

STROP-IT™

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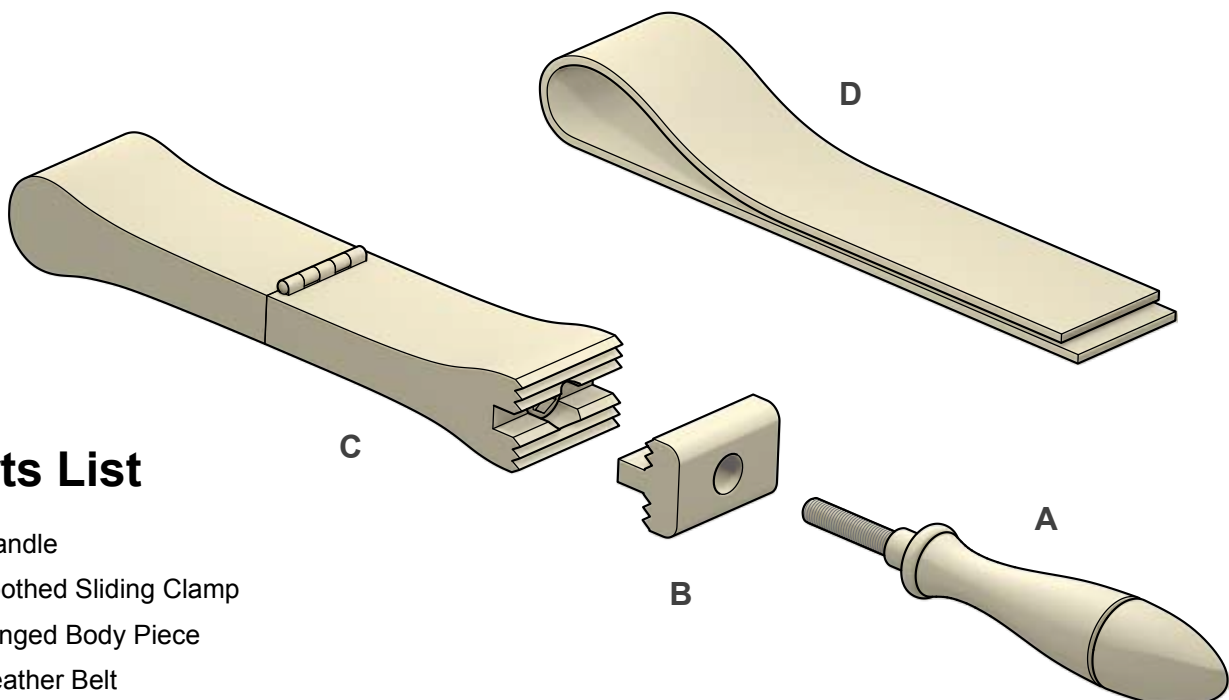
# Rock n' Load



## STROP-IT™ Rock n' Load Razor Strop

Congratulations on purchasing the Strop-It Rock n' Load razor strop. The elegant design of the Rock n' Load combines the beauty of finely finished hardwood construction and an innovative mechanism that allows for quick strop tensioning as well as the unique ability to exchange the leather surface of the strop whenever desired. More specifically, the Rock n' Load design offers the following:

- ◆ Sturdy construction comprised of stained and varnished hardwood (Beech) with robust metal fittings.
- ◆ Quality vegetable-tanned cowhide leather belt fitted as standard.
- ◆ Special large-sized, ergonomic French-style handle that offers a firm, easy grip to ensure comfort during periods of extended use.
- ◆ A unique wooden-toothed clamp design that provides a secure grip while still allowing for rapid removal and exchange of the leather stropping belt when so desired.
- ◆ The possibility of using custom cut stropping belts without the necessity of any special sewing, gluing or hole punching operations.



### Parts List

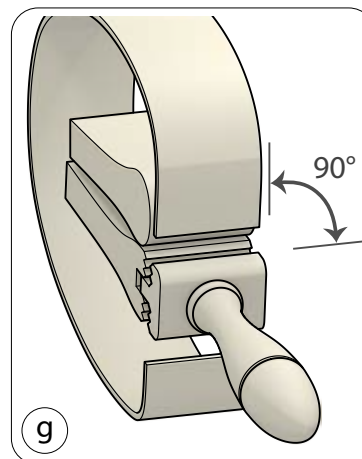
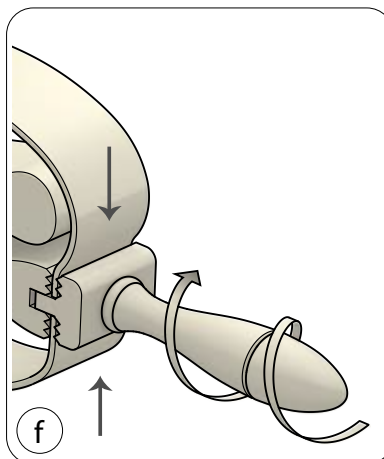
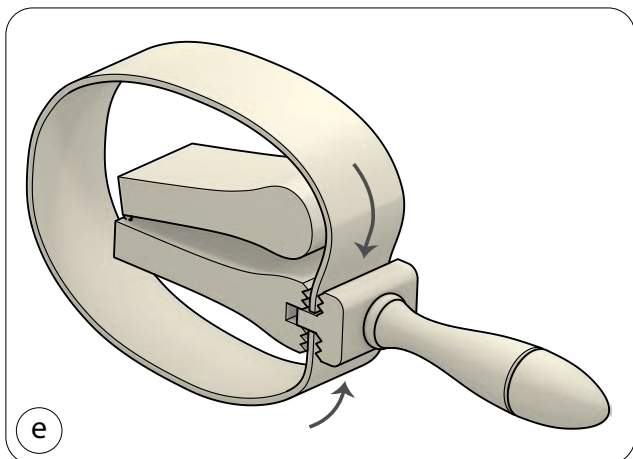
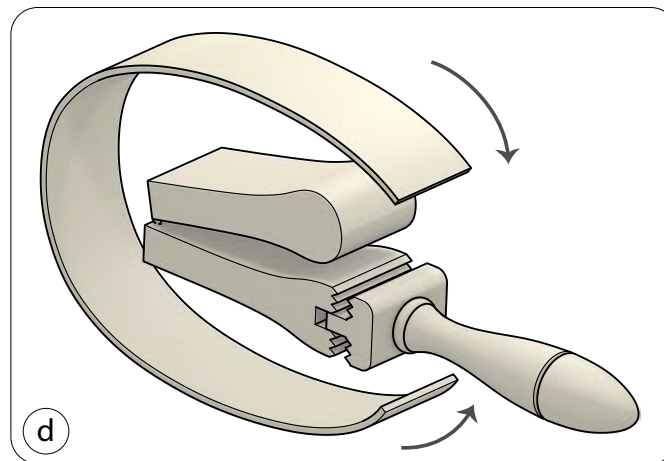
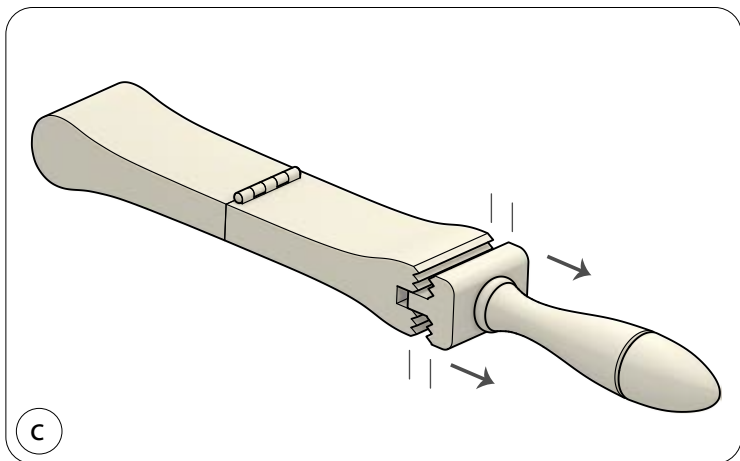
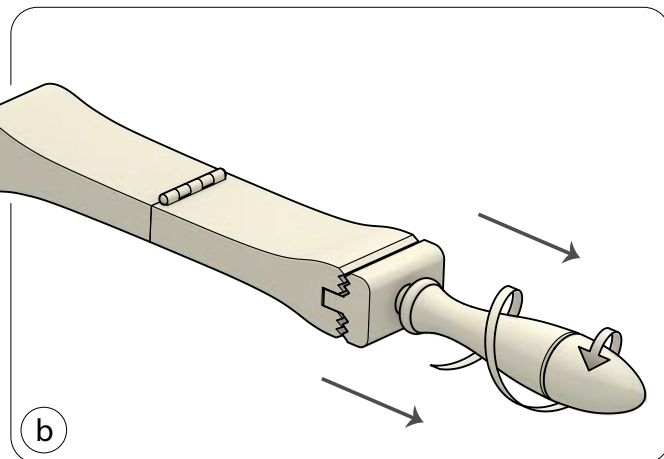
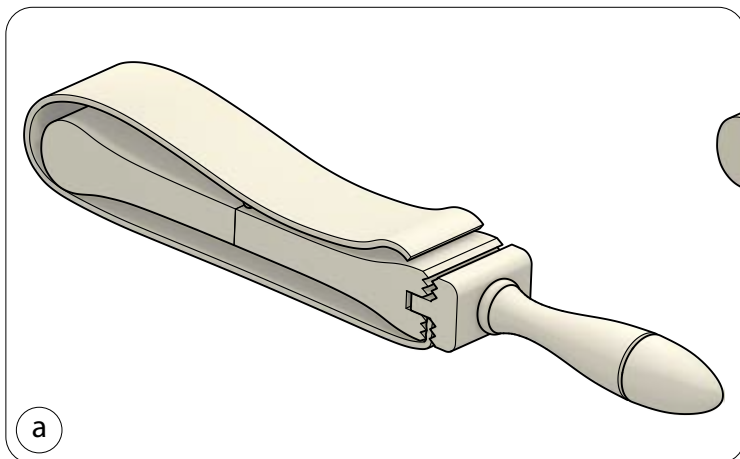
- A) Handle
- B) Toothed Sliding Clamp
- C) Hinged Body Piece
- D) Leather Belt

Note: It is a simple matter to remove the leather belt and disassemble the strop into its separate components to allow for easier storage or transport when space is at a premium.

# Usage

## Mounting Leather Belts

- 1) The Rock n' Load strop is shipped with the leather belt held in only one side of the wooden jaws. (illus. a) It will be necessary to remove the belt and remount it prior to first use.
- 2) Unscrew the handle to open the wooden teeth of the clamp. (illus. b, c)
- 3) With the hinged body piece folded back, loop the leather belt around and down along the sides of the strop. (illus. d)
- 4) Guide the ends of the leather belt into the space between the wooden jaw teeth on either side of the strop as indicated. (illus. e)
- 5) Hold the ends of the leather belt in position while screwing in the handle to tighten the wooden jaws. (illus. f)  
Note: The clamp should only be tightened sufficiently to hold the leather belt securely. **Please avoid over-tightening as this can potentially damage the handle assembly.** It is also important that the ends of the leather are inserted square to the clamp ends so as to achieve correct band alignment (illus. g)



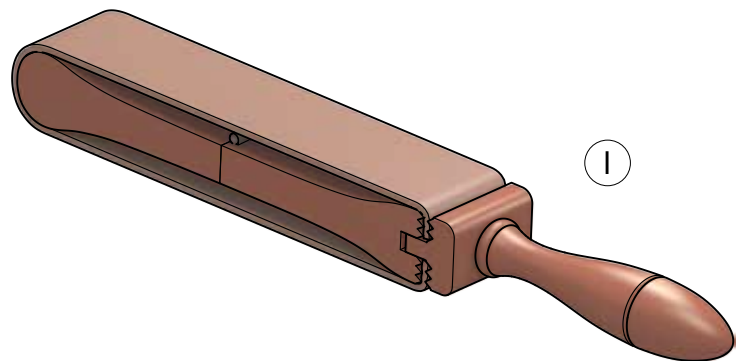
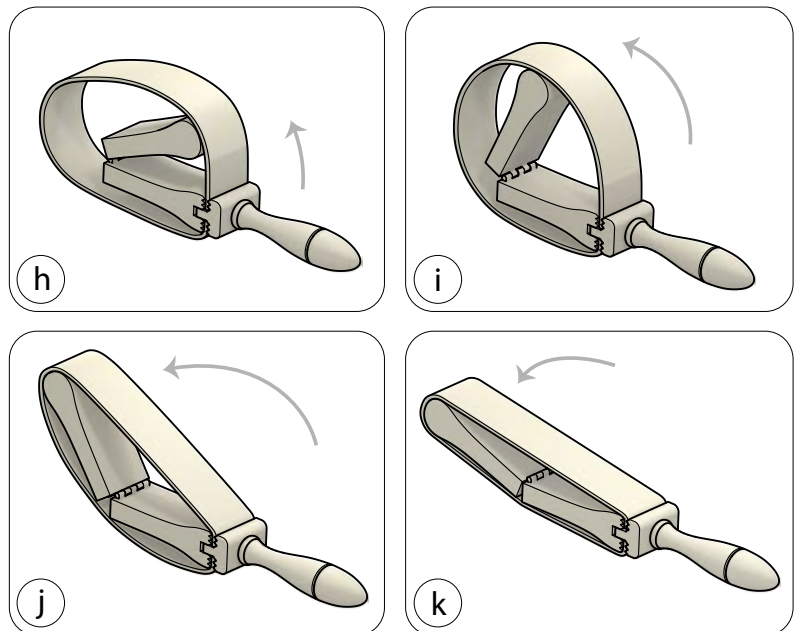
## Tensioning the Strop

- 1) Check to make certain that the leather stropping belt is tightly secured in the clamp.
- 2) Now open out the hinged body piece within the circle of belt leather. As the hinged body piece unfolds it will 'snap' into its final straight position, extending and tensioning the strop leather as it does so. (illus. h-k)  
Note: There are special pieces of teflon tape mounted on both the front section of the hinged body piece as well as on the inside of the leather belt. This tape reduces friction, making it easier to tension the strop.

Your Rock n' Load razor strop is now ready for use. (illus. l)

- 4) Releasing the strop tension is simply the reverse of the above procedure. Fold the hinged body piece back from its extended position to release the tension on the leather belt.

**Attention! Never attempt to fold the hinged body piece in the wrong direction. This can destroy the hinged joint and render the strop useless.**



## Use of Stropping Paste

Stropping paste may be applied to the leather belt when desired. For those who only have a single leather belt we note the following possibilities:

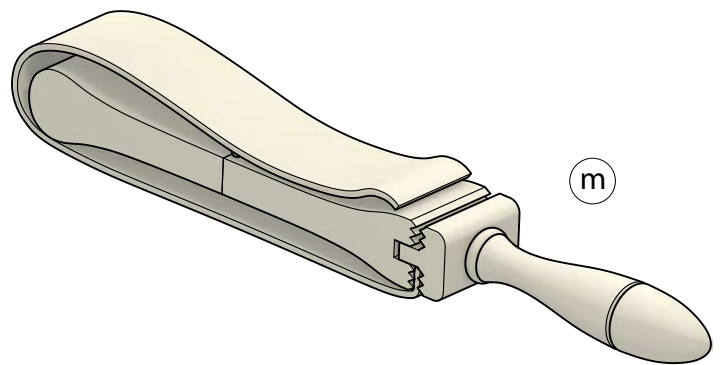
- ◆ The first suggested approach is that the desired stropping paste be applied to only one of the two sides that the tensioned strop presents.
- ◆ A second option is to apply a different grade of paste to each of the two sides of the leather belt. This assumes that there is no need for unpasted leather at all.
- ◆ Of course, using the quick-change clamping system of the Rock n' Load it is a simple matter to exchange leather belts. So in this case, one can simply have a supply of extra stropping belts at hand - each with multiple grades of paste - and change them out when needed.

Note: Where the application of stropping paste does not produce a visible difference in the surface color of the strop leather (i.e. fine spray-on diamond abrasive) or where different grades of stropping paste are too similar to one another, it is recommended that the leather side of each different pasted portion of the strop belt be marked in some way so as to avoid future confusion (an ordinary felt-tipped marker will serve quite well for this).

## Special Notes

- ◆ **Always remove the tension from the leather stropping belt when the Rock n' Load is not in use. This will avoid the leather belt unnecessarily stretching over time.**
- ◆ The wooden clamp should only be tightened sufficiently to hold the leather belt securely. **Please avoid over-tightening as this can potentially damage the handle assembly.**
- ◆ Avoid storing the Rock n' Load in areas of extremely high humidity, extreme heat or extreme cold.
- ◆ Avoid getting the leather stropping belt wet. However, should this happen by accident, then it is suggested that the leather belt be removed from the strop body and be allowed to dry thoroughly before being put back in service.

- ◆ The special Rock n' Load clamping mechanism allows almost any suitable stropping surface to be clamped in place, tensioned and put to use. Custom stropping belts can be made up as desired from such diverse materials as leather, canvas, rubber, felt, etc. Even leather from other otherwise old and useless loom strops may be reclaimed and mounted on the Rock n' Load.
- ◆ The recommended dimensions for custom stropping belts are: a minimum length of **45.5cm (17 15/16")**, a suggested width of **44mm (1 3/4")** with a thickness between **1mm** and **4mm (1/16" and 5/32")**.
- ◆ Should any stropping belt ever stretch to the point where it can no longer be tensioned correctly, simply remove said band and cut it **squarely** to a shorter length (never less than **45.5cm / 17 15/16"**). When cutting any leather belt to a shorter length, please bear in mind that this is best done in a conservative manner. Carefully slice away only short lengths of the belt - about **1.5mm (1/16")** at a time - always remounting and testing the belt for proper tensioning performance before deciding if it is necessary to reduce the belt length even further. Cutting a belt to a length that is too short may either (A) subject the mechanical portions of the strop to excessive tension that can potentially damage them or (B) even make it impossible for the hinged body piece to open out and lock the strop into its working configuration. Should a leather belt be cut to an excessively short length the only solution will be to purchase a replacement.
- ◆ **Never put the Rock n' Load in its storage box when the strop is under tension (straight). This will lead to unacceptable stretching of the leather belt.** When it is desired to store the Rock n' Load for a longer period of time, simply remount the leather belt with only a single end lightly secured in the wooden jaws with the remainder of the belt folded around the straightened wooden body of the strop. (illus. **m**) In this condition the strop and belt will fit properly into the storage box.



## Replacement Belts

The following quality replacement leather belts are available through your distributor:

ref. **SuperStiff Rosewood Napped Rock n' Load** - Napped Cow Leather with Glue-stiffened Back Surface

*Holds the straightest, flattest, hardest surface with minimal deflection during use.*

*Good for finishing and/or holding very fine paste. This belt is delivered as standard.*

ref. **Napped Brown Tensio** - Oil Tanned Napped Brown Leather Belt (supplied as standard)

*Vegetable tanned with a natural oil added in the final stages. A bit more draw.*

*Good for finishing and/or holding very fine paste.*

## Other Fine Products

Strop-It offers a range of quality stropping products for the discerning user. We suggest that you contact your distributor for more information.



"Tensio"



"4 Good"



"Supex 77"