

Artisan Three Step Buffing System

Important

When using the buffs, be sure to wear eye protection and a suitable dust mask (niosh/msh approved type 8710 or N95.) Overexposure to silica quartz (in the Tripoli compound used for buffing) may cause temporary irritation of eyes, ears, nose and respiratory tract. Excessive inhalation may result in respiratory disease. Do not wear loose clothing or hairstyles while buffing.

About the Buffs

The 3 Step Buffing System includes 3 wheels made for each of the different compounds: all-linen for the Tripoli compound, linen and cotton for the White Diamond Compound and all-cotton flannel for the Carnauba Wax application. It is recommended to run your lathe at roughly 1,725 rpm while buffing. Each buff is marked with a number to designate its place in the buffing process with a #1 marking the Tripoli Buff, a #2 marking the White Diamond Buff and a #3 on the Carnauba Wax Buff.

Mounting Bowl Buffs

1. Mount the threaded rod into the #2 morse taper located in the headstock spindle and install the washers, buffing wheels and spacers according to the diagram below.
2. Tighten up the hex nuts to secure the wheels. We recommend checking the torque on the hex nuts every few uses to make sure they are still secure.
3. Bring up the tailstock and use a revolving center for support. **Failure to do so may cause serious injury.**

Buff Prep

1. Your new buffs will perform better and throw off less lint if you first break them in and shape them. In order to do this, back a piece of coarse grit sandpaper with a piece of scrap wood and hold it up against the spinning buff. With the other hand, hold up the hose of a shop vac or dust collector to catch the loose threads. (Your buffs will still shed some lint, however, until they become completely loaded with compound.)

Buffing

1. If you plan to perform all of the steps in the buffing system, you will need three Bowl Buffs, one for each step of the process. Begin by sanding your work to at least 220 grit, and if you desire a more durable finish, seal it with at least one coat of a good quality penetrating oil such as Minwax Antique Oil, Watco, or Tung Oil. When the oil is completely dry, you are ready to start the buffing process.
2. Choose the Bowl Buff marked with the #1 and apply a generous amount of Tripoli compound to the spinning buff. Then the buff is new, heavier applications of the compounds may be necessary than later, when the buff is loaded.
2. Next, apply a small amount of White Diamond Compound to the Bowl Buff marked with the #2 and buff your work lightly. This will remove the slight residue left from the Tripoli Compound and put a final polish on the piece.
4. Last, charge the final buff #3 with Carnauba Wax. (This is one of the hardest waxes known, and is not only non-toxic, but also edible, making it a perfect choice for bowls intended to contain food.) After the wax has been applied to the bowl buff several times, only very small additional applications will be needed. Hold the wax to the spinning buff for no more than a second! Buffing your work piece very lightly with the wax buff will quickly produce a beautiful protective sheen. Overuse of wax will dull the finish.

Maintaining the Bowl Buffs

If Tripoli Compound becomes too built up on a buff, you may need to clean it. In order to do this, back a piece of coarse grit sandpaper with a piece of scrap wood and hold it up against the spinning buff until the build-up is removed. This process should not be repeated too often and care should be taken that abrasive particles do not become attached to the buffs. Buffs used for White Diamond compound or Carnauba Wax should never require cleaning. Once they are loaded, do not apply fresh compound or wax until needed.

