	Ease of application	Durability	Color	Enhances Depth	Thinning/ Cleaning Solvent
Wax	easy	poor	clear to amber	no	mineral spirits
Oils (Danish, tung, linseed)	easy	fair	amber	yes	mineral spirits
Shellac	moderate	good	light amber	yes	denatured alcohol
Lacquer	moderate	very good	light amber	somewhat	lacquer thinner
Catalyzed lacquer	difficult	excellent	light amber	somewhat	specialty thinner
Varnish	moderate	very good	amber	yes	mineral spirits
Oil-based polyurethane	moderate	excellent	amber	somewhat	mineral spirits
Waterbased polyurethane	moderate to difficult	very good	clear	no	none/ammonia in water