

Technical Notes

Twistouch Turbo

The Alpha® Twistouch Turbo works as part of the Alpha® Twistouch System, replacing Alpha® Turbo. Alpha® “Original” Turbo discs were a result of many years of research for a series of diamond grits specifically designed to polish flat granite areas. Before Turbo discs existed, hand polishing of flat granite was done with Ceramica – a flexible diamond disc. Although performance was acceptable, most often a wavy finish was obtained due to the flexibility of the Ceramica discs. Alpha® “Original” Turbo discs solved this problem; however, the hook and loop made disc removal difficult and often wore out before the disc. Alpha® Twistouch Turbo improves this popular polishing disc. It is now safer and easier to use for flat granite polishing. Applications such as straight edge polishing, scratch removal, floors (near walls, corners and staircases), checks and washes on monuments, chamfered edges, and drain boards can be done with ease using Alpha® Twistouch Turbo. Fabricators, monumentalists and restoration workers will love the results they obtain by using Alpha® Twistouch Turbo. The advanced “twist and lock” design gives the user better control during polishing, which allows for less operator fatigue and better end results. Grits are easily changed thus increasing production capability. In addition to the original selection of grits, we have added final buff discs to the Alpha® Twistouch Turbo series, which will improve your final polish results on any flat granite surface. Used as a wet polishing system, Alpha® Twistouch Turbo is a welcomed improvement for flat granite polishing applications.

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Part No.	Size	Maximum RPM	Type	Grit
TU30100R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	100
TU30200R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	200
TU30500R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	500
TU31000R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	1000
TU32000R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	2000
TU33000R	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	3000
TU3BLACK	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	Buff
TU3WHITE	3"	4,000	Twistouch System	Buff
TW25/8AL	2"	4,000	5/8 - 11 Thread	-

How to Use

1. Cut workpiece to size.
2. Remove or smooth out any protruding pieces of stone with popular grinding wheels or our Alpha® dry grinding wheels. Take time to remove all rough spots. Use a lumber crayon to highlight any coarse scratches and shade the area to be polished.
3. Start with Twistouch Turbo #100 (Blue) to remove any coarse scratches. It is very important to keep the wheel flat to keep it from digging into the stone. Do not keep the wheel in one place too long to avoid gouging.
4. Rinse the workpiece and dry. Check the workpiece to make sure all the coarse scratches are removed. If so, once again shade the polishing area with the lumber crayon.
5. Continue polishing with Twistouch Turbo in grit order: #200 (Yellow), #500 (Red), #1000 (Dark Green), #2000 (Light Green), #3000 (Brown) and Buff.
6. Keep Twistouch Turbo Buff clean at all times. Do not place polishing face down on a dirty surface in order to avoid any stone chips to integrate in the bond of buff.
7. Always wear eye protection and proper personal safety equipment when using this product.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the difference between Twistouch Turbo and Ceramica?

Twistouch Turbo is designed for use on straight edges and flat surfaces only. Twistouch Turbo wheels are rigid and will not polish a curve. Alpha® Ceramica pads are flexible and designed to be used on bullnose edges and contoured areas.

Can I use these Twistouch Turbo discs on my Makita tool?

Twistouch Turbo is designed to be used wet and at a low RPM. Ordinary angle grinders are much too fast which will cause the discs to burn. Only a water-fed machine will supply enough water to the Alpha® Ceramica Pads. Please do not try to run on a high-speed machine.

Do we really need a center-water feed or can we sponge on water when needed?

Twistouch Turbo is designed to be used on a center water-feed tool. This tool distributes water evenly on the disc. Trying to get the job done any other way will only guarantee you frustration, lack of polish, waste of time and money. Using an Alpha® Electric or Air polisher will ensure the best quality finish possible.

How long does Twistouch Turbo last?

Due to the differences in the properties of the many types of natural stone being polished these days, it is very difficult to say exactly how long a Turbo disc will last. However, if used properly, your discs will last a long time. Our studies have shown that no other discs come close to the life of the Alpha® Twistouch Turbo Discs.

How many passes do you have to make?

It is important to make sure that all prior scratches are removed before moving onto another grit. Average is 4 to 5 passes. Try 3 passes across and 2 passes up and down. This technique will usually be a safe amount of time. Never rush grits! You will only risk having to do your workpiece over again.

What speed is best, I've been told many answers?

Twistouch Turbo works best in the range of 2,000 to 2,500 RPM. However, we have a maximum RPM of 4,000 for people who prefer to work at a higher RPM. Exceeding 4,000 RPM will only wear the discs quicker and the quality of polish will be disappointing.

Can Twistouch Turbo wheels be used on my floor machine?

No. Twistouch Turbo will only work on a hand-held grinder. Please do not try to use these discs on a floor machine. Try our Advantage discs for floors.

Can Twistouch Turbo be used on marble?

Twistouch Turbo works better on harder marbles, but may be used on softer marbles as long as you are aware of disc wear. Use plenty of water. For marble, we make Sandpaper with a hook and loop backer which fits on the same tools and requires a flexible backer pad.

We followed your instructions and the stone is shiny, but absolute black looks gray?

In order to achieve a good deep polish, all grits need to be used in sequence from #100 - #3000 followed by a final Buff. Do not skip any grits. Follow step by step instructions listed on page one.

Do we really need all of the wheels, somebody told me you only need three grits?

Yes. Using anything less than the full system will not ensure you a high quality finish. Skipping grits and not spending enough time are not recommended. Following this procedure will yield unsatisfactory results. Twistouch Turbo is a complete modern effective system, which can prove its value under the toughest work conditions and the most demanding inspections.

What kind of polishing powder should we use to finish up?

We do not recommend the use of any hazardous chemicals and loose powders. Alpha® designed a Final Buff Polishing pad which works better and quicker than any traditional final polishing method. Try our Black pad for dark stones or the White pad for light colored stones.

What is the difference between old Turbo (hook and loop) and Twistouch Turbo?

We replaced old hook and loop system due to safety concerns of worn out hook and loop and improved the rigidity of the disc. We also improved the ease of the grit change operation by the Twistouch System.

There is no color indication by hook and loop. How can I identify grit of wheel?

Look at abrasive side and you will find color-coded grit indicator in the center of wheel.

What is the thread size of Twistouch adapter?

The Twistouch adapter is available with a 5/8"-11 thread. An M14 thread is available upon request.

Helpful Hints

- It is important to keep the Twistouch Turbo Wheel Flat against the stone. Uneven pressure will cause hazy areas with poor shine. Also, tilting the wheel will cause the stone to become gouged.
- Place Twistouch Turbo wheel evenly on stone before turning on the machine.
- Very light pressure is needed on lower grits. Applying too much pressure will cause rapid grinding and excessive material removal.
- It is important to keep the Twistouch Turbo wheel moving on the stone. Leaving it on one spot too long will cause uneven surfaces.
- Always wear proper safety equipment when using this product.
- If you notice a strong vibration during any particular grit, take that grit out of Twistouch Adapter and turn wheel 180 degrees then re-attach it into Twistouch Adapter. This may reduce the vibration. Slight vibration for this product is normal.
- An instructional scratch removal DVD is available upon request.

Reference

For more product information, visit us on the web at www.alpha-tools.com.