

Scrapers, those inexpensive acrylic or polycarbonate rectangular pieces of plastic, are often overlooked in the importance of proper ski tuning / maintenance. When in fact, scrapers play an integral role in achieving maximum glide and performance from your skis. Like everything else in ski prep - progressive steps & attention to details will lead to a positive outcome. This also applies to scraper sharpening.

Additionally, I find that sharpening my scrapers before each tuning session creates the proper *feng shui* to get my tuning mojo flowing.

There are as many methods to sharpen scrapers, as there are scrapers in the universe - however one constant is the end result - a clean, burr free, 90° edge. Why - any nicks or burrs on your scraper will lead to damage to the skis' base structure.

Regardless of the sharpening device or tools utilized (Edgr, TOKO, Swix, SVST Holmenkol, Beast, Maplus electric planer, pansar and so on) - there are basically 2 steps -

Step 1

coarse / rough work

(see list of sharpening devices above)

Step 2

clean up / smoothing / polishing

using 220 emery paper or 400 mesh sheetrock sanding screens; flat surface, 90 degree, aided w/ block of wood, angle iron leaving a smooth, burr-free surface.

The scraping process should take about 5 - 7 passes with a clean, sharp scraper to remove all the wax before you begin brushing and the scraper should last about 3 - 4 pairs of skis before needing to be re-sharpened. Always check the edge of the scraper after each pass to be sure that you haven't picked up any nicks or burrs. It is also a good idea to scrape lightly after you brush, as each brush will bring more wax to the top of the structure.

Using and maintaining a clean, sharp, and burr free scraper is paramount to success for maximum glide and performance!

So before your next tuning session, let some scraper sharpening therapy do you some good.

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