

Buffing Handout

Compounds

- Tripoli (EEE) - standard coarsest grit compound usually colored red - effective on wood with danish oil or other oil finish
- White diamond - finer grit compound - use after Tripoli - not always used, particularly not for use with dark wood with open grain (i.e. - black walnut)
- Plastic polish - may be the same as white diamond.

Waxes

- Carnauba - Pure wax bar, used to charge buffing wheel
- Renaissance Wax - micro-crystalline wax - not recommended for buffing wheel (but some people do). Effective for eliminating fingerprints
- As demonstrated, I use a hard wax friction polish bar by Hut to charge my small wax wheel. This is not a recommendation but it works for me.

From IAP - by Tex at Durango, who is no longer active on the forum

<https://www.penturners.org/threads/buffing-kicked-up-a-notch.55476/>

If you like your buffing finishes on your CA finished or acrylic pens and are content with the shine they give you then read no further.

However if you want to kick the gloss up a notch you might consider trying this.....

1. Visit Caswell plating (<https://www.caswellplating.com>)
2. Order a few Canton flannel buffs. These are GOOD, HIGH quality buffs, not your run of the mill Harbor Freight buffs or those found at Lowes or Home Depot.
3. Order a stick of "Plastic" buffing compound (fine)
4. Order a stick of "Plastic-Glo" (ultra fine - dry grade)

Take your tripoli and white diamond and set them in a drawer somewhere out of the way where they will be safe for a long time, because you probably won't use them again! Well, I actually still use mine, I have two buffers sitting side by side and have all four compounds set out with their respective buff. With the buffers sitting side by side, it's easy to see the difference when you do a pen with white diamond then move over to the Plastic-glo ultra fine compound!

I have been using these buffs and compounds for over a year now and am tickled pink with them and think they have improved the shine of my pens tremendously. Another thread about buffing reminded me that someone asked me a while back about the buffs I used.

Edit: To clarify, I use the plastic-glo "ultra-fine" before the plastic "fine" compound. Sounds backwards but after calling Caswell, they confirmed that the plastic "fine" gives a finer polish than the ultra fine. Different manufacturers naming their compounds is a bit confusing.
(End of IAP Post)

Nice informational page - Caswell Plating

<https://www.caswellplating.com/buffman.htm>