



Taxidermy Tool Set







FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What does the Merlin Taxidermy Tool Set consist of?

A. The Merlin Taxidermy Tool Set is like nothing else in the industry. This powerful but light weight tool set comes with a variable speed (6,500 – 13,000rpm) miniature precision built angle grinder and six (6) unique accessories available exclusively from King Arthur’s Tools and specifically designed for the taxidermy industry.

Q. Are the standard Taxidermy accessories multifaceted?

A. Think of it this way, the tool set gives you a lot of different ways to do the same thing. As an example we have three accessories that can do fleshing but not all three are going to work for you in every application. You’ll find the accessory that gives you the best comfort level.

TASKS						
	Fleshing Blade	Carbide Disc	8-tooth chain saw	Flap Disc Sander	Alum. Oxide Cutting Disc	Grinding Disc
FLESHING	X	X	X			
CUTTING		X	X		X	
TRIMMING		X			X	
SANDING		X		X		
GRINDING		X		X		X
SCULPTING		X	X	X		







Q. What are the benefits of using the variable speed grinder?

A. The variable speed grinder operates between 6,500 to 13,000/rpms. The variable speed feature allows Merlin to be dialed, up or down, to a cutting speed and aggressiveness that the operator is comfortable with as you perform the majority of applications the tool is designed for.

Q: How tight should I make the fastening screw when attaching accessories?





A: Do not over tighten accessories or you could strip the internal gear in the lock down switch of the aluminum gear head. Use a gentle touch to secure the accessory – not brute force! In the event of failure, contact King Arthur’s Tools. Look after your tool and your tool will look after you!

Q. What are some examples of how the 6 different accessories are used?

Part #	Photo	Description	How it can be used
10013		2" – Black Magic Fleshing Blade	For most hides it's used for detail fleshing around the eyes, ears, mouth area and edges. Used as a finishing tool. Great for tougher hides like wild boar and large mammals. Excellent for gator skins.
10011		2"- Flat Profile Tungsten Carbide Abrasive Disc Course - Red	The work horse of the tool set, the red disc is employed in a multitude of tasks. It's used to flesh an assortment of different skins. You can sculpture and clean up your plaster, fiberglass and foam forms.
21008		2" - Eight (8) tooth ¼" pitch chain saw blade	Used to cut and sculpture different material such as wood, ice, dense foam, foam core, rubber and soft non-ferrous materials. Great for working on habitat.
10003		2"- Flap Disc Sander - 100 Grit	The flap disc sanding disc has a rubber backing which makes it extremely flexible allowing the disc to conform to the shape that you're working on. Can be used for sanding foam forms, fiberglass and finishing wood display pieces.
10008		2"- Aluminum Oxide Cutting Disc	Exceptional for the initial removal of excessive fiberglass on fish forms. Use it to cut the metal reinforcing rods in forms.
10007		2"- Silicon Carbide Grinding Disc 60 Grit	Handy accessory that can be used to keep a nice edge on your other cutting tools.



Q. Are there other Merlin accessories that are used in Taxidermy?

A. Yes.

Part #	Photo	Description	How it can be used
10012		Flat Carbide Abrasive "V" Edge Disc	Used in construction of small antler chandeliers to notch antler for electric cord installation.
21004		4-Tooth Tungsten Carbide Chain	If you find you're using the 8-tooth blade to the point of needing something a little more aggressive and stays sharper longer then you may need the 4-tooth carbide chain. It's easy to keep sharp but it's going to require a diamond tipped file.
10010		2"- Flat Profile Tungsten Carbide Abrasive Disc Medium - Yellow	Same attributes' as the red disc but less aggressive.
10011		2"- Flat Profile Tungsten Carbide Abrasive Disc Fine - Stone Garnet	Same attributes' as the red and yellow disc but the least aggressive of the three.

Q. Are there other King Arthur's Tools products that have been used by Taxidermist?

A. Yes

Part #	Photo	Description	How it can be used
45822		Lancelot 22-tooth	Extremely aggressive cutting blade. Mounts to a 4-1/2" angle grinder. Used in the removal of the shield on a wild boar. Can be used to remove bone material from large gator heads.
110XX		Galahad	Combined with a 4 1/2" variable speed angle grinder, Galahad is a great tool for sculpting large animal forms. Absolutely helps save days of hand work when working with large animals such as elephants, etc.

Q. How is the fleshing blade constructed?

A. The fleshing blade is cut from stainless steel stock and then goes through a three step heat treatment process that hardens the razor sharp edge for longer blade life.

Q: What's the best way to learn how to use the Merlin?

A: It's easy to master the simple, smooth pulling action and incredible control the Merlin offers. It's just a matter of jumping in and giving it a try. Do the obvious, start with a piece of material that isn't going to be a drastic loss if you screw up. Remember to use your safety items, eye protection and gloves. Most of your cutting action will be a pulling motion that moves toward your body. Don't chop at the material. Use a smooth pulling or pushing motion. The tool is doing all the cutting; you just need to learn how to control the pressure you're applying and the operating speed for each of the accessories. You can remove material in very thin layers. The Merlin will cut in any direction, forward, backwards and from side to side. The best thing to do is to just try the different accessories at different speeds on different types of materials. You may find a new use no one else has found.

Q: Is there more than one way to hold the Merlin?

A: Yes. We have found that in addition to the way one would normally grip the Proxxon grinder there are applications where gripping the unit higher on the neck works best. By gripping the Proxxon grinder on the neck of the tool, just below the gear head, you're handling the grinder in a way that gives you the greatest amount of control over the disc you're using. Be sure that the safety guard is positioned to give your fingers the maximum amount of protection.



Q: Is there a chance the grinder may overheat?

A: Because the grinder is a precision miniature tool there is the opportunity to overwork the grinder. If the grinder runs for extended periods it's possible that it may overheat. If the unit overheats, switch it off and allow it to cool. Failure to do so could burn out the motor. Also on a regular basis, blow out the motor to prevent clogging which could contribute to overheating.

Q: Is Merlin available for worldwide use.

A: Yes and No. Both the fixed speed and variable speed models are available in 110 volt 60HZ for the North American and Japanese markets. For the European, United Kingdom and Australasian markets, only the fixed speed model is available in 220–240 Volts 50/60HZ.

Sharpening Questions

Q: Are the chain saw blades easy to sharpen?

A: Yes. You can easily touch up and sharpen the chain saw teeth with sharpeners available from King Arthur's Tools. The ability to do your own self sharpening will save you money and reduce hassle. It puts you in control of the sharpening process. And your productivity will greatly improve because you'll always have sharp teeth.

Q.: Can I sharpen the 8-tooth blade myself?

A: Yes. Because it's made from standard saw chain material we recommend you use a regular metal 5/32" (4mm) chain saw file. This file is also available from King Arthur's Tools. A good tip is to mark the first tooth on both sides so you know where you start and finish. If not, you could re-sharpen several teeth twice and get a little frustrated in the process! The 8-tooth blade can also be sharpened with the King Arthur's Tools Diamond Tipped File.

Q: Will a regular chain saw file sharpen the 4-tooth blade?

A: No. The tungsten carbide teeth are way too hard for a standard file. You'll just damage a standard chain saw file. The tungsten carbide requires a diamond tipped file. King Arthur's Tools offers a fold-up diamond tipped file in a plastic case. It's great for carrying around in your pocket.

Q: If I can re-sharpen both the 8-tooth and 4-tooth myself, do I ever have to send them to King Arthur's Tools for re-sharpening?

A: No.

Q: How do you sharpen the Black Magic?

A: The Black Magic can be easily be sharpened by using a flat edge, diamond tipped file. Hold the Merlin in one hand and rest edge of the file on the safety guard. With the unit on slow speed touch the file to the blade.

Safety and Myths

Q: Are the tools safe?

A: Yes. We have never had a chain break, discs crack or blades fly off the grinder. Not one has ever been returned through customer dissatisfaction or manufacturing defect. The simple truth is that the chain can't break because it doesn't move independently like a chainsaw, which rotates on a bar. The chain on every one of our products rotates as one unit locked between the top and bottom discs, the total assembly being secured by the lock nut which is further secured by its clockwise tightening when the motor turns anti clockwise. The chain can't go anywhere as it spins in conjunction with the discs. Another design feature ensures the blades never heat up due to the cooling effect provided by the slots in each disc, maintaining their long life. Let the tool do the cutting – it's more than capable. We are very proud of our excellent safety record. Please keep in mind that you must always use caution with a power tool. The biggest danger is complacency and lack of attention to the work. We have been told many times by users that they have been lulled into a false sense of security to the danger because the tools do such a fantastic job. You must always be alert and be aware that the blades travel between 6,500 - 13,00rpm. Used correctly, there's nothing better or faster on the planet.

Q: How safe is the Merlin?

A: Merlin is a safe tool when you follow the instructions and how-to tips. We add a major word of caution. If you remove the safety guard and run either the saw chain blade or green disc, it's NOT safe! The blades were designed to cut with the teeth on the bottom and exposed left side of the blade. Removing the safety guard exposes the top half of the blade to the fingers when held in the preferred position. Cutting with the top section of the teeth could cause binding and kickback. Just remember, it's a miniature chainsaw. Used correctly, it's an incredible tool. Don't let Merlin's small size lull you into a false sense of

security. Merlin is a serious power tool – like a Dremmel tool on steroids - perfect for the taxidermy industry.

Q. What safety equipment do I need when using the Merlin?

A. When using the Merlin you should always wear gloves and eye protection. As an additional safety measure, we recommend that you purchase a pair of Kevlar gloves that are made for use around chain saws.

Safety Guard

Q: Do I have to change the position of the safety guard?

A: We recommend using the safety guard between 23° and 90°, in the position safest and most comfortable for the way you hold the tool. The position of the safety guard can be changed by adjusting the guard using the two attachment screws. If this doesn't provide you with the right position to allow for the greatest protection then you can loosen the collar screw and reposition the safety guard and then make your final adjustments with the attachment screws.

Q: Can I work without a safety guard?

A: No, no and heck no! It's not good for your health or safety. **If you want to remove the safety guard for any reason, don't use our blades.** Running them without a safety guard is done so at your own risk. Please don't under any circumstance!

Chain Maintenance

Q: Is the saw chain replaceable?

A: Yes. We recommend having two spare 8-tooth sets on hand. With the 8-tooth chain it's more convenient and saves time to replace a dull chain with a sharp one rather than sharpening blunt teeth on the job. Sharpening blunt chains in your downtime helps keep your productivity up.

Q: Do the chains require oil?

A: No, the only maintenance required is to sharpen the teeth. The chain saw circlet is securely locked in place between two discs and does not move independently like a chainsaw over a bar. The only parts that wear are the teeth. This is fully explained under "Safety – Are the Tools Safe?"

PART #	KAT DESCRIPTIONS	MSRP
10100	Merlin Taxidermy Tool Set – Variable – 110v	245.00
10003	2" Flap Disc Sander – 100 Grit	5.80
10004	2" Flap Disc Sander – 150 Grit	5.80
10007	60 Grit Silicon Carbide Grinding Disc	5.90
10008	Aluminum Oxide Cutting Disc	4.55
10009	2" Flat Carbide Disc – Coarse - Red	37.75
10010	2" Flat Carbide Disc – Medium - Yellow	37.75
10011	2" Flat Carbide Disc – Fine –Garnet	37.75
10012	2" Flat Carbide "V" Edge Disc – Coarse - Green	33.95
10013	Black Magic Flesher	45.00
11000	5/32" File – 2 per packet with 1 wooden handle	7.10
11050	Diamond Hand Sharpener w/ fold up case	35.00
20004	4 Tooth Tungsten Carbide Chain Replacement	49.95
20008	8 Tooth Standard Chain Replacement	12.95
21004	4 Tooth Tungsten Carbide Chain w/ 10mm Disc	55.00
21008	8 Tooth Standard Chain Saw Blade w/ Disc	18.15