



Tulip Poplar can be left unfinished, clear finished, stained, or painted. I prefer the lighter stains over the darker ones because the wood is fairly porous. My favorite is a clear finish with no stain. Satin polyurethane (oil or water based) works well.

Painting: It is best to start with an interior primer and lightly sand before painting.
Staining: Lightly sand before staining. Wipe stain on with a rag until you get the desired color. If you are going to use a top coat (such as polyurethane), do not sand again until after the first coat, and then be careful not to sand away the stain.
Finishing: All finishes work well with Tulip Poplar. A simple wax finish over stain (Minwax for example) is easy. An oil finish such as Danish oil can be used. Or

Finishing: All finishes work well with Tulip Poplar. A simple wax finish over stain (Minwax for example) is easy. An oil finish such as Danish oil can be used. Or a clear top coat such as polyurethane works well to seal the wood. With polyurethanes, the first coat acts as a sanding sealer. So you should lighty sand (180 - 220 grit sandpaper) after the first coat, wipe the wood clean, and then build up coats for the desired effect.