



# Informational Bulletin #100

## Subject: Changing the Color of Waterbased Sealers and Finishes

Date: 5/3/18

There are many benefits for using waterbased products over traditional oil-based finishes, such as lower odors, faster cure times and a more durable final product. Also, almost all waterbased products provide a clear, water-white coating that allows the natural color of the wood floor to come through.

Waterbased sealers and finishes are typically flexible enough to allow you to mix them with various commercially available products that give contractors the ability to create not only that traditional look of an oil-modified urethane (OMU), but a diverse color pallet to meet the wide variety of end user needs.



Here's how to get started:

1

**Choose your color:** Using liquid dyes such as TransTint® or Mixol® tinting concentrates can greatly broaden the color options on a floor. Both products come in natural wood type tones as well as more non-traditional colors such as orange, yellow and blue, giving you an endless color pallet.

2

**Add color to your finish:** Simply add one to two ounces of colorant to a gallon while mixing and you are ready to apply. It is best to try a sample board to get the specific color intensity desired before full application.

3

**Apply your finish:** Best results have been found when using the "tinted" sealer in the first coat after the floor is sanded and screened to roughly 120 or finer; certain heavy screening may cause closing of the wood and hamper color penetration. A t-bar or paint pad work well, but pay attention to stop and start marks. In most cases, a roller application may provide a more consistent tint coat.

**Keep in mind,** application procedures will vary based on specific floor conditions. A sample board is recommended to be prepared before any floor job. If you looking to achieve a stark difference in color, multiple thin coats would be recommended instead of trying to achieve it with one heavily tinted coat. Also, for best durability, you would want to topcoat with an unaltered/untinted final coat once your color has been achieved.

The above information was provided by Basic Coatings. Visit our YouTube page see a step-by-step video.

Additional information can be acquired from the manufacturer's technical department of the products used on your floor. The National Wood Floor Association (NWFA) can be an additional resource. They can be reached at 800-422-4556 or online at [www.woodfloors.org](http://www.woodfloors.org).