoid streaking.

If streaks are visible, let the surface dry and Scotch-Bright™ again to attain an even surface. Clean with soap and water and reapply the finish. Color Enhancer will not blend or “burn” into previous coats. Apply two to three coats, allowing 20 minutes between coats. Sanding is not required between coats.

Other Finishes / Teak Oil / Mineral Oil

Many finishes have been used successfully by fabricators and installers. Richlite can be painted or finished with most wood or stone finishes. Teak oil, urethanes, and stone finish products have been used by customers with success in the field.

Mineral oil can be used as a “finish” but requires frequent maintenance. Because Richlite is non-porous the oil does not penetrate the surface and water marks may appear from glasses and tableware. Paper products left on a desk surface will pull oil from the surface and leave dry areas. If you are using soap and water to clean your countertops, be aware the soap will expedite the removal of oil and the countertops will start to appear dry and chalky.

Applied Finishes

Equipment & Supplies

FINISH MATERIAL

Richlite Color Enhancer

Available through Richlite distributors.

OSMO® PolyX

- PolyX-Oil 3054
- Top Oil 3058
- PolyX Professional Oil 5125
- Any of the above work well. Last one has faster dry time. Use enhancer instructions and not what is on the can. Really need dry time if shipping packaged product. Takes 24-48 hours to set up and cure.

TOOLING & ABRASIVES

Sanders

- Electric or pneumatic random orbital sanders (5"-6" diameter recommended).
- Belt sanders are not recommended! Heat retention will burn Richlite edge surfaces. Abrasives
- 150 grit sand paper. This is very important as higher or lower grit will not provide the finish to match the manufacturer provided samples in the specifier boxes.
- o Maroon Scotch-Brite™ Pads (Scuff and Buff Disc, Item # P04-7447) Other materials
- Clean cotton rags for applying and buffing Richlite Enhancer and Osmo® PolyX.

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