

Step 1: Sanding

1a – When sanding edges and corners, the orbital sander will eat at the material significantly faster compared to a flat surface, so it might be worth considering hand sanding as to not remove too much material.

- With an orbital sander
- Sand at 120 grit
- Sand at 220 grit

Step 2: Water Popping

[Here is a short video on water popping](#)

- Dampen a rag and wipe the board. The board should get a deeper color from the water, but do NOT soak the board in water. This raises the grains of the wood and allows you to get a much smoother finish on the board
- Once the wood has dried completely, grab a 220 grit sandpaper and VERY LIGHTLY hand sand. All you need is to knock the grains down, but too much sanding will raise more grains
- Make sure to water pop both sides

Step 3: Apply mineral oil and wax

- With a rag, apply an even coat of mineral oil
- Wait around 24 hours for the oil to dry and seep into the wood
- Wipe the excess oil off of the board and apply butcher block conditioner using another rag