End Grain Cutting Board

1/9/24

An end grain cutting board is designed so all the fibers are vertical. With this design it is nearly impossible to get knife scars.

Start by doing the math. Width is easy ,make it as wide as you want. Length is a little trickier.

- 1) How long do you want the finished board to be?
- 2) How thick do you want the board to be?
- 3) How thick is the wood you will be using?

So if you want a board that is 10" wide x 12" long x1.25" thick, you will need X# of strips that in width are 10" but these boards need to be (12" *1.375=17") x 1" thick. If you plan to use different species to get a checkerboard or plaid look you need to go through a layout process. Not all boards should be the same width. Lay all your boards after being cut to same thickness and length as if you were making a through grain board. Then number the boards say 1-8, to determine the design over lay board 8 on 1, 7 on 2, 6 on three. Now you can see the design. Adjust as necessary.

Glue these up as a straight grain board.

Next day, run this through the planer until smooth. Also run through panel sander to remove any snipe.

Square off one end w/ sliding mitre or table saw sled.. Set up sled on table saw with a stop block to whatever thickness you want the board to be. Cut the board into uniform strips (you may need to use the fence versus the sled for the last few cuts.

Turn the strips ¼ turn and alternate every other one. Glue them up.

Next day scrape off any excess glue, run through panel sanders on both sides until smooth. Square up all 4 sides with a sled on the table saw then soften the corners with orbital sander and sand to 220g.

Raise the grain with a water pop and re-sand 2x more times. Finish w/ several coats of mineral oil.