

Rustic Finishes Recipe Sheet

Transform your living room with aged pine, limewash, and box beams.

Recreate a scuff-friendly rustic space with these exact aging, texturing, and building methods. Use this guide to perfectly balance warm woods and chalky finishes.

● Key Finish Specs

2700K bulbs, CRI 90+

Lighting specs for warm rustic atmospheres

1x8s

Standard pine boards for box beams

15 minutes

Wait time before buffing hardwax oil

24 hours

Hardwax curing time before recoating

Up to 10x

How much lighter limewash dries

Fully submerged

Vinegar to steel wool steeping ratio

Overnight

Steeping time for the oxidizing stain

Embrace the Scuffs

Lightly distressing your dimensional pine before applying the oxidizing stain ensures the final piece looks genuinely worn and loved, providing an organic canvas for the chemical aging process.



● Vinegar-Aged New Pine

- 1 Prep the wood** Lightly distress standard dimensional pine edges with a sander to knock down factory-cut corners.
- 2 Brew the stain** Wash steel wool with dish soap, shred loosely, and steep in vinegar in a vented jar.
- 3 Apply the patina** Strain the liquid through a coffee filter and brush onto wood to react with the tannins.
- 4 Seal and protect** Apply matte hardwax-oil thinly with a cotton cloth. Wait, buff excess, and cure between coats.

● 3 Woods, 1 Undertone Pairing

Find your row: **Your room's wood elements**

Your room's wood elements	Your pick	Why
Main room floorboards	White Oak	Establishes a warm silver-brown base
Accent seating	Walnut side stool	Matches the floor's base warmth
DIY centerpiece	Aged pine coffee table	Completes the consistent undertone trio

● Limewash in X-Strokes

- 1 Use the right brush** Always use a masonry block brush to build the proper cloudy, chalky texture.
- 2 Maintain a wet edge** Work from corner to corner without stopping halfway across a wall to avoid harsh lines.
- 3 Build the texture** Apply the finish in continuous, overlapping X-strokes rather than standard vertical paint rolls.

● Box Beam Checks & Cuts

- Measure your ceiling span to determine the exact length for your boards.
- Cut side panels for each box beam, mitered along the bottom edge.
- Cut a bottom panel for each beam, mitered on both long edges.
- Check ceiling cleat hardware packaging for the correct hollow beam weight rating.
- Check your limewash packaging for the exact coat count and drying times.

● Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy building a beautifully textured space that only gets better with everyday scuffs!