

How to apply Aqua Buff products

Buffing Pads

It is very important to link correct buffing pad and buffer speed to each Aqua Buff product:

- for fast cut compounds such as Aqua Buff 1000-W, 1000-F, and Tuff-Stuff use a twisted tufted 4 ply 100% wool buffing pad: these are called #1 pads
- for polishing with Aqua Buff 2000 or Gloss Master, use a finer polishing pad: a #2 pad
- use a good commercial buffer that will generate the required buffing speed and energy: compound at full speed (no less than 2400 RPM) and polish at half speed
- after buffing, wash surface with soapy water to remove leftover polish



Amount used

Most users apply too much compound and polish. Using a brush or cloth, dab a poker chip size (about 1" wide) amount of compound or polish for each square foot to be polished. You are using too much product, if the compound builds up on the pad.

Spray bottle misting

Aqua Buff 1000-F, 1000-W and 2000 are sold as concentrates. The person doing the polishing adds water by spraying a mist onto the part. The buffing pad captures the compound/polish, and also the water. When the part appears dry, add more water with the spray bottle. As long as a milky liquid appears when the pad captures the water, additional polish is not needed.

Aqua Buff Tuff-Stuff, GlossMaster, and One-Step do not require any additional water misting.

Heat

Heat can cause distortion to appear in the finished surface. A significant benefit of Aqua Buff is that the sprayed water helps to keep surface cool during buffing. Misting also lubricates the surface which helps to prevent drag marks from the pad.

Buffer recommendations

Machine buff with a clean, damp pad. We recommend a 2400 RPM commercial rotary buffer. Wiping by hand or using a DA sander will not create the necessary speed and energy to buff fast cut compounds. Compound at full speed, polish at half speed. DA sanders are OK to use with Aqua Buff 2000 and Gloss master.

Storage

Compounds may lose paste properties after 12 months of storage. If the compound is watery, product is outdated.

Wool buffs vs foam sponge buffs

Some people prefer wool buffs instead of foam buffs for polishing. Wool buffs can provide better polishing action and they move faster than foam buffs. And wool buffs generate less heat than foam buffs. For these reasons, many users believe that wool buffs work better than foam to eliminate marks, not just hide them.

But for waxing, foam buffs are a good choice: wax serves as a filler, and foam is better for this purpose.

These are shown on our [Buffs for 3" and 5" pads](#) and also on our [Buffs for 7½" pads](#) pages.



#1 Buff a 4 ply 100% twisted, tufted wool for cutting. An aggressive buff that runs hotter.



#2 Buff 50% wool, 50% acrylic blend buffs for light cut compounds or polishing compounds.



Finishing buff is used primarily for removing swirl marks, mainly on dark surfaces.



Foam buff only used if extra time is justified to pull a better luster on a good finish.