

This basic sharpening set for carvers includes 1000x and 4000x pocket water stones for shaping and honing, a 4000x traditionally shaped slip stone for gouge work, and a 4" × 5" leather strop and 6 oz bar of Veritas® Honing Compound for final honing of bevels to a mirror finish.

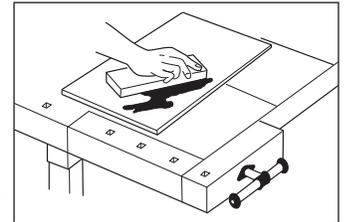
Using, Flattening and Storing Water Stones

The 1000x stone is for general-purpose work and the 4000x stone will put a mirror finish on knives, gouges, and chisels.

The 1000x stone is for rapid stock removal, such as for setting the bevel angle or removing nicks from tool edges. The 4000x stone will sufficiently refine the edge for many carving activities, but for best results, we recommend you use honing compound on a leather or wooden strop for final honing.

Water stones have an open structure that is susceptible to glazing if not used with water as a lubricant. Always allow the stones to soak for a few minutes in water before use. In use, periodically flush the surface of the stone with clean water to remove crushed abrasive and metal particles that can clog the pores of the stone.

Water stones will wear and need periodic flattening. This is easily achieved using coarse silicon carbide grit paper on a known flat surface (such as a sheet of plate glass). Simply rub the worn surface of the stone against the paper until the stone is flattened. Flush the stone with water to remove any trace of lapping grit, which could contaminate the stone.



Water stones are best stored submerged in a covered bath (this keeps them free from contaminants and ready for immediate use), but can be left to dry and then stored in a covered container. Water stones should never be allowed to freeze unless completely dry.

Leather and Wooden Stropps

Leather stropps are typically used with flat-edged tools. Most effective when charged with honing compound (rubbed over the leather surface), the leather should be fixed to a known flat surface to prevent bevel rounding. Honing compound can also be applied to a wooden strop. Wooden stropps are effective for honing profiled tools, such as parting tools and gouges. To hone an outside bevel, you simply cut a groove into a block of softwood using the tool to be honed. This creates a custom tool profile that perfectly matches the shape of the bevel to be honed. You can do this for inside bevels by cutting a matching convex profile on the edge of a piece of softwood of thickness equal to the width of the gouge.

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