



Master the Jewelry Flex Shaft
**Vol. 1: Burs, Mandrels, Sanding/Grinding, Rubberized
Abrasives and Finishing**
with Andy Cooperman

ANDY'S TOP 5 TIPS

1 Be safe

Protect yourself from particles. Wear a mask and safety glasses and work in an area with proper ventilation.

2 The low-down

If you hang your flex shaft at a height of 24 inches instead of the typical 30 to 40 inches, you'll invite more flexibility into your workspace. For example, you can use the side surface of a separating disc as a turntable or use a cylinder bur as a router.

3 Consider the customer

It's so important for you to put work out in the world that's well made and considered. If you cause somebody to bleed with the jewelry you make, you have lost a customer. Go the extra mile to make sure all edges and wires are smooth and finished.



4 Experiment

Experiment with different types of rubberized abrasives. For instance, label the side of each wheel with a marker so that you can keep track of which kind works best for you.

5 Improvise

Everyday items can suddenly become just what you're looking for, and even tools made for specific purposes can be applied in far broader contexts. If you use your tools in the widest possible application, you'll not only need fewer tools, but you'll gain more satisfaction from your work.

