

NO WOOD WITHOUT BARK.



MOSAIC DESIGNS IN COLORED WOODS.

BEAUTIFUL table-tops, panels for cabinet and book-case doors, etc., may be made by marking off any mosaic or geometrical pattern decided upon, and staining the blocks with various wood dyes. The best wood for this purpose is well-seasoned pine. Charming little tables may be made for one dollar, which when finished will look as if they might have cost a hundred, premising that the legs and rails of these little articles are to be stained in imitation of ebony, oak, walnut, or rosewood, or ornamented with lines of color.

We will give directions for making the various stains to be used for this purpose. Each one must be put on with a separate brush of small size, in order to touch all the fine lines, and not encroach beyond the edge.

TO STAIN WOOD A GOLDEN YELLOW.—Put a quarter of an ounce of powdered turmeric with five ounces of rectified spirits of wine (alcohol) in a stoppered bottle; allow it to stand for about a week in a warm place, during which time it must be occasionally shaken; then filter the clear solution. When this fluid is painted over the surface of new pine wood it produces a deep yellow stain. If the color is deeper than desired, it may be made lighter by the addition of more spirits of wine to the tincture.

PURPLE.—In one quart of soft (rain) water boil one ounce of logwood chips and two drams of Brazil-wood till the fluid is reduced to a pint, then strain. In another bottle dissolve a dram of pearl-ash in one pint of water. Use the colored wash first, and when dry, apply the clear wash, doing this repeatedly, until the desired shade is secured.

BLACK.—In a quart of water dissolve a box of "extract of logwood," wash the wood with this, using a piece of sponge fastened on a handle. When dry paint with vinegar in which a quantity of very rusty iron has been steeping for two days.

BLACK WALNUT.—Scald a quarter of a pound of burnt umber in one pint of vinegar or beer, and strain. Apply with a sponge or soft brush, and when dry, rub hard, and repeat the staining until sufficiently dark.

In using the above receipts it should be remembered that the wood must be dried after each successive application of the stain, and they should be applied hot. Dye woods must be rasped into fine shreds.

After staining, rub the wood off with a soft pad; then give several coats of varnish.—[HARPER'S BAZAR.]

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