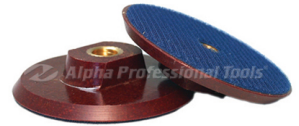


**Technical Notes**

**Rigid Backer Pads**

Alpha Professional Tools® first introduced rubber backer pads with the AEP-458 electric polisher to promote the concept of wet polishing, which then became the accepted method of polishing. Alpha® recognized the need to add a rigid version of this backer pad to its product line for straight edge or flat surface polishing applications. We realized that Ceramica, with a flexible backer pad, was too flexible for these applications and produced wavy finishes. Alpha® Rigid Backer Pads served to eliminate the wavy finish by keeping the Ceramica flat to the polished surface. Although not the best alternative compared to Twistouch Turbo for this application, fabricators and tile contractors use it with good results. Restoration workers find that the rigidity of the pad enables them to work in small areas such as corners or staircases. Large machine manufacturers recommend flexible diamond discs for use on their automatic edge polishing machines specifically for the bullnose application using the Alpha® Rigid Backer Pad. Hook and loop backed, like the flexible pads, they also accept Ceramica, Sandpaper, and Felt Wheels. The Rigid Backer Pad reduces surface distortion and wavy results on straight edges. Available in 3", 4" and 5" sizes, the Rigid Backer Pad is exclusive to Alpha Professional Tools®. It comes in the standard 5/8"-11 thread commonly found on most polishing tools today. Some metric sizes are available on request. Super rigid and flat, there is no other backer pad like this.

- Sections:**
- How to Use
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
  - Helpful Hints
  - Reference



Part No.	Size	Type
GP35/8RG	3"	RIGID
GP45/8RG	4"	RIGID
GP55/8RG	5"	RIGID

**How to Use**

Attach the Alpha® Rigid Backer pad onto the spindle of the polishing tool.

Use wrenches to securely tighten the pad onto the spindle.

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**In what sizes are Alpha® Rigid Backer pads offered in?**

Alpha® Rigid Backer pads are available in 3", 4" and 5".

**What tools are Rigid Backer pads designed to be used on?**

Alpha® Rigid Backer pads are designed to be used on hand-held polishing tools such as the Alpha® AIR-658, VSP-120 and AWP-158.

**What is the maximum RPM at which I can use the Rigid Backer pads?**

Alpha® Rigid Backer pads should not exceed 4,000 RPM.

**What thread sizes are available?**

The most common thread size available today is 5/8"-11; however, M16 and M14 are also available.

**Can I use the Alpha® Rigid Backer pad on my high-speed angle grinder ?**

Only if the angle grinder is a variable speed and the RPM can be slowed down to fewer than 4,000 RPM. The angle grinder also needs to have an external water-feed water supply and spindle threads that match the threads of the Rigid Backer pad.

**How are polishing abrasives secured onto the Alpha® Rigid Backer pad?**

These Rigid Backer pads have hook and loop material which holds the polishing abrasives onto the backer.

**Can I use the Alpha® Rigid Backer pads on my dry polishing applications?**

No. The Alpha® Rigid Backer pads are only to be used for wet polishing applications.

## Helpful Hints

- Alpha® Rigid Backer pads are WET USE ONLY.
- Always use wrenches to tighten and loosen the Rigid Backer pads from the polishing tool.

## Reference

For more product information, visit us on the web at [www.alpha-tools.com](http://www.alpha-tools.com).