How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by KevinCoughlin - 02 Jan 2013 19:31

Hi I was just wondering how you guys use your strops, I noticed yesterday after doing a chefs knife that my strops had about 4 slices in them, I was pissed when I noticed it and hope I didn't ruin them, was just wondering if you had any tips on how to prevent it???? And I'm gonna have to be a little more careful when sharpening long blades... Lost the tip of my pinky finger yesterday and had to take a trip to the ER, once I got home I finished the knife and the results were awesome, i love this system! Thanks everyone, Semper Fi

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Re: How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by JamesBell - 03 Jan 2013 14:51

As I first started with the strops, I did not understand how different they are from the stones.

Some of my movements produced some slices in the leather.

The term bumpy fits, it was not a smooth stroke they had become bumpy.

How to get them back smooth, how to remove the edges of the cuts and not destroy the strop?

Sandpaper on a hard surface came to mind.

I had 400 and 600 grit sandpaper used when I made hummingbird bands to polish the band edge so it

does not hurt the bird’s leg.

Taped the sandpaper to a bamboo cutting board and worked the strop back and forth.

It leveled the strop back out and it removed the edges around the cuts in the leather.

The strops were smooth as before.

So in my case I did not sand that much off. I cleaned them with alcohol, let them dry and reapplied the diamond paste, good as new.

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Re: How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by Geocyclist - 03 Jan 2013 23:58

Thanks guys. I will try sanding sometime.

I was surprised that the paste took to the WE strops as smooth as they were. I thought the paste would just smear off. I did load mine very lightly and the paste did smear easily by finger. But in the end it looks like they do retain the paste

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Re: How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by KevinCoughlin - 08 Jan 2013 20:25

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Thanks for the advice everyone, I'm trying to be more cautious when stropping now so I don't slice it, but if it gets any worse I'll try to smooth it down like you guys mentioned

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Re: How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by KevinCoughlin - 08 Jan 2013 20:28

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And no bad mouthing Chesty coreyschnaufer!

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Re: How to use strops, I keeps slicing them

Posted by coryschnaufer - 08 Jan 2013 21:42

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I am Army prior service so any time I get a chance to rib a toefl hunden I am required to take it.

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