Stock stone/strop progression (Lots of Pics!!)

Posted by razoredgeknives - 20 Feb 2012 19:36

Hey guys, quick question... I can't seem to find any info to this effect... when going through the process of sharpening a straight razor I have found that the jump between the 1k stock diamond to the 14m pasted strops is too large... after 500 strokes per side w/ the 14m strop it has not removed any of the scratches. Which leads me to my question, what is the logical progression if I am sticking with all stock stones/strops (i.e. no chosera/shapton stones)? I just ordered the 1200/1600 ceramic stones as an "in-between" before I go to the 14m strops. Any suggestions or should I be good?

According to the grit chart in the sticky, it would actually be a step back going from the 1k to the 14m pasted strop (as the 1k is supposed to be 7m).

Thanks for your help!

** Updated **

I compiled this as a reference for those of you who are interested in the progression photos but not all the discussion in between. I left my original OP above so you can see the problem I was having.

Tom's series (pg. 1 - scroll down)

Tom from Jende industries does a series of photos trying to re-create the problem I was having (which he does successfully). In this series he jumps between the 1k stock diamond stones to the 14m WE pasted strops. H**e found that the jump between the 1k stock diamond stones to the 14m strops is too large of a leap.** After 600-800 passes/side, and after adjusting the angle to where he was only hitting the very edge of the edge w/ the strops, he finally made some progress.

Clay's Series (pg. 2-6)

Pg. 3 – Clay does a series of photos going from the 10k chosera stones polishing all the way down to

.125m on CBN strops (final photo post # 2025). Pg. 4 - After having a nice mirror polish on the edge, he backs out to the 3.5m pasted strops to check out the scratch pattern left by that paste, and then goes even further out to the 5m pasted strops, which were really effective. On Pg. 6 Clay goes to the following progression: 10>14>10>5>3.5>1>.5>.25>1 microns. He did this while changing directions with each different grit so you could really see what each grit is doing… This was an excellent series!

Clay's Series (pg. 7-9)

Here clay conducts an edge progression with all stock stones on Aus 8 steel, starting with 100 grit and going all the way up. He actually re-starts the progression in post #2059 (pg. 14 after taking a little detour (i.e. jumping straight from the 600 grit stock to the 14m paste). He re-starts it with the 600 grit and, on Pg. 9, goes up through the stock ceramics (1200/1600) and then jumps to the 14m pasted strops from there. He goes all the way down to the 3.5m pasted strops. This does seem like much softer steel then we are used to, however (keep this in mind).

Another one of Clay's series (different thread) - You can check out this other thread started by Mark76 , in which Clay shows photos of an edge at 510x while playing around with lapping films, strops, and paste vs. spray. Excellent info! See what happens to your edge w/ each subsequent grit!

Stone Comparison (pg. 11) – new stones vs. broke in stones

A picture (by Holymolar) similar to **Clay's microscope setup** on how to consistently recapture the same exact spot on an edge when sharpening (Pg. 14 , post # 2185).

My Series =) (pg. 16 , post # 2409) – I progressed up from the 5k/10k choseras all the way to .5m Hand American sprayed leather strops. I post my observations here.

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression
Posted by KenSchwartz - 15 Mar 2012 22:19

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razoredgeknives wrote:

Ken,

Thank you so much for your input! I too really appreciate an owner of his business who gets involved in the furthering of his products... rock on Clay! And I also want to thank everyone else who has contributed (especially Tom)... all the info posted has been very helpful.

So Ken, where would one get this "kangaroo leather" for the WEPS paddles? And what about the nanocloth? I am very interested in looking into that... please post a website if Clay is good w/ it =) Thanks

For now, you can contact me directly - (ksskss at earthlink dot net). In time, if Clay likes it, you can get it from him directly.

Ken

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression

Posted by wickededge - 15 Mar 2012 22:53

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KenSchwartz wrote:

razoredgeknives wrote:

Ken,

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For now, you can contact me directly - (ksskss at earthlink dot net). In time, if Clay likes it, you can get it

from him directly.

Ken

You'd have to send me some samples

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression
Posted by wickededge - 15 Mar 2012 23:11

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Nice input Ken, thanks for joining in! With this particular study, I wasn't really concerned with the edge, just the surface of the bevel so we could identify the effects of each strop. I need a higher magnification scope to see the effects below 1 micron, so I've got one on order. Hopefully that make a nice improvement in our visualization of what we're doing. For the next study, I want to eliminate more variables. I'd like to stick with the stock Wicked Edge line-up through the .5 micron top grain cow leather strops. From there, I think it would be very instructive to go to the nano-cloth with the finer abrasives. BTW, in the last progression, poor quality compounds were never a question, I only get mine from the best sources

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression
Posted by KenSchwartz - 16 Mar 2012 19:51

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I'll send you some samples in the next box I send out to you - very soon

Both nanocloth and Kangaroo.

I'll be pleased to watch the results you get.

It's a real treat to see you striving to push the limits of your device with your own product evaluations. Kudos to you!

And of course, my compliments to your good taste in compounds

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Ken

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression

Posted by mark76 - 17 Mar 2012 18:11

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Ken,

Now you are on this forum and have posted already some very revealing insights, do you have any idea about the cause of the unexpected results reported on by Tom in the start of this thread? The diamond compounds (particularly the 14 micron) were much less abrasive than expected.

wickededge wrote:

mark76 wrote:

Very clear, Clay. Thanks!

I guess I'll do some experiments myself using the WEPS strops, that feel very smooth. They are clearly top grain leather. Are they cowh leather?

They are cow leather. I'd love to see your results once you get some experiments done.

I'll post the photographs. It won't be immediate, since I am going to France (no, not Thiers ☺) tomorrow.

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression

Posted by wickededge - 17 Mar 2012 20:41

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mark76 wrote:

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wickededge wrote:

mark76 wrote:

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Lucky you! Hope you have a great trip.

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression
Posted by leomitch - 17 Mar 2012 20:58

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Mark! Going to France and missing Thiers! Mon Dieu! Sacre bleu! Where will you go and will you be looking for another French knife? Have a wonderful trip my friend!

Cheers

Leo

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression
Posted by PhilipPasteur - 18 Mar 2012 14:19

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wickededge wrote:

The stock progression is definitely next. For the microscope positioning, I leave the scope in the stand. Then I tape photo paper to the bottom of the stand to add some extra light via reflection. I trace the knife's outline on the paper so I can get it back in the same position every time.

Clay,

If you have time one day, I would love to see a photo of that setup. I am just having a bit of trouble visualizing it. I have tried to mark the blade with a sharpie, two lines, one on either side of where the scope should go. It is still pretty hard to get back to the identical positions as you have.

Phil

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression

Posted by wickededge - 18 Mar 2012 17:53

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PhilipPasteur wrote:

wickededge wrote:

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Phil

Hey Phil,

I'll get a picture of it tomorrow at the office.

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Re: Stock stone/strop progression

Posted by holymolar - 19 Mar 2012 20:17

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wickededge wrote:

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I'm also having difficulty getting the scope back to the exact same position on the blade.

Clay, help.

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