my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.

Posted by Scott Sherman - 21 Oct 2012 22:45

As most who have followed my posts know I am new to WEPS but I have made a serious commitment to succeed and enjoy the process of using it. I ordered the PP2 about 8 weeks ago and took delivery about a week or so ago. I have asked a bunch of questions prior to receiving it and subsequent and as a result have continued to add to my arsenal of stones and strops since getting it. My most recent acquisition was the super fine ceramic, which I just got Friday (a couple of days ago).

I was happy with it and also unhappy with it at the same time. What I mean by that is that it definitely does bridge the gap between diamond 1000 grit and ceramic micro fine and changes the grit in a perceptible way to a more fine pattern. That is the good. What I didn't think was great was the feel and texture of it. It sort of felt less refined than the finest diamond at 1000 grit and the very glassy smooth heavy micro fine ceramic. The super fine feels a bit soft and light like it wasn't fully cooked in the kiln or something, at least compared with the other excellent stones I was sent.

So having said all that, I think it really does serve the intended purpose of smoothing the scratches to allow the much finer micro ceramic stone to do it's job of polishing, but I still can't help but wonder if the 5k/10k Chosera stone might not do the job even better or perhaps the Chosera 2000/3000 which is the next step up from the 1000 according to the grit scale.

I can't seem to get a clear answer from anyone and just measuring grits seems to be a bit misleading because the different types of stones seem to get different results at comparable grit levels.

The problem is that I have already purchased the super fine ceramic and the only real way to find out the answer is to buy the Chosera stones. To do it right, I would need to buy both the 2000/3000 and the 5k/10k, but that is a major investment on top of what already is a gigantic expense in buying the PP2 plus all the other additional accessory stones I have bought.

For what it would cost, I could buy a new generator I have had my eye on for example or a really nice new custom knife which I can sharpen to extreme levels with what I already have.

So just to be clear, I am not complaining about the Super Fine Ceramic. It does what it says it is supposed to do, but could it be improved on IF I had bought the Choseras instead. What do you think. Again, I am pursuing this because I know others have expressed a similar interest and at least to me it is still unresolved.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.
Posted by Scott Sherman - 22 Oct 2012 19:41

For what it's worth, I do like it and I am happy I chose to get it.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.
Posted by Geocyclist - 22 Oct 2012 20:44

I am still on the fence.

I will get a PP or PPII. If I get the PP then I will also get the arms upgrade. I don't really care about what base comes with it. I will be getting various strops and pastes, so the difference there doesn't matter either.

The main hanging point is to get either super fine + micro ceramics or 2-3 sets of Chosera's. I know the Chosera's are slightly more expensive but this is not an deciding factor. But I do not want to buy both ceramics and choseras.

Most of my sharpening is Benchmade folders, s30v, CPM-M4, and 154 cm. I want to achieve polished edges to the nake eye on knives that are mostly users. I am leaning towards the chosera's based on positive comments about feel and feedback as well as how they polish.

If I can slice/push cut phone book paper like a ninja I am happy. I would like to whittle hair one day, but I don't see taking every edge to that level.

If anyone has both please give you opinion. Or if you only have one I would like your opinion too.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.
Posted by PhilipPasteur - 22 Oct 2012 22:52

Did you happen to read this thread?

www.wickededgeusa.com/index.php?option=c...d=6097&Itemid=63

If so you got my take on it. I recenly ordered the superfine and microfine stones to play with. I have not recieved them as of yet, so I can't make a direct comparison. I can tell you that from my perspective as of now, I would not be without my Choseras... period. If you can swing it, get the 800/1000, 2000/3000 and 5K/10K stones to use after the 1000 diamonds. If you really want to spend some cash and as you said the cost is not important to you, get the 400/600 stones as well. They make quick work of the diamond scratches and set up a great transition to the 800 or 1000 stones.

Check the links that I posted to Tom's blog. He explains it all much better than I could...or have the time to do here.

Phil

BTW. If you wait a couple of weeks for me to get the WEPS ceramics and do some sharpening with them... I will have some direct comparison impressions. You will notice that Scott asked this question...then I asked for anyone out there with the waterstones to chime in. We got two replies.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.

Posted by Geocyclist - 23 Oct 2012 20:11

Phil,

Thanks for the reply and link back. This helps. i think I will go with choseras. The incremental cost is not too much.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.

Posted by Scott Sherman - 23 Oct 2012 21:26

I will once again jump in with yet another opinion (as if you didn't think I would).

This afternoon I started sharpening my favorite knife. A Grayman, Satu which is S30v steel. This knife comes with a very unsophisticated edge at about 22 degrees. I reprofiled it to 18 degrees with my 50-80 grit stones which really grind the steel and leave a very, very rough scratchy surface, like a rasp file. So this was a real test. Long story short, I worked through the normal progression of stones 100> 200>400>600>800>1000. I used about 3x's as many strokes as before and almost feather touch pressure. I began to see the scratches from each previous stone smoothing out more than ever before, but the 1000 still left a mostly non glossy finish although the scratch pattern was quite fine. The next

stone I used was the 1200 super ceramic. I used it dry and again nearly feather touch pressure and many, many more strokes than before. Something new happened this time. Compared to each of the two previous knives I sharpened using the super fine and all the other stones in the normal progression, this time, a very glossy, reflective mirror surface began to emerge with the 1200. It was more glossy than I got after using my micro fine and several pastes and leathers, including my kangaroo with no added grit. I was more than shocked at how nice my Satu was looking. I went to the 1600 and it became even glossier. Beyond anything I have gotten to date even with all my best polishing stuff.

Up to now, I would have been totally happy if this were the final result and I like a mirror finish as you know from all my posts. I am now prepared to say unequivocally and without reservation, that the super fine, 1200-1600 is a great stone set and will easily get you to as shiny, glossy and reflective a finish when used in the total progression to leather and pastes as the limits of your metal will allow. I had to end at the 1600 stone because my wife gave me an ultimatum and I had to go.i still need to move to the micro and beyond, and must say I am enthusiastic and can't wait to see the final result. I'll try to take a picture for you, but take my word for now. It is coming along great.

So I will not (and would not) tell anyone what to buy or use, but I was going to buy the Chosera's because I did not think the super fine was as good as the Chosera's. But I am a convert and now know from my own experience that this is a very capable stone set which is for me indispensable.

I am done buying stones for now. I think I have arrived at where I wanted to be when I first began.

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.

Posted by PhilipPasteur - 23 Oct 2012 22:35

Scott Sherman wrote:

I will once again jump in with yet another opinion (as if you didn't think I would).

I am now prepared to say unequivocally and without reservation, that the super fine, 1200-1600 is a great stone set and will easily get you to as shiny, glossy and reflective a finish when used in the total progression to leather and pastes as the limits of your metal will allow.

So I will not (and would not) tell anyone what to buy or use, but I was going to buy the Chosera's because I did not think the super fine was as good as the Chosera's. But I am a convert and now know from my own experience that this is a very capable stone set which is for me indispensable.

I am done buying stones for now. I think I have arrived at where I wanted to be when I first began.

Glad you are happy, really! I like reading your posts. It sounds like you are moving towards getting the results that make you pleased with your efforts.

I would never argue with your vast experience, but I can share mine...

As long as there is a different way, and maybe a better way (faster, finer, shinier) never say you are done...

Those are like famous last words before disappearing down the rabbit hole... Believe me.

I would also be cautious about making unequivocal recommendations based upon one sharpening session with one knife...with nothing to compare to.

Don't mean to dampen your enthusiasm... really ! Just trying to be objective.

Phil

==========

Re: my opinion of the super fine after 3 days with it.

Posted by Scott Sherman - 23 Oct 2012 22:44

_____

PhilipPasteur wrote:

I would never argue with your vast experience, but I can share mine...

My experience is anything but vast

As long as there is a different way, and maybe a better way (faster, finer, shinier) never say you are done...

Those are like famous last words before disappearing down the rabbit hole... Believe me.

I would also be cautious about making unequivocal recommendations based upon one sharpening session with one knife...with nothing to compare to.

Both are fair points and I can not argue with anything in this post. I may have misstated, I didn't mean to offer this experience as much to say I recommend it as to just share what I would characterize as a discovery on my part. I was not 100% loving the super fine stones as I mentioned. They were not exactly what I thought they would be when I ordered them and felt them for the first time especially next to the other stones I have. But this admittedly anecdotal experience has left me much more enthusiastic for their potential, even if I can't duplicate this result in my next knife. It has certainly shown me that at least so far, my lack of success has been more my fault than that of the equipment. So I thought I might share. Your milage may vary. I only want to be helpful. I am not trying to sell WE stuff for Clay, but credit should be given when it is due.

Don't mean to dampen your enthusiasm... really ! Just trying to be objective.

I don't doubt it.

Phil

==========