

<u>Oil Finishes</u>	<u>Protection</u>	<u>Sheen</u>	<u>Ease of application</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Penetration</u>	<u>Working Properties</u>
Boiled linseed oil	Poor	Satin	Very easy	Dark	Deep	Cures soft about 4-6 times faster than raw linseed oil, (24 hours). Satin sheen after several coats. Shouldn't be built up, or it will be soft and gummy. Wipe off the excess between coats.
Pure tung oil	Poor until 5 or more coats	Dull until 5 or more coats	Very easy	Dark	Deep	More water resistant than raw linseed oil. Cures soft so shouldn't be built up on the wood. Doesn't darken as much as linseed oil. Produces a very dull sheen until 5 or more coats.
Polymerized Linseed or tung oil	Potential excellent if built up	Gloss	Easy	Light	Shallow	Thicker than linseed oil or tung oil unless thinned with mineral spirits, which is common. Cures very fast unless thinned. Cures hard and glossy. Develops cracks if applied thick.
Wiping Varnish	Potential excellent if built up	Gloss	Easy	Light	Shallow	Cures fairly fast to a glossy sheen unless flattening agents have been added. Can be built up to any thickness you want by leaving each coat wet on the surface. (Tung oil varnish, Waterlox, Formby's, Hope's, General Finishes)
Oil/Varnish	Medium	Satin	Very easy	Medium	Medium	Curing time and gloss varies depending on oil-to-varnish ratio. Cures more slowly than varnish. Shouldn't be built up because the oil in the finish causes the finish to cure too soft. (Danish Oil, Behr Tung Oil Finish, Minwax Tung Oil Finish, Minwax Antique Oil finish)
Walnut Oil	Poor	Satin	Very easy	Dark	Medium	Thicker than BLO, rub into the wood, allow to soak in and wipe off like other oil finishes. Dries very slowly, especially at cooler temps (7 days+). Can use/handle projects before fully cured. Easily refreshed (Mullony's)
						Source: Understanding Wood Finishes By: Bob Flexner