

From Bland To Grand

Free Magazine Highlights Home Projects That Are Easy To Achieve

(NAPSA)—With the right tools and some simple know-how, homeowners can transform a timeworn piece of furniture, outdated kitchen cabinets or a wooden floor into a prized work of art. It's National Woodworking Month! To celebrate, why not capture the beauty of wood throughout your home with a do-it-yourself wood-finishing project?

Looking for some great ideas to get you started? *Wood Beautiful* magazine guides consumers through easy-to-follow wood finishing projects that show the latest trends in decorating with wood.

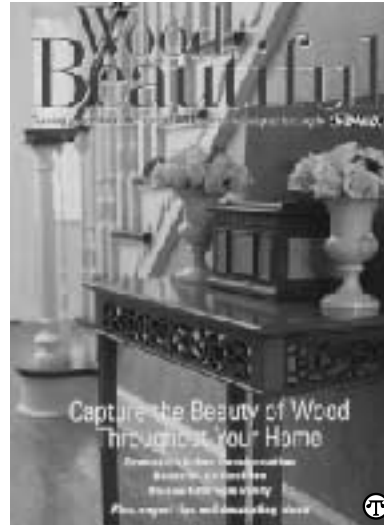
For an added incentive, The Minwax Company, a manufacturer of wood finishing and wood care products, is sponsoring the "Great Finishes" contest, an opportunity for do-it-yourselfers to win cash prizes for their best wood finishing projects as well as a chance to showcase their work in the next issue of *Wood Beautiful*.

Last year's amateur winners included a South Carolina man who created an elegant buffet table from salvaged black-walnut boards, and a couple in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, who gave their 80-year old Dutch Colonial a new look by staining and finishing the bare pine woodwork throughout their home.

If you're ready to turn your house into a welcoming haven with wood, here are some ideas to help you get started:

Expand limited closet space. If you're running out of room for your clothes and accessories, then why not expand an existing closet or convert an empty space into a walk-in closet? It's simple. You can create a functional and attractive storage system using modular shelves, cabinets and drawers from an unfinished furniture store, that you finish and install yourself.

Create stylish furnishings at half the price. If there's a room in your home that needs furnishing, but you're on a budget, then kit furniture is a great option to consider. As you browse through some of the kit manufac-



Do-it-yourselfers can discover easy-to-follow wood finishing projects for every room in the home.

turers' catalogs, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the variety of both traditional and contemporary styles available in oak, maple, mahogany and other fine woods. All you need to do is assemble the kit furniture, finish it with a stain and protective clear topcoat of your choice.

Transform a kitchen with a cabinet makeover. Refinishing wooden cabinet doors and frames can give an ordinary kitchen a dramatic new look without having to start from scratch. Instead of tearing out and discarding cabinets, they can be stripped and refinished for a whole new look. Consider choosing a color stain that adds excitement to the entire kitchen while enhancing the wood's natural grain. You can select from more than 60 decorator colors available in Minwax's line of water-based wood stains.

For more information, to obtain a free copy of *Wood Beautiful* or to enter the "Great Finishes" contest write to P.O. Box 1053, Grand Rapids, MN 55744-1053, or visit the Minwax Web site at www.minwax.com.