



*Wayne Towle*  
 MASTER FINISHING & RESTORATION

WAYNE TOWLE  
 MASTER FINISHING &  
 RESTORATION, INC.  
 178 CRESCENT ROAD  
 NEEDHAM, MA 02494  
 781-449-1313  
 WWW.WAYNETOWLE.COM

## Wayne Towle

Wayne Towle has been finishing and restoring architectural wood and furniture since 1980. Today, he works with exciting new processes and finishes that require an unprecedented level of knowledge with respect to how wood responds to finishing.

“When I realized we can make closed-grain wood appear to be open grained and apply colors in new ways, I was blown away! We are constantly looking for new ways to finish wood that will be different from your neighbors, yet remain timeless,” he says.

In a recent project, two adjoining rooms had different woods: one with original narrow floor boards the other with new wide boards. Towle stained them the same color. “The color match was perfect but the effect was not. If looked from one room to the next, there was no flow. There was an obvious grain pattern in the wider boards that appeared to be missing in the narrower boards. In the end, we mixed an over-glaze and applied it to the narrow boards to tie everything together. The flow and texture are now perfect.”



This is a high polished, semi filled lacquer finish on mahogany and crotch mahogany. A shadow glaze was used to accentuate the carved and milled details.



Close up of the woodcarvings, which demonstrate how adding color (shadow glazing) to the recesses and details of the carvings will accentuate those details.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE HOMEOWNERS?

Call us in the beginning stages. We should be working with your builder and architect from day one. It’s frustrating to walk into a new room full of gorgeous mahogany paneling and hear the homeowner say how much she hates red and doesn’t want to see any.

### WHAT DESIGN PERIOD DO YOU FIND MOST ENGAGING?

I am not a “form over function” guy. I am a “form and function” guy, which is why the American Arts and Crafts period is so appealing to me.

### WHAT DO YOU SEE BECOMING TRENDS?

I worry about trends, I don’t want a client to make choices that are “out” next year. I like looks that are timeless, even if they are trendy. There are so many options that will age wonderfully without becoming dated. I also don’t believe oak has to be golden or mahogany has to be traditional red.

### WHO ARE YOUR GREAT INFLUENCES?

Mr. Scott, who hired me when I was in high school, taught me that hard work, keeping your word, exceeding expectations and valuing employees and family leads to success.