THE BEALL

Wood Buff

Important! When using The Wood Buff be sure to wear eye protection and a suitable dust mask (NIOSH/MSHA approved Type 8710). Overexposure to silica quartz (contained in the tripoli compound) may cause temporary irritation of eyes, ears, nose and respiratory tract and excessive inhalation may result in respiratory disease. **Do not wear loose clothing or hairstyles while buffing.**

Setting up the Buffing System

1. Slip the aluminum adaptor onto the shaft of your electric motor. For safety purposes, we recommend that it be 1725 RPM and one-half (1/2) horsepower or stronger. (A #1 or #2 Morse Taper which will enable you to mount the .adaptor on your lathe, is available as an accessory. It is not included in the kit.)

2. Mount the motor so that its rotation is counter-clockwise when viewed from the shaft end and pushes your workpiece down as you buff. Tighten the two set screws provided onto the motor shaft. (It is a good idea to check the tightness of the screws after the first half hour or so of use.)

3. The buffing wheels can be spun into the threaded end of the adaptor with the direction of rotation causing them to self-tighten when the motor is started. This automatic tightening eliminates the need for tools to change the wheels. (If you wish to mount a wheel on a clockwise-turning motor, you must do it permanently with a lock-nut. The wheel cannot then be changed without loosening the lock nut, which needs to be very tight.)

4. You can expect a new buff to throw off lint until it is fully loaded with compund or wax, but you can minimize the shedding if you first prep the wheel: wrap a piece of coarse sand paper (100 grit is fine) around a piece of scrap wood and press it against the spinning buff; with the free hand use a shop vac to collect the loose threads. **Please wear eye protection when performing this step or when buffing**.

Finishing

While most woods may be buffed bare, a more durable finish will be achieved if a sealer is applied first. Sand your work to at least 220 grit. (Using a finer grade of abrasive will, of course, result in a higher gloss on the buffed piece.) After sanding, apply one coat of a good quality, penetrating oil finish such as Minwax Antique Oil™, Watco™ or tung oil. Linseed oil is not recommended. When the oil is completely dry, you are ready to start the buffing process. Although oiling and buffing will not provide adequate protection for a surface that receives very heavy use (such as a tabletop), they will withstand considerable handling, providing a finish superior to many which are more time-consuming and difficult to achieve.


Preparing the buff


Applying compound to the buff

Buffing

1. Begin the buffing process with the all-linen Tripoli Wheel* and the red Tripoli Compound. Apply a generous amount of compound to the spinning wheel; then begin buffing your workpiece, holding it slightly below the center of the wheel so the wheel cannot "grab" the piece. Several applications of the compound may be required if your work has a large surface area. (When the wheel is new, heavier applications of the compounds may be necessary, than later, when the wheel is loaded.)

2. The next step requires the softer, linen-cotton blend White Diamond Buff* and the harder, drier White Diamond Compound. Apply a small amount of the White diamond compound to the wheel and buff the workpiece lightly. This will remove the residue left from the Tripoli and do the final polishing.

3. For the final step use the all-flannel Wax Wheel.* The wax included with the kit is pure carnauba, one of the hardest waxes known. Once the wheel has been charged with the yellow carnauba wax a few times, only very small additional applications will be needed: hold the wax to the spinning wheel for no more than a second! Buffing the workpiece very lightly on the wax wheel will quickly produce a beautiful protective sheen.

***Note** Each of the buffs provided has a different composition: the Tripoli Wheel is a somewhat stiff all-linen fabric, the White Diamond Wheel has linen plies interspersed with softer cotton ones and the Wax Wheel is very soft all cotton flannel fabric. Be sure to change wheels between each step in the buffing process.

Maintaining the Wheels

1. If Tripoli compound becomes too built-up on the all-linen wheel, you may need to clean it. In order to do this, simply back a piece of coarse grit sandpaper with a piece of scrap wood and hold it up against the spinning wheel until the build-up is removed. This process should not be repeated too often.

2. The White Diamond and wax wheels never require cleaning or washing. Once they are loaded, do not apply fresh compound or wax until needed.

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