Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by WolfsLair - 19 Jan 2013 14:34

Hi all,

I am a 47 year old guy from PA. I have always loved a good blade and had knives ever since I was allowed to buy my first Swiss Army Knife for Boy Scouts. I really love all blades including swords and axes. I also enjoy firearms and compete in CMP Service rifle and NRA high power match rifle. This is shooting up to 600 yards with just iron sights; a real test of a rifleman.

I have bought many sharpening products and systems, but have always been disappointed. I hope this system is everyhing I expect it to be! I must get this of my chest. The WE arrived yesterday and I was bummed that it is made in China. For the price of the WE, I had hoped for Made in America.

More to come,

John S.

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by ApexGS - 19 Jan 2013 14:41

Whereabouts in PA are you? I'm down in York!

Welcome to the forums, I have a feeling you'll find out why we joke about falling down the rabbit hole in short order

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by WolfsLair - 19 Jan 2013 16:07

Philadelphia unfortunatly. I really can't stand this city, but my father lives here and is 80, I work 20 minutes from home and live 5 minutes away from the only private shooting range in Philly. So leaving is not an option, at this time!

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by mark76 - 19 Jan 2013 16:36

Hey WolfsLair,

Welcome to the forum! Don't hesitate to ask any questions if you have them.

It is funny, your first thought about the WEPS was also mine when I got one about a year ago: www.wickededgeusa.com/index.php?option=c...d=1502&Itemid=63

Let me say now that you don't need an iPhone for a proof that a product made in China can be real quality. Both the iPhone and the WEPS were still conceived in the States. Steve Jobs and Clay Allison. Great inventors.

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by ApexGS - 19 Jan 2013 20:01

John,

If you ever need to escape Philly for a bit and want to take a scenic drive for a couple hours west you can swing by and hit the range here! Hopefully by then I'll have some steel up and some new toys, who knows...

I have to agree with the made in China tag, but I think the key is to combine good quality control with good design. If you've got both of those you have a solid product, if you let either of them lapse you get junk! Thankfully we have a very solid product here and great folks to back it up too

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by Geocyclist - 20 Jan 2013 00:46

Welcome to the forum.

About China and the US. I work in manufacturing and see both great stuff and crap come from both

China and the US. I like to buy from the US. But I don't blindly buy US just because of the tag. When money allows I buy the best where ever it comes from and take care of it. IMHO WEPS is the best.

With respect to WE or anything being a good product I believe it is not just quality, but also design and customer service. In these areas you won't be disappointed. More important than all this is passion. I see a passion for this product in WE. Not that they just see this as product to produce. In the end passion drives everything that is important.

DO NOT be disappointed with your first or 5th knife. A.) It takes 5 - 10 or so knives to break in the diamond stones. The first knife will probably not blow your mind. B.) Your technique will improve. It took me to about my 7th knife to finally say I had a Wicked sharp edge, with mirror polish, even bevels, etc.. My first two knives I was worried I had wasted my money. By knife #5 I wasn't worried any more about if I had wasted my money on the WE. Your first two knives or so should be ones you don't care much about or worry about messing up.

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by cbwx34 - 20 Jan 2013 12:50

Geocyclist wrote:

DO NOT be disappointed with your first or 5th knife. A.) It takes 5 - 10 or so knives to break in the diamond stones. The first knife will probably not blow your mind. B.) Your technique will improve. It took me to about my 7th knife to finally say I had a Wicked sharp edge, with mirror polish, even bevels, etc.. My first two knives I was worried I had wasted my money. By knife #5 I wasn't worried any more about if I had wasted my money on the WE. Your first two knives or so should be ones you don't care much about or worry about messing up.

Good advice! (Liked it so much, I added it to the Wiki.) 🙂

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by WolfsLair - 20 Jan 2013 18:12

Thanks for the warm welcome. I made a rookie mistake on the first blade. I did not tighten the bottom screw and the blade shifted. I just ended up with a secondary bevel. So I either have to blend them or refine the primary bevel. The second knife, a Benchmade Combat/Survival II (CSK-II), is coming along nice. I just can't get a nice polish with the strops. Perhaps I need another grit between the 1000 diamond

stone and 5 micron strop?

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by coryschnaufer - 20 Jan 2013 18:23

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I would never try to discourage you from getting something to go in between your 1000 and .5 microns. Having said that though it takes your strops a while to wear in. If your just on your second knife they are probably still green and sliding like they have grease on them. Once your strops break in this will change. They will become some what sticky. At that point is when the real polish begins. This process takes a different amount of time for everyone depending on how heavy handed you are and how much paste you applied. But once you get them broke in you will see a big difference. The other piece to this is your diamond plates aren't broke in yet either. That means they are still cutting more aggressively than normal and it is harder to polish out the marks. If you stick with it though by the time you hit your 15th knife or so the difference will amaze you.

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Re: Hello from Pennsylvania
Posted by cbwx34 - 20 Jan 2013 18:27

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WolfsLair wrote:

Perhaps I need another grit between the 1000 diamond stone and 5 micron strop?

Probably... I tried this in another thread , and couldn't get to a mirror finish.

Edit: Cory does have some good info in his post though, but I think you'll need something in between.

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