



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Tombstone Gun Grips are made slightly oversized and usually require drilling holes to match your grip frame, and cutting off the long grip screw when one is provided, so it will fit your particular grip frame width. The grips will require sanding to size, flattening the back while reducing the width and height as needed to fit, and finish work to achieve the degree of polish you may desire on some smooth grips.

All of these operations which use sanding generate fine dust. Be sure to wear a face mask that will block the fine dust so you do not breathe it. Although the polyurethane itself is not "toxic" material, anything that you breathe into your lungs that is a fine powder can cause irritation and health problems. Protect yourself!

Do not heat or burn the material, as this can release toxic fumes. Dispose of the dust by bagging it and putting it in the trash. Do not flush it down the drain, as it can cause clogging in sufficient quantity or when mixed with other effluent materials.

When drilling the grip screw holes, be careful not to force the drill and cause it to break. Wear eye protection. Keep your hands away from the moving bit. Do not wear gloves or loose jewelry when operating a drill press or motorized buffing wheel. When sanding the grips, it is best to do it by hand, not with power machinery. The material is easily removed, and it is too easy to remove too much very quickly with power equipment. Fingernail sandboards are ideal for shaping the material, which is delivered in over-sized state so you can get it down to exact fit with your grip frame.

A piece of 150 grit sandpaper taped to a flat board works well as a means of flattening and thinning the grip, provided the back is not specifically shaped for mounting with raised portions that cannot be reduced. Most grips have a flat back that can be sanded to make the grip thinner and smaller in width and height. When using this method, keep your fingers on top of the grip and don't scrape them on the sandpaper. Use light pressure, and a rotary motion. A piece of old mouse-pad (soft rubber) or similar flat spongy material can be used to help get a good hold on a flat thin grip.

Note that the grips will adsorb grease or paint, and become stained, so clean your hands and the drill press table before working on the grips. To prevent them from staining after they are finished, apply a clear hard wax such as a car wax and buff the grips. Some waxes may darken the grip slightly; this is to be expected. Experiment on the back side if you are concerned. Note that you can "age" your own ivory grips with a tan or light brown wax shoe polish rubbed lightly on the grip and then buffed so it won't come off on your hands. Again, experiment on the back before trying it on the front side.

ALWAYS PROTECT YOUR LUNGS AND YOUR EYES when sanding, buffing, or drilling! You only get two, and there are no good substitutes.