

Buffers & Pads

Buffers

There are a lot of good buffers out there that can be used. Ideally we would like to see an adjustable speed buffer. We need to have an RPM (rotations per minute) of 1800-2000.

Stay away from grinders and many sanders. The RPM's are too high and will burn the paint.

Orbital buffers do not give the right RPM and will not put the proper gloss on the paint job.

Also, make sure that the shaft size is 5/8 of an inch. This is the standard size for all good backing pads. Most buffers will come with a backing pad. You should have one that uses velcro backed pads. This will allow you to switch back and forth quickly between wool and foam pads while buffing.



Dewalt Buffer
& Polisher



Shop Polisher

Wool Pads

Wool pads are made for rubbing compounds. They are very aggressive and will leave swirl marks behind, especially with older weaker paint finishes. However, today they are the only way to get shine up todays harder finishes. Moistening the pad prior to use will keep the pad from absorbing too many compounds and having too much build up. Keep you pads in seperate bags to keep them from getting dust, dirt and contaminants in them to scratch the surface of the paint. When you get too much compound build-up, use a tool or screwdriver to help remove the excess.



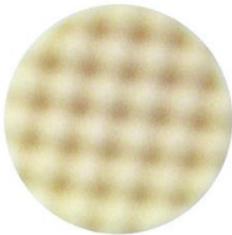
3M™ Wool
Compounding Pad

Foam Pads

Foam pads were made for polishing and removing swirl marks made from compounding. Look for pads with rounded edges to protect your paint job while buffing. Waffle and split pads are made to help reduce heat build-up during the buffing process.

Black pads are the more aggressive pad. They are made to take out the swirl marks with swirl mark remover.

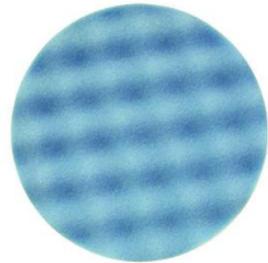
White pads are made for polishing. They are great for applying the final compound. Blue pads are 3M's Aquafina pad. It is used in place of the white pad with 3M's Aquafina compound on dark colors especially black. Which shows all scratches and swirls.



3M™ Foam Compounding Pad

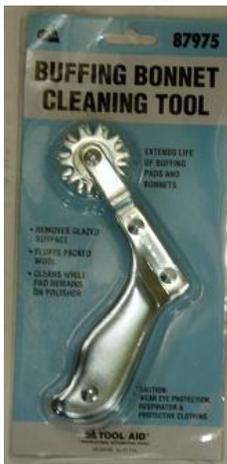


3M™ Perfect-It™ Foam Polishing Pad



3M™ Perfect-It™ Ultrafine Foam Polishing Pad

Pad Cleaning Tools



Wool cleaning tool

With buffer running at low RPM, pass cleaning tool back and forth through pad knocking off residue and build-up.



Foam cleaning tool

With buffer running at low RPM, pass brush over foam pad to knock-off residue and build-up.