

## Shameless Festool Sander Plug

Or , how [Festool's Rotex](#), [ETS150/3 random orbital sander](#), [LS130 inline sander](#), and a little palm sander ([DS400EQ](#)), Mr. Bob Marino and Mr. Lucas ([www.woodshopdemos.com](http://www.woodshopdemos.com)) made my life easier. By Per Swenson.

Uncle Bob guided us through our sandpaper and sander selection, Mr. Lucas, through his website, made us aware of Menzerna polish.

I am sharing this to take some of the mystery out of that final finish. There is not a person that couldn't (with a little patience) duplicate this on one of your own projects.



O.K. here comes the plug, I can do this by hand, but never as flat and or as fast then with these tools and products. Yes I have owned every major brand of random orbital sander. I have even used automotive air powered jitterbugs, wet trying for just this look. Hand planes, scraper planes and rotten stone slurry.

For me, I am convinced. This is the way to go.

Time is money, so I use Zinsser seal coat. This is a true 2lb cut shellac premixed in a can. I flood the surface with two coats using a rag.



Then sand it all off using the [Festool ETS150/3](#) with 150 grit Brilliant paper. Another coat of sealer, this time sanding lightly with 220 grit Brilliant.

What's actually happening is I am using shellac as a neutral filler. Well, with a little amber tint.

I know this is getting boring, but do it again and sand it using 400 grit Brilliant. At this point you should have a respectable top, just unprotected for everyday drinking.



Now the fun begins. We use Behlens rock hard table top varnish. 4 coats 24 to 36 hours apart. Sanded in between with the [ETS 150/3](#) and 220 grit Brilliant paper. After the last coat is applied, we walk away for a week or two. Really. The top has to cure. The longer the better.

Yes its tough when you are waiting on a check but.....at this point a vacation is usually in order.

Back to work. Knock the top down with 800 grit Brilliant paper then 1200 grit, again with the [ETS150/3 random orbital sander](#). Time to whip out the Menzerna polish. The guy polishing is my father Robert Swenson. Bob is 80 years old and still works!



We use all 4 grades with the [Festool Rotex 150 dual mode sander](#) in aggressive polishing mode. Progressively using the hard felt applicator, soft felt, sponge, then lambswool bonnet, all from Festool. There is lots of well written information about the Menzerna polish and the Festool products on Mr. Lucas's [www.woodshopdemos.com](http://www.woodshopdemos.com).



I am the redneck with his arms in the air, if I can do this, you can too.



The whole bar was built and designed by Per and Robert Swenson. You can reach Per Swenson per email at [perswenson@optonline.net](mailto:perswenson@optonline.net) or visit our website at <http://www.swensonz.com/>