

Lathe Mount Buffing System

(44Z22.10)

The following instructions were provided by the manufacturer.

IMPORTANT! When using any of the wood buffing products, 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. *Wear proper apparel (avoid loose clothing) and keep long hair tied back and secured while buffing.*

Setting Up the Buffing System

1. To assemble the mandrel, first thread a nut onto the tailstock end of the mandrel, following it with a washer. Add a buff, another washer and one of the two included long spacers. Repeat until you have mounted all three buffs, ending with two nuts on the tapered end of the mandrel – the last one serving as a lock nut. The system will be most efficient if you mount the buffs on the mandrel in the order you plan to use them. Ordinarily, you would want, from left to right, the tripoli buff, the white diamond buff and the carnauba wax buff. (Of course, if you are left-handed, you may want to reverse this order.)
2. Insert the tapered end of the mandrel into your lathe's headstock and tighten the tailstock against the other end. The system is now ready to use.
3. **Please wear eye protection when you buff or prepare your wheels.** The buffs included with the kit have already been faced; however, you can expect them to throw off some lint, even after they have become loaded with the compounds. To minimize the mess, before you begin to buff, you can break in the wheels by backing a piece of coarse sandpaper (80 grit or so) with a board and pressing it against the spinning buff. With the other hand, hold a shop vacuum tube nearby to catch the threads as they are released.

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, they will withstand considerable handling, providing a finish superior to many that are more time-consuming and difficult to achieve.

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 compound 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. For best results, match each buff with its intended compound.*

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 (as you did when breaking the buff in) 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.