

# GY-ROC “B”

## ROCK Grinding & Polishing Instructions

Supplied by the manufacturer TAGIT and edited by Aussie Sapphire for Australian users.

Recommended quantities are appropriate for the Model B tumbler – scale up accordingly for the larger Model A or C tumblers. Fit belt before operating the tumbler – fast speed is lower position on pulley, slow speed is the upper position.

### A) STEP 1. Pre-washing the rocks

For best results, it helps to process clean and suitable rocks. Washing is best accomplished by the following method:

1. Turn off unit and change belt to LOW SPEED position
2. Add 1 to 2 cups of water and about a teaspoon of household detergent to the rocks in bowl
3. Replace bowl lid and operate at reduced speed for a few minutes. Do not allow liquid to spill over onto motor or bearings.
4. Turn off unit and pour rocks into colander or sieve. Run cold water over the rocks and thoroughly rinse through. Drain.

**NOTE:** sort through rocks at this stage and reject any that are very porous or which have deep cavities or cracks so that coarser grits will not be carried over into finer grinding phases.

WASH THOROUGHLY AND DRAIN

### B) STEP 2. Coarse Grind - #220

1. Fill bowl to within about ½-1 inch (12 -25 mm) from the top. This will usually be about 2½ pounds or just over 1 kg.
2. Add about 1 rounded teaspoon of Coarse Grit #220 Silicon Carbide plus ¼ teaspoon of household detergent and 2 to 3 tablespoons of water to the mass.
3. Run unit at high speed for 24 to 30 hours.
4. As mud builds up from grinding, a small amount of water should be added (1 to 2 tablespoons as required).
5. Wash and repeat coarse grind until desired shape achieved – usually one repeat is needed.

WASH THOROUGHLY AND DRAIN

### C) STEP 3. Fine Grind - #600 to #800

1. To the coarse ground, washed and drained rocks, add 1 rounded teaspoon of Fine Grit #600 Silicon Carbide plus ¼ teaspoon of household detergent and 2 to 3 tablespoons of water
2. Run unit at high speed for 2 to 3 days or until rocks have a velvety sheen to the surface.
3. As mud builds up from grinding, a small amount of water should be added (2 to 4 teaspoons)
6. Wash and repeat fine grind until desired pre-polish is achieved

WASH THOROUGHLY AND DRAIN

## D) Polish Stage

After fine grinding and washing, rocks should be examined closely to be sure there are no cracks or pits containing grit from grinding. This type of contamination is a major cause of failure to achieve a good polish.

Carefully scrub any rock crevices to remove all traces of grit before putting them back in the load. Rinse thoroughly before proceeding to the Polish Stage.

1. Add 1 rounded teaspoon of your favourite polish plus ¼ teaspoon of household detergent and 2 to 3 tablespoons of water to the mass
2. Run unit at low speed for 2 to 3 days or until desired finish is achieved.
3. After polishing, run for 3 or 4 hours at low speed in about ½ cup of water with 2 to 3 teaspoons of detergent to enhance the gloss

**NOTE:** as the GY-ROC is extremely fast, it is essential that a minimum amount of water be used, however, care must be taken that the mass does not run dry. It should be looked at every 6 or 8 hours and if the mud looks thick or sticky, a little water (1 or 2 tablespoons) should be added.

Polish recommendations vary according to the type of material being processed – some options include cerium oxide, tin oxide, aluminium oxide. Remember, feel free to do some experimenting to get the best results – as long as you stick to the the main guidelines in these instructions, some “trial and error” is quite appropriate and all part of the fun of rock tumbling.

### WARNINGS:

- Do not use excessive amount of water as it can cause splashing, resulting in ruined bearings & burned out motor. Please ensure that the lid is snapped on tight before operating the unit.
- Do not run the machine empty or with a half-filled bowl, particularly on high speed as this can cause the springs to break. Make sure load is balanced & circulating well when operating.
- Make sure there is a gap between the motor and surface for air circulation – do not rest on thick carpet so that feet sink in and air flow is restricted to motor (can cause overheating).
- Removing the belt from the pulley when machine is not in operation will greatly extend the life of the belt. Select machine speed by fitting belt to the high or low speed groove on the pulley.

### Adjusting counterweights:

The position of the counterweights is set by the factory and suits most applications. Before adjusting, please note original position so that you can return to the default setting if required.

There are two counter-weights – one just below the bowl and one underneath the tumbler. When viewed from above, note the relative position of the top weight compared to the bottom. Adjust the position by moving the counterweights closer together (less vibration force) or further away (increased vibration) – use an Allen key to loosen the locking screws. Be sure to tighten locking screws before operating machine.

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