

# 3M™ Perfect-It™ Denibbing System FAQs

## Denibbing Tool

How long does it take to charge the denibbing tool? .

**30-45 minutes**

How fast should I run the tool?

**Same day clear slow, Cured clear high speed. (See speed dial setting document)**

How long does the tool last on one charge?

**45-60 minutes work time**

How do I hold the tool?

**There are many ways to hold the tool. Holding like a pencil will give the best control.**

When should I use the slow speed vs. the high speed?

**Use the slow speed when working on fresh clear (same day). If the abrasive doesn't seem to cut, speed up the tool and dial in what works best. If the clear does smear while sanding in higher speeds, add water to keep this from happening. If the paint is cured and seems hard, adjust the speed to the high setting. (See speed dial setting document)**

Should I discharge the battery all the way when using the denibbing tool?

**No, the Denibbing Tool is equipped with a lithium-ion battery. This style of battery will not develop a memory and lose charging capacity like other style batteries. The best way to use a lithium-ion battery is to charge it after each use. Unlike other batteries that need to be fully discharged, lithium-ion batteries last the longest when they are discharged as little as possible and charged up again.**

Why won't my denibbing tool turn on?

**It may need to be reset. Simply put it into the charger station with it plugged in and that will reset the tool. If this does not fix the problem, the tool may be defective.**

Why are both of my lights flashing on my charger when I leave the tool in the charger?

**This isn't necessarily a problem with the tool. There is a small glitch in the software of the electronics of early production tools that is making both lights flash after the denibbing tool has been in the charger for an extended period of time. This is happening anywhere from 6-12 hours after the tool has been placed into the charger. Although the diagram on the charger indicates that there is an error with the battery, this is not the case. The charger will trickle charge for a certain amount of time, but after that 6-12 hours, it will stop charging and this is when both lights start to flash. You can pull the tool off and put it back on and they will stop blinking for the time being.**

## Denibbing Abrasive

How many nibs can I remove with 1000 until it is spent?

**10-20 nibs (feedback from field test)**

How many nibs can I remove with 1500 until it is spent?

**10-20 nibs (feedback from field test)**

Can I sand with the system using water?

**Yes, the system can be used dry or wet**

Can the abrasive be used by hand?

**Yes, the abrasive can be held by the stem to sand out nibs. It works best with water by hand.**

Should I use the abrasive up on edge?

**No, keep the abrasive as flat as possible when sanding. This will ensure no deep scratches.**

Will the abrasive take out runs/sags?

**No, sanding stones, files, and Razor blades are best for removing runs and sags.**

Will the abrasive take out fisheyes?

**No, the abrasive may fade the fisheye to be less noticeable, but large area sanding may be recommended for best performance. Using the small denibbing abrasive to dig out fisheyes may result in divots. The disc is doing all its work in a small area vs. dispersing it over a bridged area.**

Will the abrasive work on basecoat?

**The abrasive may work well on small nibs, but large nibs may lead to small divots if sanded too long. Hand use is recommended when sanding on basecoat to remove defects. Slow speed is recommended in most cases.**

What should I do if the clear smears while I am sanding?

**Start by slowing down the speed of the sander. If this does not work, use water while sanding to keep the abrasive cool and eliminate any smearing.**

Why am I getting little divots and/or rounded nibs?

**Light pressure technique is very important. Do not force the tool into the surface. Allow the tool to do the work. Shave the nib top down similar to when using a sanding stone. If it is a very large nib, pre-sand with a stone to knock down the tip of the nib and finish with the denibbing abrasive. This will minimize the amount of sanding that is done in the area around the nib and concentrate more on the nib.**

Why won't the abrasive cut?

**If using the abrasive dry, make sure to wipe clean every other nib. Loading will cause the abrasive to stop cutting. Another reason the abrasive may not cut is using low speed on a hard clear. Some clears will require high speed due to being very cured. Another way to boost cut of the abrasive is to use water.**

Why does the 1500 take some time to start cutting?

**The 1500 abrasive has an anti-loading coating on it and may take a few extra seconds to break in and start cutting.**

Why can't I remove some large nibs without evidence that it was there?

**Some nibs are so large that it may be difficult to remove without any evidence. It will help to use a sanding stone to level some of the nib, then sand with 1000 to remove the remainder. Remember light pressure while shaving the nib from top down to get the least amount of evidence that it was there.**

How do I know when the nib is completely removed?

**When the "shiny spot" around the nib is gone and a few extra seconds have been spent, most nibs will be completely removed.**

What sort of sanding pattern works best?

**The sanding pattern is not important as long as the user keeps the abrasive moving. Do not stay in one spot, this will heat the abrasive up and cause loading and smearing. Moving the abrasive in small circles, keeping the abrasive as flat as possible with light pressure will give the best results.**

## **Polisher**

What speed/pressure should I run the polisher at?

**The polisher should be ran at 70-90 psi. If line pressure is higher, slow the tool using the speed dial.**

How often should I oil my polisher?

**To extend the life of the polisher, oil the tool on a daily basis with 1-2 drops of oil.**

How do I remove the air fitting from the polisher?

**Using a 17mm box end wrench hold the housing that the fitting is threaded into and remove the air fitting using a second box end wrench of size for the specific fitting that is being used.**

## **Denibbing Polish**

Can I polish out 1000 grit scratches?

**No, most clears this will not work. Refine with 1500 before polishing**

How long should I polish a 1500 grit scratch to be sure it is removed?

**Most clears will polish out in 7-10 seconds of polishing with denibbing polish.**

Can I polish 2 nibs at once?

**It is recommended to polish one nib at a time to ensure 7-10 seconds are spent on each spot.**

Why is the polisher slinging so much polish?

**Make sure you are only using a small spot of polish on each nib. Too much polish will lead to excess sling. Also be sure to start and stop the tool on the panel with medium down pressure to minimize sling.**

Why is there a haze spot after using the purple polish?

**On dark colors you may notice a small amount of haze. Use the Ultrafine Machine Polish to remove the haze on dark colored vehicles.**

What should I do if the polish sticks after polishing?

**Quickly brush over the spot with the polisher for 1-2 seconds to remove the sticking.**

Why does my buff pad lose cut after several spots on the same job?

**Foam buff pads tend to soften when used for many nibs in a short period of time. If this happens, grab a new pad and let the softened pad cool off and rotate two pads as they heat up.**

Will the Denibbing Polish and D/A polisher remove WetorDry scratches?

**No, in most situations the WOD scratches will be too course to remove with the D/A polisher and Denibbing Polish. There may be some clear coats that this may work on, but is fairly rare. Using the Denibbing Tool will allow you to use the tools to keep the job as clean as possible.**

Why am I still seeing some haze after using the Ultrafine Machine Polish?

**When using the dual action tool, you may still see a very minor haze. If a higher gloss finish is required, use a full size polisher equipped with an Ultrafine Foam Pad and polish with Ultrafine Machine Polish. This will give the best finish possible.**

Can the Denibbing system be used on all jobs?

**The denibbing system was designed for paint jobs that come out of the booth with minimal dirt nibs and matching texture. Some jobs may come out of the booth with too many nibs to productively remove using the Denibbing System. Another situation where the Denibbing System may not apply would be if the texture needs to be modified to match the rest of the vehicle.**