

Making the Perfect Charcuterie Board

Materials needed

A good source for live edge charcuterie blanks is “Chequest Millworks”. Normally these run \$25-\$30 each but if you buy 5, they are 420 each. Look for a big friendly gut with a beard, his name is Todd, tell him Freddy sent you.

Places to buy stuff: for charcuterie board

1. Harbor Freight Tools

harborfreight.com

12875 W. Bell Road

Surprise, AZ 85378

(Fine Sandpaper - Bauer 400-600 with holes, Velcro attach; HFT Epoxy, small package)

2. Color for your Epoxy?

Amazon

Eye Candy Pigments Variety Mica Pigment Powder Set

10 pack, lots of variety. Recommended by member Bob!

3. Chequest Millworks (Air Force veteran owned - Todd) specializing in Mesquite and Acacia live edge slabs.

9044 W. Deer Valley Road

Peoria, AZ 85382

[\(623\) 337-6556](tel:6233376556)

Check out their Facebook page



Remove the bark with chisel and mallet



Run through the planer - both sides - to make the slab flat. Desert hard woods are "very hard". Planer 1/4 to 1/2 turn based on wood you are working with – remember slab are not uniform thickness – So... "ease into it"



Table saw with sled to even the ends (if that is your design choice)



If you penciled on your design before using the planer, you ground it off, this is where you draw the design again, then to the band saw.



Based on the pencil design, band saw with small blade. The small blade allows for more complete "rounds" "circles" See photo on the band saw.



Next, the router, use the largest bit, both sides, it will be rough, but will smooth later.



Horizontal sander is next to neaten up what the router didn't quite get. Also, a good time to remove any leftover bark.



Time to sand

At the sanding table, use 100 then 150 then 220 grit with the orbital sander. Both sides and all edges.

If you use one of the panel sanders remember this wood is “very hard”, take your time – “sneak up on it.”

Our new Festool sander can also be used. Nothing to be intimidated about, sander, evacuator (vacuum) all in one. It is portable too. Too crowded? Move it. It is easy!

******If the board has knots, cracks, etc., now is the time to use an epoxy filler – add color if you want. Normally when using epoxy it takes at least 2 pours. If you have a big recess to fill, you should use the long set up epoxy. If it is a small knot or crack, okay to use the 5 minute - 2 part epoxy from Harbor Freight.**

NOTE: attempt to smooth the epoxy flush with the surface. If you have a big glob on the surface, remove it with a chisel or with the belt sander. DO NOT run boards with big globs of epoxy through the panel sanders. IT RUINS THE BELTS FOR EVERYONE ELSE!

If you do not need any epoxy, then time to raise the grain. Just get the board wet with water. The board before raising the grain will feel like a freshly shave face or leg, once you raise the grain, it has a 5 o'clock shadow. Just sand with 220 grit sandpaper. Raise the grain again and sand with 220 or 400 grit sandpaper.



Want to put handles on each side? Don't have a jig? No problem, use painters tape, place on bottom of your handle, poke a hole in the middle of the tape, then place tape on your board, use tiny bit to drill first hole for placement, then use bit just a bit smaller than the screw.



**Finish with mineral oil or bee's wax mineral oil mix like "BOOS Mystery" oil.
Several coats**



We are done, thank you all for your time and attention.