



## WS3000 Belt Sharpening System Leather Belt Kit Instructions.

*NOTE: The leather belt in this kit has been provided with an arrow indicating the direction of rotation. This belt is intended to be used with the rough side face out and will not perform as intended if used inside out (smooth side out). The rough side will lay down in one direction and reversing it tends to lift the leather grain back up, requiring another period of break-in. The seam holds up well in both directions but the belt takes a set during break-in, so it will track better if it is always installed in the same direction.*

Caution! Always be sure the belt rotates away from the cutting edge.

### **Leather Belt Preparation and Installation:**

1. Liberally coat the outside (rough) surface of the belt with the supplied petroleum jelly or mink oil. Use enough to allow the jelly to soak into the belt surface. Wipe off excess jelly before installing.
2. Remove the adjustable sharpening guide and install the leather belt rough side out with the arrow in the direction of rotation (CCW viewed from the top.) The belt will be slightly undersized when new and may require careful threading around the pulleys like you would a bike chain.
3. Turn the machine on and adjust the tracking so that the belt is centered. Allow the machine to run for about 2 minutes. Adjust tracking as needed.
4. While the machine is on, use a smooth piece of steel and work the jelly into the belt for approx. 2 minutes.
5. While the machine is on, apply a liberal coating of the supplied honing compound (or your preferred honing compound or micro-abrasive). Use the same smooth steel to work the compound into the belt for approx. 2 minutes.
6. Your leather belt is now ready for use. You can freehand hone your tools or re-install the sharpening guide to hone your knives.

### **Tips:**

- The belt will stretch during preparation and initial use, making it easier to install and remove.
- Our leather is provided by a top quality American vendor and can last a lifetime if well cared for. Being a natural material, there are variations in grain, look, and feel. Our leather is hand selected to produce the most consistent product and performance possible.
- This leather belt can be used for freehand honing and polishing or with the adjustable guide. Always check tracking when using the leather belt with the adjustable sharpening guide.
- When using leather to sharpen, avoid using too much pressure which can dull the edge. Sharpening with leather can require patience to learn, but with practice and light pressure it will produce an edge superior to most other methods.
- Remove the belt and store in a clean dry place when not in use. Avoid contaminating the belt with debris or grit from other abrasives. The contamination will be trapped in the surface of the leather and cause an undesirable scratch pattern.
- Avoid kinking or twisting the belt during storage. We recommend hanging the belt from a dowel in a plastic bag to ensure long lasting performance.