

# Use Of The Ultrasonic Cleaner

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The Ultra-sonic Cleaner (UC), has been used in the grooming industry for years. I used it to mix chemicals in beakers when I was an R&D chemist for GP years ago, and it did very well. It works like a micro-wave oven, having ultra high frequency tones move molecules of water or liquid in a container.

The best use of the UC in blade care is to clean the blade plaque from between the teeth of the blades. This stuff breeds virus and bacteria because you can't kill it with over the counter disinfectants. It consists of media composed of pet dander, hair, organic soap film, ect, the perfect media to culture bacterial and virus. If you clean any part of your blades, make sure you clean the blade plaque out, the ultrasonic cleaner does wonderful at this.



SET UP. I prefer to use plain water in the bath of the UC. Why? Two reasons. First, I do several cleaning operations at one time using several different cleaners that are in mason jars. You can't do that if your bath has one specific cleaner in it. I use one cleaner for rust, one with WD-40, and a third using any degreasing cleaner I get at Lowes for \$12.00 a gallon. Secondly, when I take the jars out of the bath, any drips are plain water, not a chemical.

CLEANING. Now you can listen to whomever you want about using the UC, but I have years of experience trying to find the best way. We're using mason jars, the waves made by the UC that clean go right through glass, but not plastic. And, you can arrange blades in the mason jar any way you want and get as many as you can in there. The cleaning solution must be at a level higher than the blades you've stacked in the jar. When you put the jar in the bath, *the water level of the bath must be at the same level as the liquid in the jar or higher.* We run the UC for ten minutes on every cleaning. We also don't heat the bath because the UC will heat the liquid inside the jar anyway. The lids of the jars are not tight, they are cracked a little to let the liquid inside to expand a little if needed. It's a better way to clean.



FINISHED CLEANING. When the UC cycle is completed, you just reach in the bath and pull out your jar or jars of blades. We can fit 3 tall mason jars of blades in our industrial six liter UC. Remember the bath is filled with water, so any dripping off the jar, or any liquid getting on your hands will be non-hazardous. If you had your bath filled with WD-40, you would be wearing gloves while you extracted blades from it one at a time, as well as breathing the fumes. Not a good way of doing things safely, and it could create health issues. Take your jar of clean blades to your table, or extract them from the jar right there next to the UC with the magnet and lay them on the towel.



We use a magnet on a stick to take the blades out of the jar, and sometimes to put them in so nothing splashes. You can get these magnets that are on an extending arm at Harbor Freight, Home Depot, and Lowes. Or any store like that.

When we take them out, they are laid on a large rag or towel where they will be dried off by hand first. This gets the bulk of the liquid off the blades. Next, either take your air hose, force dryer, or hair dryer and blow the remaining liquid off the blade real good. Get between the teeth real good, and under the spring good so it doesn't rust anywhere.

NOTE: If you still see blade plaque between the teeth of your larger blades run them a second time. Blade plaque is hard to get off the first time, but if your using your UC a few times a week you will never have blade plaque buildup.



This is the complete kit we use to clean blades. There is one jar with straight WD-40, this can break chunks away from between the teeth if the soap solution doesn't do it. Another jar has WD-40 Rust dissolver in it. We use this if any blades have spots of rust on them that the radial wheels can't get rid of. Then finally, 3 jars with soap solution. We mix 1 part soap (Krud-Kutter, Simple Green, ect) to 3 parts water. The more water you have in the mix the better it cleans. Now we've found that even though the liquid in the soap jars look dirty after a cleaning, they will still work great a few more times. All the dirt falls to the bottom of the jar, when it gets to be 1/4 inch deep, then replace the solution.



THE FINISHED PRODUCT. We cleaned all these blades in one jar, and took them out with the magnet that's shown. The solution looks dirty, but it will clean several more times if you want. We wipe the blades down first, blow dry them next, then finally oil them good.