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I've long been a fan of Veritas Mark II Power Sharpening Machines. I had one of the first models while working at the Popular Woodworking Journal. The day I left the magazine, I ordered one for my home store. It can be tricky at times. After grinding hundreds and hundreds of tools, this short video explains how I get dead-straight mush and never lose my temper on the instrument. These methods are not approved by Veritas. And if you're happy with your results, don't change. Many of you will criticize me moving the tool through the wheel while it is in motion. It's much faster than keeping the tool stationary and safe as long as you move the tool away from the center of the wheel. Product recommendations are some of the materials and tools we deem necessary in our day-to-day work throughout the store. We can get commissions from sales that our links refer to; however, we have carefully selected these products for their usefulness and quality. 1/2 Straight Bit Pencils Table Saw Blade 11-04-2014, 5:25 PM #1 I finally had enough of fighting with my MKII sharpener power and I'm moving on. One of the only veritas tools I have that I'm really disappointed in... I need a power sharpening system, and I'm trying to be one of the Viel grinders. I have an engine, its rigged so the strap grinds down (direction) and figured out an easy way to install bevells. I have a couple of quick questions for everyone. What kind of belt grits would you use? I have a belt trizac I really like, so I'll most likely stay with thos them. They come in 240x, 400x, 800x, 1400x, and 2000x (nominally.) Could you bother with the micro-skew? It would be easier to set the rest up to 25 degrees and continue. Micro bevells would be simple, I'd just prop the blade a bit with a shell like an popsicle stick. But still, are they really necessary if I'm not worried about the time savings they offer? I don't think so. Will there be any benefit to the strop? I have a sling belt for knives, will anything be available on the edge of the tools? Is there an easy way to reverse the AC engine? Would make stropping with the tool the rest very easy. I am committed to the imprisonment of the authorities. My hands are too screwed to sharpen my hand (although I get a real sense of joy from hand sharpening, and I'm good enough) and then do any woodworking on the same day. It sucks, but here it is. I can make a quick touch of the box on the strop or my 8000 gold stone, but that's about it. Any offers are highly valued! The Latter, edited by Paul Cottingham; 11-04-2014 at 5:27 p.m. Paul Google Sponsor Google Sponsor 11-04-2014, 5:32 PM #2 I have an old meat grinder bench that I fabbed one side like a belt grinder to use 1 x 30 straps. This is pretty, but it works great. I think that if I were in your shoes I would create a meat grinder bench with 2 straps, one pretty rough for the primary beveled, one pretty good for micro-level, with rests to match. 11-04-2014, 11-04-2014, PM #3 originally posted by Paul Cottingham I finally had enough of fighting my MKII power sharpener and I'm moving on. One of the only veritas tools I have that I'm really disappointed in... I need a power sharpening system, and I'm trying to be one of the Viel grinders. I have an engine, its rigged so the strap grinds down (direction) and figured out an easy way to install bevells. I have a couple of quick questions for everyone. What kind of belt grits would you use? I have a belt trizac I really like, so I'll most likely stay with thos them. They come in 240x, 400x, 800x, 1400x, and 2000x (nominally.) Could you bother with the micro-skew? It would be easier to set the rest up to 25 degrees and continue. Micro bevells would be simple, I'd just prop the blade a bit with a shell like an popsicle stick. But still, are they really necessary if I'm not worried about the time savings they offer? I don't think so. Will there be any benefit to the strop? I have a sling belt for knives, will anything be available on the edge of the tools? Is there an easy way to reverse the AC engine? Would make stropping with the tool the rest very easy. I am committed to the imprisonment of the authorities. My hands are too screwed to sharpen my hand (although I get a real sense of joy from hand sharpening, and I'm good enough) and then do any woodworking on the same day. It sucks, but here it is. I can make a quick touch of the box on the strop or my 8000 gold stone, but that's about it. Any offers are highly valued! If I were in your situation, I would do a 23 degree or 25 degree primary mown and then use 2000x trizact then with a micro-level a couple of degrees higher. More work than this won't help you have a sharper or stronger edge, and will invite heat problems - especially with a trizact belt against the plate. You'll quickly find out how much heat they can do quickly - in a second, if you stop, you'll see the edges of the orange if you have a thin strap and any pressure on the stove. It's my opinion that you want the edges of the feeding tool and you can finish and hold the tool edges down then strop. I have a fork grinder machine that was made by some carving gear (or putting together one) and I tried to switch the wiring so I could get the strap to go the other way and I toasted the engine and eventually just got a kalamazoe grinder (which has a much better belt speed and miles better engine, But the rest is not made for sharpening wood processing tools. Would one do the grinding and do something else by honing the part just to avoid switching the straps. 11-04-2014, 17:42 #4 Given your problem using usage hands to sharpen I'm really not sure of sharpening the power to reach the right edge for woodworking. My only recommendation would be to go with Tormek, but the system you have can now be workable, I just did not get the experience to tell you otherwise. But as far as your engine goes, it depends on what type it is. One phase ac engines can sometimes be difficult to reverse, but must be doable. You will need to open the end of the engine and find the coil. There must be a starting reel on your engine, and these two leads you will need to change in order to reverse it. Some photos would be very useful for me to explain better. Maybe if you Google as someone might have a tutorial on the process. 11-04-2014, 6:09 PM #5 Originally published by Tony Shea Considering your problem using your hands to sharpen I'm really not sure about the power of sharpening to reach the right edge for woodworking. My only recommendation would be to go with Tormek, but the system you have can now be workable, I just did not get the experience to tell you otherwise. But as far as your engine goes, it depends on what type it is. One phase ac engines can sometimes be difficult to reverse, but must be doable. You will need to open the end of the engine and find the coil. There must be a starting reel on your engine, and these two leads you will need to change in order to reverse it. Some photos would be very useful for me to explain better. Maybe if you Google as someone might have a tutorial on the process. Tony, I can do a good job with my hands, its just the act of cleaning up the stone hurts them terribly. So precision on the edge is ok. In fact, I just did

an experiment where I ground parrying the chisel (already quite sharp) on the viel, and got a very useful edge in quick order. The engine is working fine and I think I'll leave it going. I can strop manually if you need to be (rather than!) or maybe pinch the blade from the belt right on the stove. David, I agree with you about switching belts, but I don't mind just doing it once per cycle sharpen. Do you think I could get away with grinding sand, say 400 or so, and honing/polishing the sand, and calling it a day? The polishing of the sand will remain almost all the time I think. Do you think I need a sling? Paul 11-04-2014, 6:14 PM #6 Paul, I'm not thrilled with the Veritas MK II power sharpener either for a variety of picky reasons, but I can make it work. Just wondering, what's the problem? Getting PSA glue from an aluminum dish without destroying them? Bar support not level? More steel removed along the outside of the plate than the inside? At least that's some of my complaints. However, I never have a blue edge on Mk II. Can't say the same for Viel 1 x 42. I agree with David about Trizact belts. Others prefer it. I know that many get great results with this meat grinder, but I don't. I think it's the best I've ever used for knives and an axe head You use it over the stove. But I have trouble with the heat using it with a metal plate. I don't have Tormek, but based on the grinding thread, I'm going to follow Derek's lead and get the CBN wheel for my slow speed grinding machine. I'm discussing between Thermek Grinder attachments with Tormek Jigs (about \$300) and Robo Vacations from Reed Gray (Robo Hippie). Just found out about Jig Reed today, and it looks promising. I do have a valley grinding stand, but would prefer something where it's a little easier to get repeated angles. I'll finish on the rocks, but it doesn't look like there should be much work with the hollow grind. Just some thoughts. Steve 11-04-2014, 7:05 pm #7 Paul, I'm also curious as to the problems that you encountered with MK II. My problem at first was to avoid unwanted secondary levels. I used discarded support to adjust the height of the plate to take care of it. From the square edges it was easy to eliminate with both sides of the surface of the disk. In other words, sometimes they drive will push the sand into the edge and sometimes the sand will be pulling off the edge. Sometimes I hand over my latte tools on MK II. I am convinced that there is no perfect system for everyone. For my purposes, MK II covers a lot of my needs. Mine gets used to sharpen axes, shovels and even dots on the awl, apart from the chisel and plane blade work it gets. jtk pessimist sees difficulties in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in all difficulties. - Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965) 11-04-2014, 7:10 PM #8 I use Viel with 40 sand strap for rough removal, I was able to remove 3/16 from the plane blade and change the angle of view with this combination and the blade only heated. I tried using Viel on the lark to see if it could handle all the sharpening work. It is great for cambered plane blades/knives/axes. I go from 400, to 1k Trizact, a leather strap with CrOx (I wired my dander with the reverse for strop duty). My edge can pop my hair so easily. I just don't feel the narrow plates and straps can maintain geometric precision for straight-edged tools like chisels, so I use my viel and coarse belt I can find for changing duties, then I go to the bench grinding machine for a hollow grind and follow with the stones. For tools with a camber or curvature though, it's certainly nice. Christian, I have a Veritas grinding jig, and the holder really matches the slot on the viel. So keeping the edges straight is pretty simple. I'm also not as about that as I suspect I should be, so hand-held works fine as well. Im curious, do you rewire the whole dander for stropping, or put the switch on the same you use in forward? Paul 11-04-2014, 7:43 PM #11 I was free to transfer everything, I didn't try to use the set with a grinding jig, but it sounds like it will handle the only problems I have with it. I've wired it up to a double-throw switch that I can click up to allow the belt to spin up, or flick down to allow the belt to spin down. I had the point of buying a foot pedal and also making touching with a strop very easy, or just making it much more comfortable to sharpen the knife. 11-04-2014, 7:48 PM #12 originally wrote by Christian Castillo I was free transferring everything, I did not try to use the set with grinding jig, but it sounds like it will handle only the problems I have with it. I wired it up to a double throw switch, which I can click up to allow the belt to spin up, or flick down to allow the belt to rotate I had the point of buying a foot pedal and also making touching with a strop very easy, or just making it much more comfortable to sharpen the knife. Could you share a share Did you hook it up? I would love to be able to reverse the engine, but I'm stumped. Thank you! Paul 11-04-2014, 11:01 PM #13 Originally published by Paul Cottingham Could You Share How You Wired That? I would love to be able to reverse the engine, but I'm stumped. Thank you! Many AC engines have a reverse jumper or a change in wiring will reverse the engine. Remember that you can get smoke and sparks if you try to reverse the electric powered engine. The pessimist sees difficulties in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in all difficulties. - Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965) 11-04-2014, 11:17 PM #14 Originally published by Paul Cottingham yes, I can't understand what I'm doing wrong. I can't get a repetitive edge without a huge amount of grief. My first bevel setter was strangely bent, so it wouldn't yield anywhere near consecutive results. Of course, Lee Valley replaced him happily. A little better, but it's still impossibly fussy for me. I even have trouble getting the thing tight enough that it won't wander around the dish that screws my cogs. Having to run out all the way, leaving some of the tool hanging makes it easier to burn the tools. I've been fighting it for 2.5 years and kinda was enough. I really, really, really wanted to enjoy it. But I just can't. Paul, maybe you're trying to make it more accurate than it should be. A piece of wood wouldn't know whether the 25o or 27o was sharded. Wing nuts can be better. Are you tightening the nuts on either side of the holder? I rarely have any of the tools hanging from the edge. This is something I only do when working the edges of a shovel or maybe an axe. No matter if the blade feels hot, it is shaken back from the abrasive and allowed to cool or dip into the water. When possible, it works to work on a few blades at the same time. I have 5 holders to allow this. This seems to be enough to cool the air when working on the blades. My setup doesn't get as much use as in the past. When I was buying a lot of blades and airplanes there was a lot of work. Now it's a random touch or recovery skewed. Most of my sharpening is a free hand. Even at MK II I will drop away from the holder, use the rest as a guide and eyeball angle. A pair of slaps on the Arkansas stone and it went back to foam. Usually I lightly tighten the nuts while the blade and holder lean on the installation of the sensor. The blade is then checked to make sure it touches the side of the holder both front and back. Then the nuts are tightened. I can usually run a pretty strong grip, but if necessary, I would use some pliers. Maybe there's a pair with tape on my jaws because there are enough things that need tightening, but I wouldn't want my jaw to pop anything out. The geometry of things is touch weird. Because of the thickness of the abrasives, the angle changes between the plates if you use 4 abrasive steps. If someone wants a micro-skew, it can be an advantage. If someone doesn't want a micro-skew, it takes a bit of shimmiing to make it even. Another thing that bugs me with a plate holding a screw is the right hand thread and often comes loose. I found a 'O'-ring faucet that fits the bottom of the nut and suggests a little compression to hold the nut better. If you've ever thought down to Portland, or give me a head and maybe we can come together and figure out how you could get the best results. jtk The Last edited by Jim Koepke; 11-04-2014 at 11:23 p.m. The pessimist sees difficulties in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in all difficulties. - Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965) 11-05-2014, 12:31 AM #15 Originally published by Jim Koepke Paul, It may be you trying to make it more accurate than it should be. A piece of wood wouldn't know whether the 25o or 27o was sharded. Wing nuts can be better. Are you tightening the nuts on either side of the holder? I rarely have any of the tools hanging from the edge. This is something I only do when working the edges of a shovel or maybe an axe. No matter if the blade feels hot, it is shaken back from the abrasive and allowed to cool or dip into the water. 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I have no problem getting average down without wrinkles or bubbles. The blade needs to be hanged in order to get enough even a grind on the plane of the blade. Maybe I'm just too stupid to use such a wonderful tool. :-) Just to be clear, I don't really care about the corner, as long as its consistent. And I'm not 100% convinced that I care about using micro-level, (not that actually to save time sharpening, more than anything? Like I said, \$400 for a lot of aggravation. I still love Lee Valley and Veritas. Not this particular tool. Careful, my family loves Portland. I can just take you on your offer. The Latter, edited by Paul Cottingham; 11-05-2014 at 12:44 p.m. Paul Paul veritas mkii power sharpening system review. veritas mkii power sharpening system manual

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