WE diamond stropping pastes - part 2 (or 3)

Posted by mark76 - 15 Apr 2012 10:51

I didn't want to ruin the stunning end of the previous thread on stropping compounds (and substrates, as it appeared). So I decided to start a new topic.

In my experiments with the Wicked Edge stropping pastes I had seen that they were very effective in smoothing scratches by means of burnishing. In this way they were amazingly effective after the 1600 grit stones, creating a very smooth surface.

A question I still had was where the pastes would fit in in a progression of stones/strops not based their burnishing power, but on the amount of abrasion they cause. In a previous blog post I had already seen that the 14 micron paste works fine after the 1600 grit stones (2.85 microns) and doesn't ruin the edge. However, the paste is abrasive, does cause scratches and at some point it will not improve the edge anymore. I wanted to know where that point was: what is the width of the scratches made by the Wicked Edge diamond pastes?

To determine this width, I took the best photographs of edges after stropping with the diamond pastes I could find. Then I cut out a tiny portion of each photograph, magnified it a number of times and counted the number of scratches on this area.

This appeared to be quite tricky, mainly because the scratches are so small. So if you conclude that it is just silly what I did, I won't argue with you. (Ok, not a lot :)

Nevertheless, I think the Wicked Edge pastes fit in nicely in a progression after the 1600 grit stones. Not only on the basis of their burnishing qualities, but also on the basis of their abrasive qualities.

You can read the full story here .

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