Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by Sauce - 05 Feb 2013 10:06

Any suggestions for lubrication for pivot points and washers on folders? Most of my folders have phosphorus bronze washers. Dry lube vs others?

Thanks for any info

Sauce

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Re: Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by FredHermann - 11 Feb 2013 19:57

I've tried a number of lubes, but I seem to always go back to dry teflon/graphite lubes. I fiddle with my knives enough I don't have to worry about rust, except on a very small number.

Anyone have a reason to avoid the dry lubes?

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Re: Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by PhilipPasteur - 11 Feb 2013 21:06

Other than the fact that they don't really penetrate much, I can't see a reason to avoid them,. Especially if you have the knife disassembled. If you don't, I can't see how the dry lubes would ever get to the places that need them.

Phil

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Re: Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by FredHermann - 12 Feb 2013 21:13

I dunno.

The few knives I've bothered to fully disassemble that I use the dry lube on, always have it in every

crevice.

My point, it's cheap, and worth a try. Not food safe though. Assuming thats an issue.....

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Re: Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by Geocyclist - 12 Feb 2013 21:25

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Just my 2 cents: Food safe is not a concern for the pivot. (I am OCD paranoid about getting anything other than lint in the pivot). When I do care about food safety I have Mineral Oil USP to wipe on the blade. I don't use it on the pivot. This is supposed to be food safe and won't spoil. (like canola, olive, etc.). Even then I only use on M4 and 1095 for rust prevention.

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Re: Best knife lube for pivot and washers?
Posted by mark76 - 14 Feb 2013 05:44

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PhilipPasteur wrote:

mark76 wrote:

Yup. I use nano-oil too. Despite its name it's not an oil.

The alternative is to use something that repels moisture, like WD-40. That works, too, but I've found that nano-oil lubricates better.

Just curious Mark... if not an oil, what is it? It looks like oil, acts like oil...and smells like oil...

You know the one about the Duck right...If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck... well it probably is a Duck..

☺

You're completely right. It's a mineral oil with additives. What I meant is that the pivot remains smooth for a long time, much longer than I'd expect for a pure oil that "wears out". (My comparison here is Ballistol, which IMHO is great for rust prevention, but less for lubrication.)

In case anyone is interested, here is a long thread on nano-oil at the Spyderco forums.

And, like Curtis, I only use oil on a pivot when I feel it is necessary. The majority of my folders are still without any lubricant at all.

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