



WOOD FINISHING SKILLS WORKSHOP

A two-day class in French polishing and repair skills
for upholsterers.

9.30am to 4.30pm each day £325



LEARN THIS CREATIVE & COMMERCIAL MODERN UPHOLSTERY SKILL

This two day French polishing and repair workshop is designed to teach upholsterers useful fundamental basics and in-depth skills of French polishing, woodcare and furniture repairs. Traditional, conservation and contemporary refinishing techniques will all be taught.

Each student will work on two small or one medium sized piece(s) of their choice, working through the full process within two working days.

This course includes the following skills:

- Health and Safety
- Wood and finish identification
- Polishing materials, tools and personal set up list
- Stripping, neutralising and sanding/wire wool techniques

- Staining and grain fillers
- Shellacs, touching in, waxes, brush and rubber techniques.
- Oils
- Small structural and surface repairs
- Aftercare
- Frame repairs and fitting casters.

This workshop is suitable for beginners and experienced upholsterers.

About the tutor

Ollie Piepereit is a master craftsman in furniture design, making, and finishing, with expertise in French polishing, contemporary refinishing, and restoration. Originally trained as an architectural interior designer, Ollie stepped away from the fast-paced corporate world to pursue a more hands-on, fulfilling craft. Since founding OP Woodcraft in 2014, he has dedicated himself to preserving traditional techniques while embracing innovative approaches to furniture refinishing. A strong advocate for the connection between craftsmanship and wellbeing, Ollie believes in the restorative power of making.



What is provided

- Wood finishing products for use on the course.
- Tea, coffee throughout the day

What to bring

• Furniture

Two small or one medium sized piece of furniture, stripped of all upholstery, that you would like to improve the finish of. A medium sized piece would be a dining chair.

• Workbench kit

An apron, a few cotton (lint-free rags), rubber gloves

• Lunch

There's a microwave, sink and kettle in the kitchen area and the village shop is a three-minute drive away. There's usually a 'lunch dash' for those who need something. Many students are keen to crack on with their projects so take a short-ish lunch break in the workroom.

And don't forget:

- Camera or smartphone (to capture the best bits...)
- A notebook and pencil (...to write down the important bits)
- Consider comfy clothes and sturdy shoes. It's a big, airy, spacious workroom with a concrete floor in a breezy rural site. In summer it's lovely. In winter, we have strong heating but it's worth packing extra layers just in case.

Timetable

We need some undisturbed time to set up the class first thing. Then you are welcome to arrive from 9.10am onwards. Classes officially begin at 9.30am and finish at 4.30pm.

Parking

Traditional Upholstery School is part of a rural business estate, so you'll now find there's plenty of parking.

When you drive in, park on the left, just outside the wooden gates. Use the 'visitor parking' bays. The School is inside the gates. The entrance is halfway along the large wooden barn-like building with a plant pot outside.

Directions

From Holt on the B3107 towards Melksham

After Holt, take the first left into East Lane immediately after Hillview Riding Stables, signposted 'Atworth' and 'Broughton Gifford'.

Holt Holdings is about 200 metres along on the left. You'll see a convex mirror in the hedge opposite the turning.

Still have questions? Get in touch...

Email us at traditionalupholsteryschool@gmail.com or text/call 07505 651030

Looking forward to seeing you!

Joanna Heptinstall