What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?

Posted by JohnHolbrook - 02 Jul 2012 13:46

I have the WEPS system, along with new micro fine ceramics.

Should the stones be cleaned? If so, how often? I've read in this forum that rust could be a problem if water is used to clean the stones?

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?

Posted by cbwx34 - 03 Jul 2012 06:19

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mark76 wrote:

On other forums people recommend Bartender's stuff...

It's Barkeepers friend... www.barkeepersfriend.com I use it... works really well.

BTW, I don't think anyone's mentioned leather... a waterless non abrasive hand cleaner with a conditioner like lanolin or aloe vera does a great job of cleaning and revitalizing leather. Haven't done the WE strops yet... but have done some full size strops, and they come out as good as new. Just make sure it's non abrasive.

cbw

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?

Posted by mark76 - 03 Jul 2012 06:23

Monk69bl wrote:

Try vinegar 1st as that is prob the safest.

Sure, it'll definitely be the safest. However, most knives I sharpen are made of stainless steel. And these knives withstand vinegar quite nicely.

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by Monk69bl - 03 Jul 2012 07:43

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As BLD said Vinegar takes forever at elevated temperatures.

Below are a couple of Youtube videos where you can see the effect on different grades.

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by Billabong - 22 Oct 2012 04:58

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Thought I might add M0DiFiEDZ recent video here.

"How To Clean Your Stones With A Cheap $50 Ultrasonic Cleaner"

Does it look to be the best option out there?

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by Staze - 22 Oct 2012 14:05

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I was under the impression Clay said NOT to use an ultrasonic on the diamond stones... or was it the ceramics he said that about...

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by wickededge - 22 Oct 2012 14:25

It wasn't me, it was BassLakeDan in this post: Diamond Stone and Strop Care - www.wickededgeusa.com/index.php?option=c...&Itemid=63#3102.
Suddenly my edit toolbar is missing which I'll have to investigate. For now, you can copy and paste the link into your address bar.

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by Staze - 22 Oct 2012 14:28

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ah ha, I knew I had seen it somewhere!

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?
Posted by Mikedoh - 22 Oct 2012 15:03

Clay, you've been using your same diamond stones for years and many hundreds of knives, right? They still work just fine? See any need for H2SO4?

You may well have entered your stone cleaning routine in the WIKI already, if not, would you enter it under something like "Clay's preferred cleaning method"?

Are you unsatisfied with the performance of any of your stone cleaning methods?

Looking forward to your reply. Would rather leave strong chemicals out of my cleaning arsenal.

Thanks,

Mike

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?

Posted by wickededge - 22 Oct 2012 16:41

Mikedoh wrote:

Clay, you've been using your same diamond stones for years and many hundreds of knives, right? They still work just fine? See any need for H2SO4?

You may well have entered your stone cleaning routine in the WIKI already, if not, would you enter it under something like "Clay's preferred cleaning method"?

Are you unsatisfied with the performance of any of your stone cleaning methods?

Looking forward to your reply. Would rather leave strong chemicals out of my cleaning arsenal.

Thanks,

Mike

Hey Mike,

Thank you for the suggestion. I have been using my stones for a long time and I haven't felt any need to use acidic cleaners on them. I'll try to write something up and post it to the Wiki and FAQ.

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Re: What should I be doing to clean my WEPS stones?

Posted by FredHermann - 22 Oct 2012 19:45

Eww, avoid playing with acid.

Consider, even if you are being safe, they can give off caustic fumes that can mess up things in the same area. I once used hot vinegar for etching, left it in a cruddy old crock pot, and forgot about it for 2 days. This was out in a corner of my garage. All my tools on that side of the garage rusted. The mower rusted. Heck the door springs rusted. So...if you insist on using acid as a cleaner, you cannot spend too much time researching.

In an earlier post, someone mentioned using an old eraser. I tried it, and it worked pretty well. I used the old tan gum type, not the red rubber ones. I also have a large version of this made to clean belt sander belts. Cheap, safe, and cheap.

Just my .02

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