Why not 1 stone

Posted by BillSutherland - 07 Feb 2013 21:45

Please excuse my dumb question but I'm wondering why two stones are needed to sharpen on the WE. Since there are more stones becoming available and the expense is doubled by having to have two stones, why not just use one and purchase additional grits with the money you'd spend on two? Since I'm so new at all this please excuse the question but I'm just not seeing the need for two.

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Re: Why not 1 stone

Posted by PhilipPasteur - 10 Feb 2013 15:27

BillSutherland wrote:

"When you start doing multiple strokes per side, you immediately begin to form a burr

Is it better to do it that way or by alternating strokes per side? For some reason I tend to be not alternate the strokes but as I said before, I'm just beginning.

I only use multiple strokes per side when reprofiling. Even then I make the attempt at keeping the number of strokes, or with scubbing, the amount of time equal for both sides. Inspecting what you are doing rularly is also a must at this stage. If this is not done, there is a good chance of ending up with asymetric bevels.

After burr formation, using alternating strokes with equal pressure is the only way to go. This will get you where you want to be in the least amount of strokes and you will not always be chasing a burr.

In other words, if:

"I tend to be not alternate the strokes"

You are not using the system to its best advantage. I would suggest that you try to be more disciplined. Before long it will be second nature.

There are many ways to end up with a sharp knife on the WEPS. If you want to know the most efficient and effective, just watch some of Clay's videos. As the inventor, and having arguably , more time on the machine than most, if not all, others it sure seems to me that his method would be a good place to start. Not only does Clay use the system a lot, he clearly closely analyzes the results that he is getting!!

Particularly when you are new to the system, and nowitstanding some of the videos out there showing some questionable techniques, give his technique a try. You will not go wrong.

Phil

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