

4 Expert Tips On Polishing Jewellery With a Foredom Pendant Drill



1

USING MANDRELS

Need to add your rubber wheels to a mandrel before you add to your pendant drill handpiece?

Screw mandrel ▶

Screw on any burrs or mops by hand for an accurate fit. Now lock the mandrel in place in the collet of your pendant drill. Once secured in place you're ready to work.

◀ Split mandrel

Easily add a small strip of emery paper to this mandrel by winding it around the mandrel and securing it with masking tape. Make sure you wind in the direction that the mandrel will spin. This will stop it unravelling.

NEVER OPERATE THE PENDANT DRILL TO SCREW A BURR ONTO THE MANDREL.

This will only drill a hole into your rubber burr causing damage. Constant screwing and unscrewing of mandrels can ruin your rubber burrs. Try to avoid unscrewing. Instead buy separate mandrels for each of your burrs.

2

COLOUR CODED GRITS

Always work your way down through the various stages of buffing when using polishing burrs with your pendant drill, from the coarsest grit to the finest.

Colour	Grit	What It Does
Blue	500 (very coarse)	Removes oxides, tool marks and surface scratches
Dark Grey	600 (coarse)	Smooths the surface further and starts preparing it for polishing
Brown	700 (medium)	Achieves a smooth pre-polish
Green	800 (fine)	Starts to bring out more of a mirror finish
Light Green	000 (extra fine)	The final step – a rouge-like finish and high shine

NOTE

Different manufacturers use slightly different colour codes. The code above is taken from the Eveflex rubber cylinder kit.

3

DUST AND DEBRIS

Whenever you're using a pendant drill, it's important to wear safety glasses and face masks, tie back hair and remove any loose jewellery. As a heavy duty pendant motor can reach speeds of up to 18,000 rpm you need to be fully aware of your surroundings.



Collect any precious metal dust in your bench skin. It may seem like a small amount, but you'll soon fill up a jar of silver or gold lemel that can be taken to Cooksongold's scrap service

Using rubber polishing burrs with compound impregnated into the burr itself means less greasy compound to remove from the metal you're working with. But you'll still need to wipe or clean after each polishing stage.

Why?

Any compound residue left on the piece from a coarse grit could be left behind when you move onto a finer grit, leaving behind scratches or marks.

4

POLISHING GROOVES AND SMALL AREAS



Radial bristle polishing discs are excellent tools to add to your pendant drill accessories. With intricate pieces, the bristles on the outer edge of the disc help you:

- To accurately polish tiny grooves in your work
- Polish stone set pieces without causing damage
- Speed up your polishing process
- Keep your workbench clean and free from greasy compound residue

Invest in a Foredom pendant drill and get to grips with the versatile polishing techniques available with this professional jeweller's must-have tool.