



## PETER SEFTON FURNITURE SCHOOL



### French Polishing and Traditional Wood Finishing Course

This short course is ideal for people who would like to learn how to finish furniture using traditional wood finishing and French polishing techniques. The course is also suitable for restorers and owners of antique furniture as well as hobbyists

#### This course is suitable for ...

Beginners: ✓  
Intermediate: ✓  
Advanced: X

#### Course Overview

##### • Why choose this course?

This two-day practical French polishing and traditional wood finishing course, delivered by a professional polisher with over 45 years' experience in the trade, is designed for those who are new to wood staining and wood finishing and those who wish to gain hands-on experience in this specialist field of French Polishing, wood finishing and furniture restoration. The course has been designed to complement the skills of furniture makers/restorers, as well as those who buy or own antique furniture that needs bringing back to life.

The course has an emphasis on the sound understanding and use of traditional French polishes and wood stains and 'touching-in' techniques, including the selection and use of finishing materials.

All equipment, materials and sample boards are provided, but students will need to bring along one or two small and portable items to work on, which don't need to be antiques or family heirlooms. Suitable items include a side table, chair, stool, leaf from an extending table, jewellery box, lamp base etc.; if you don't have anything in mind, reasonably priced items can be bought from your local second-hand furniture shop.



#### Course Dates

- 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021 (**Full**)
- 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021
- 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021
- 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021
- 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022
- 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2022
- 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Jun 2022



#### Cost

£295 including all materials



#### Duration

2 Days - 9am-5pm

Students practice on boards that are provided and then work on their own pieces, for example, sanding one whilst another is being stripped or its finish is drying. This specialist course is aimed at students with no previous experience or limited knowledge of French Polishing and wood finishing - time is allocated for discussion on stains, fillers, bleaches, polishes and waxes.

Small groups ensure plenty of hands-on tuition for every student. Students are also able to try out, test and buy woodworking tools, materials and equipment from Peter's tool shop [www.woodworkersworkshop.co.uk](http://www.woodworkersworkshop.co.uk) with a 5% discount – try before you buy.

Two-day courses are divided into three disciplines:

- Material identification, preparation and use
- Stripping, staining and colouring up
- Traditional wood finishing, French polishing and waxing

##### • What will I achieve?

This course gives students a thorough grounding in the safe and practical use of traditional wood finishing and French polishing techniques, through practical demonstrations and hands-on experience. Students work on a personal wood finishing project under expert guidance, ensuring professional results.

## Course Content

- **Induction and Welcome to the School**
- **Basic Safety Considerations**
  - Personal safety - safe use of finishing products
- **Materials Used in Traditional Wood Finishing and French Polishing**
  - Strippers and revivers
  - Stains and earth colours
  - Grain fillers and filler sticks
  - Shellacs and waxes
- **Tools**
  - Scrapers and abrasive papers
  - Wire wools and Mirlon pads
  - Pencil brushes and mops
  - Fads, rubbers and waxing pads
- **Techniques**
  - Stripping or reviving
  - Grain filling and staining
  - Touching in and bodying up
  - Spiriting off and waxing
  - Handouts - including all techniques and methods, materials and sources

## Health and Safety Equipment and Materials Required

You do not have to bring any tools, equipment or materials with you, as we supply everything you need. Please do not get dressed up for the occasion as wood finishing can be a messy job!

## Items to be Polished

All equipment, materials and sample boards are provided, but students will need to bring along one or two small and portable items to work on, which don't need to be antiques or family heirlooms. Suitable items include a side table, chair, stool, leaf from an extending table, jewellery box, lamp base etc.; if you don't have anything in mind, reasonably priced items can be bought from your local second-hand furniture shop. If you are unsure about what to bring, please call us on 01684 591014 to discuss their suitability.

## Where to Stay

Please see the **Find Us** page of our website [www.peterseftonfurnitureschool.com](http://www.peterseftonfurnitureschool.com) and then click on **Accommodation**.

## Booking Info

**Duration and Facilities:** The course runs over 2 days, 9am to 5pm with 1 hour for lunch. Students will need to provide their own lunch each day and tea and coffee are provided by the School. It is only a 3-minute drive to the town centre, where you will be able to buy lunch from the bakery or supermarkets on the High Street – there's also a great fish and chip shop ...

**How do I apply for any of your Courses?** First, please contact us to confirm there is space on the course either by phoning 01684 591014 or emailing [sarah@peterseftonfurnitureschool.com](mailto:sarah@peterseftonfurnitureschool.com). Once a place is confirmed, please complete the Course Booking Form and forward it with your full course fee to the School. We accept payment by Bank Transfer and accept debit and credit cards (please email [sarah@peterseftonfurnitureschool.com](mailto:sarah@peterseftonfurnitureschool.com) to request an e-invoice to be emailed to you, where payment can be made securely by credit or debit card).

Don't forget you will receive a 5% discount code for use at Peter's tool shop [www.woodworkersworkshop.co.uk](http://www.woodworkersworkshop.co.uk) whilst on your course. The School regrets that we are unable to accept applications from anyone under the age of 18 at the start of their course.

