600 grit diamond —> microfine ceramic?

Posted by matthewfrey - 12 Sep 2012 07:54

I'm going to be buying a WEPS soon and was wondering if it is possible to omit the 800/1000 diamond stones from the progression and move directly from the 600 to the ceramic microfine stones. Is that an effective protocol or is the 800/1000 stone necessary? Will the coarse ceramic remove the scratches from the 600 or only smooth over the ridges leaving micro-serrations?

I'm just trying to keep my initial cost down and keep my long-suffering wife from blowing a gasket over my newest fixation.

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Re: 600 grit diamond —> microfine ceramic?

Posted by KenBuzbee - 12 Sep 2012 16:23

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cbwx34 wrote:

and you don't have to mess with diamond paste, figuring out stropping, etc.

That's an excellent point. Stropping on the WEPS is a bit of a different kill set and takes some practice to learn. You can't go into the blade. Not even a little or you'll damage the strops. (note - this is not different from hand stropping but it seems easier to misjudge what you're doing. WEPS stropping takes a lot of focus initially)

Pasting is another skill yet.

The ceramics will play into the skills you're learning on the diamond plates. The strops, much less so.

Ken

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Re: 600 grit diamond —> microfine ceramic?

Posted by wickededge - 13 Sep 2012 09:46

Ken and CBW are correct in that it can be a successful progression depending on your goals. If you're

looking for a mirror finish, you're best off adding in the 800/1000 diamonds and/or the (soon to be in stock again) Superfine ceramics before using the Micro-Fine stones. The bit about changing the progression order is also correct - if you don't lap the 1.4um stones, then they work best after the 600# diamonds, then the 1200#>1600#>.6um ceramics. For my recent elk hunting trip, I prepped my knife on the Field & Sport model and used only the stock diamond stones: 100#>200#>400#>600#> and then went to the Micro-Fine ceramics and the edge was fantastic for the job; not a mirror but extremely aggressive and very durable.

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