

Frequently Asked Questions – SHARPENING & STROPPING

1	<u>I've been using a red strop for quite a while. Can you tell me why you prefer green?</u>
2	<u>I have a couple buffing wheels that I am thinking of adding green rouge to, and use the buffing wheel for the final honing. Is that better or worse, or about the same, as stropping?</u>

I've been using a red strop for quite a while. Can you tell me why you prefer green?

We only use the green polishing compound because it is made with chrome oxide and it is specifically made for hardened tool steel. The red polishing compound (also called 'jeweler's rouge') is made from iron oxide, which is much softer than the green, and is more appropriate for softer metals such as gold, silver, copper, etc. The red rouge will do a little bit but the green performs better, especially on the exotic alloy that we use in our knives.

I have a couple buffing wheels that I am thinking of adding green rouge to, and use the buffing wheel for the final honing. Is that better or worse, or about the same, as stropping?

I would wholeheartedly suggest that you stick with a strop as it is really very easy to burn the blade on a buffing wheel. I dedicated an entire chapter to the subject in my "On the Edge" book that explains all the whys and wherefores.