# Strops question
Posted by razoredgeknives - 19 Nov 2012 20:16

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So I got to play around with my new balsa Strops finally over the weekend with ken Schwartz's, .125 cbn spray on it. I have been advised to use it while it is moist because it will be more effective that way. The problem I ran into was that it did not seem to do anything.... No polishing (at least, it did not seem so because there was no "blackening"  of the strop. I also waited until it was dry and tried again to no avail. I also tried on the same spray on my kangaroo Strops... Same thing. I am kind of baffled as to what's going on. I didn't try any of my diamond spra .... I just remember my weps pasted Strops blackening right up after a short period of use.

Anyway, I'm gonna have to play around with this more to figure out what's going on. The edge wasn't as "sharp" as I wanted it either, even though it would semi treetop hair.

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# Re: Strops question
Posted by JamesBell - 20 Nov 2012 10:20

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**cbwx34 wrote:**

I'm not sure I would switch compounds on the same strop, even after cleaning.

I would agree,  good advise to not switch compounds.

Thanks

James

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# Re: Strops question
Posted by mark76 - 20 Nov 2012 14:51

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James, sounds good.

I've never tried to clean my strops. I think there will always remain some particles which will screw up your intention. Clay wrote somewhere he used rubbing alcohol on his strops. Not to clean them, but to give them a touch up 🙂

That said, I don't think there'd be a problem if you used a lower grit compound on a strop previously used for a higher grit compound (e.g., use some 1 micron spray on a strop previously used with a 0.5 micron spray). The other way around would surely create problems.

And don't clean your strops too soon, or reapply paste too soon: the wicked edge pastes get truely wicked when your strops have dried out a little and get almost as sticky as chewing gum...

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