

THE VILLAGES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

DISCS (LAPS)

Diamond laps (also called discs) are used on the Slant Cabber for making cabochons and also on the faceting machines for faceting gems.

Disc (Laps) Chart

(only discs (laps) bits stocked by TVGMS listed in chart)

| For Slant Cabber | For Graves & Ultratec Facetors | For Ray Tech Facetor |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <u>8" Diamond Discs</u> | Master Lap | Master Lap |
| 80 grit | | |
| 180 grit | <u>8" Toppers</u> | <u>6" Toppers</u> |
| 325 grit | Cerium Oxide | Cerium Oxide |
| | 180 grit Diamond | 180 grit Diamond |
| <u>8" Smoothing Discs</u> | 260 grit Diamond | 260 grit Diamond |
| 600 grit | 360 grit Diamond | 360 grit Diamond |
| 1,200 grit | 325 grit LL D'Lite Diamond | 325 grit LL D'Lite Diamond |
| 3,000 grit | 600 grit LL D'Lite Diamond | 600 grit LL D'Lite Diamond |
| | 1200 grit LL D'Lite Diamond | 1200 grit LL D'Lite Diamond |
| | Natural Polishing | Natural Polishing |

DIAMOND LAPS

These electroplated diamond laps (discs) are for both rough and fine grinding on stones and glass. They are used for both cabochon and faceting applications.

1. Always use clean water to lubricate your lap (disc). Do not use recycled water from previous operations. Like all diamond tools and products, use with water to provide proper lubrication and to prevent grind dust.
2. Always use the whole surface area of the disc to ensure even wear.
3. Maximum rpm is 4,000. Abide by this to enhance the performance and life span of the disc. Important note: when these discs are run at a low rpm, you may experience a slight vibration. For best results, it is recommended running them at a higher rpm but do not exceed the maximum.
4. After each use, make sure the disc is completely dry before storing. Store in a clean plastic bag until next use

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DISCS (LAPS)

DIAMOND SMOOTHING DISCS

Diamond smoothing discs are used to smooth, refine, and polish glass, gemstones, synthetic material and metal for an exceptionally smooth surface finish. (They are not for shaping and grinding of stones.)

1. Make sure when mounting a smoothing disc on a backing plate that the pre-punched arbor hole on the smoothing disc is centered with the arbor hole on the backing plate. Use a ½" bolt to help center it. Important note: If the smoothing disc is not centered properly, the disc will be out of balance.
2. Some discs are shiny due to the nature of the curing process; this will not affect the performance of the disc.
3. Always use clean water to lubricate your lap (disc). Do not use recycled water from previous operations. Like all diamond tools and products, use with water to provide proper lubrication and to prevent grind dust from building up.
4. Clean the work area and work piece thoroughly before using these discs. Contamination of larger diamond particles from previous operation may scratch your work piece. If a sharp edge is present on your material, gently apply the sharp edge to the smoothing disc. This saves unnecessary wear on your disc and possible chipping of your material.
5. Always use the whole surface area of the disc to ensure even wear.
6. After each use, make sure the disc is completely dry before storing. Store in a clean plastic bag until next use.

Note on using diamond paste: It is recommended that an extender should be used. A vendor of 14,000 diamond paste said instead of purchasing a special extender item from a craft supplier, use baby oil as an extender and you would get the same result.

BREAKING IN OF NEW DISCS

A new disc or lap will likely need to be broken in. To do this grind, sand, and polish a large agate cab prior to working on others. This is necessary in order to remove excess resin coating surfaces of the diamonds and any areas that may have sharp chips that would possibly scratch your work. Spend from two to five minutes on each disc with the first cab, working it over the entire surface of the disc. The finer grit discs 3000 and up, will take longer to remove the excess resin, and will continue to improve in speed and finish as more stones are worked.