

## Technical tips – spotting brushes.

9/17/2012

- Spotting brushes are used to provide mechanical action, helping the spotting agents penetrate the stain. A minimum of three brushes of different sizes and colors are needed for these tasks.
  - Black usually large, for **DRY SIDE** agents only.
    - Dry side agents should not be flushed with steam so we need to keep this brush dry. Using a color different from the others is the best way.
  - White usually smaller, for WET SIDE, ALKALINE agents (protein).
  - White usually smaller, for **WET SIDE, ACIDIC** agents (tannin).
    - Protein and Tannin agents are PH opposites and can cancel each other out if one brush is used for all wet side spotting.
    - Using a color and size different from the dry side brush helps keep them separate. It even helps to mark them with a "T" (for tannin) and "P" (for protein).
- Spotting brushes should be kept vertically in a holder on the side of the board. If they do not have a holder then suggest that they lay the brushes bristles down. This will prevent spotters from penetrating the wood and help the brushes last longer.



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