



## Mohawk Finishing Monthly Newsletter

Hi all! Last month we featured our new improved [Butane Burn-In-Knife \(M900-3210\)](#). We know that many of you are using the M900-M120 Burn-In-Knife and thought that an article on basic care and maintenance would be helpful. Many times we get questions on why a Burn-In-Knife isn't working properly. Like our cars, the Burn-In-Knife needs to undergo routine maintenance to keep it in good running order. This article should be a good resource for the cleaning and maintenance of your knife, and a couple of helpful hints to keep it working like the first time for many years to come.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** In an effort to provide you with the best in-depth articles, product knowledge and quick tips available, we are changing the frequency of the Mohawk newsletter from monthly to quarterly. So look for our next edition in June. As always, if you have any suggestions for the newsletter please [contact us](#).

## Monthly Feature

### Butane Burn-In-Knife (M900-M120)

**Contributed By: Don Mullen**

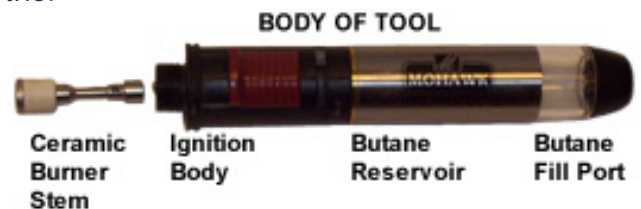
Mohawk Sales & Product Support Consultant

The Mohawk M120 Butane Burn-In-Knife has been a standard in the Touch-Up Industry for many years now. This specialty tool makes EZ Flow Stick & Plane Stick burn-ins a snap and gives the technician complete mobility to make easy repairs away from a work bench. Although this Burn-In-Knife is very reliable, it needs some basic care, along with periodic cleaning and maintenance to insure its proper and long term operation.

The tool has two basic external parts:

1. The Body of the tool which includes the:

- Butane Fill Port
- Butane Reservoir
- Ignition Body
- Ceramic Burner Stem



2. The Removable Head which includes the:

- Screw-on Base
- Catalyst (PS15)
- Blade (120F)



## Cleaning and Maintenance

Periodically unscrew the Removable Head from the Body and then unscrew the Ceramic Burner Head from the body. Insert a nail into the hole at the base of the Ceramic Burner Head and unscrew from base.

Inside of the base you will see a small brass orifice. A second orifice came with your Burn-In-Knife at the time you purchased it. Carefully remove the orifice by using a pair of needle nose pliers and gently pulling the orifice straight out of the body. Replace with the new orifice. Place the dirty orifice in a small dish of Naphtha (M650-0047) to soak overnight. This will clean the tiny hole of any build-up from the butane. Butane of today is not as pure as it was several years ago, so a plaque like substance builds up around the inside of the orifice, which will dramatically reduce or eliminate the flow of gas to the head.

Next, make sure to wipe down the ceramic head with a little of the Naphtha. ***(Did I mention that this should all be done when the knife is not hot)?***

Then check the inside hole of the Ceramic Burner Stem. This is the vent for the butane. It needs to be clear at all times of any dust or lint. Blow into the vent or use a small air gun to clear out any debris inside. Replace the Ceramic Burner Stem to the Body.

Next, check the Catalyst. Look inside and make sure there are no obstructions and also that the small screen is properly attached. Replace the screen if it is missing or burnt through.

Clean and burnish the blade of all old material and nicks.

### Helpful Tips

If you go long periods of time between uses of the Burn-In-Knife (over 3 weeks), you should make a habit of evacuating the tool of all butane, since the butane tends to gel-up inside the reservoir ends, (around the seals). To evacuate the tool you can simply use a very small screwdriver and carefully press down on the small tip of the fill valve at the base of the tool, (where you fill the tool with butane).

Another nice way is to save one of your old butane cans. ***Make sure it is completely empty.*** Drill three or four holes in the bottom of the empty container and then insert the can into the Burn-In-Knife like you would to fill it. The excess gas will flow out the holes. Make sure to keep all body parts away from the escaping butane, as the gas is extremely cold and could cause freeze burns on your fingers.

After you have cleared the body of the tool of all the butane, turn the tool on and let the gas escape from the head of the tool. Listen to the tool until the "hissing" sound stops. At this point the tool is completely evacuated of all butane.

Another helpful tip to insure long-term performance from your Burn-In Knife is during the ignition and warm-up phase. When you light the knife, run it on the high setting for a few moments until the blade is hot. At this point, turn back the setting to a medium heat setting. You will have plenty of heat to perform

any repair necessary. By turning back the setting after the knife is hot, you will extend the life of the Catalyst, dramatically. These Catalysts (and the small screen inside them) can burn out quickly if always left on a high heat setting.

And finally, if your Burn-In Knife needs service beyond the above guidelines, you can call Steve Parker at Solder-It (914)-747-1092 or at the web site [www.solderit.com](http://www.solderit.com). They can completely rebuild your tool if needed. If you need replacement parts you can order a removable head, blades or tips from [Mohawk Finishing Products](http://www.mohawk-finishing.com). Also, OFS Corp (in Connecticut) stocks replacement parts for the M120-knife. You can reach Scott Hare at (800)-381-3126 or at the web site [www.ofscorp.com](http://www.ofscorp.com).

## Ordering

You can order the featured products or any of our products by contacting your account representative, customer service or on our web site [www.mohawk-finishing.com](http://www.mohawk-finishing.com). To ensure your correct pricing level please be sure to use your account number.

## Technical Tips

[Ask the expert](#)

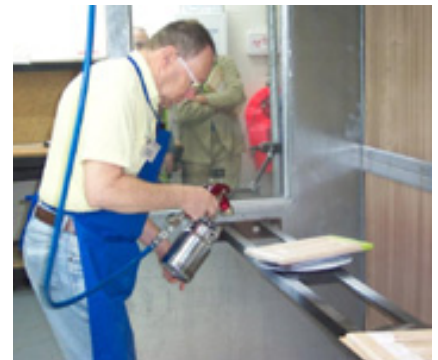
[More Information on Naphtha](#)

## Let Mohawk Finishing Products Train You

Good news on the first Professional Finishing Workshop. It was such a success that we have scheduled two more in

- Phil Campbell, AL April 19-21, 2005 and
- Holbrook, NY May 17-19, 2005.

We thought we'd share what the students had to say:



- "Instructors were very helpful and answered all questions asked. I enjoyed the 2 1/2 days spent in the workshop. I learned techniques and principles that I can put to use immediately. I am very satisfied with the time and money spent to attend this workshop."
- "Course was very good in addressing all aspects of finishing. It refreshed my memory of basic techniques and practices. Would recommend to both experts and beginners. . . "
- "The instructors did an excellent job of balancing classroom time with the hands on training. Instructors explained the products and application of the products and in which instances a certain product should be used."
- "I enjoyed the one on one time which was helpful with additional questions. This was even applied during 'breaks'. The instructors never stopped sharing. Their time was always available. Thank you."

**Check out the 2005 Workshop Schedule** on the website for training locations near you. The Mohawk Professional Leather Workshop is designed for the novice and professional alike, in just 2-1/2 days all aspects of leather touch-up and repair will be demonstrated, and you will gain hands-on experience. Mohawk's Wood Workshop instructors work with students to insure they have achieved the repair techniques needed to enhance your business. Our latest Professional Finishing Workshop is designed to teach you today's most popular finishes using our new Professional Finishing System products.

To find a workshop that fits your needs and your schedule [Click here](#)

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