

# SAW BLADE COMPARISONS

| TEST                                          | Cut one: 1-3"                                                                                                                          | Cut two: 3-6"                                                                                                    | Cut three: 6-9"                                                                                                                            | Cut four: 9-12"                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| STERLING SILVER, NO LUBRICATION               | Smooth and easy cutting, some debris (metal chips) in teeth.                                                                           | No change.                                                                                                       | No change.                                                                                                                                 | Blade beginning to dull, with debris and rounding of teeth.                                                                    |
| STERLING SILVER, LUBRICATION ON SHEET         | Smooth and easy cutting, with an even coating of wax left on the blade at the end of the cut, and no notable degradation of the blade. | No change.                                                                                                       | No change.                                                                                                                                 | Blade beginning to dull, with the beginning of degradation of teeth.                                                           |
| STERLING SILVER, LUBRICATION ON SAW BLADE     | Smooth and easy cutting, with little wax left on the blade at the end of the cut, and no notable degradation of the blade.             | No change.                                                                                                       | No change.                                                                                                                                 | Blade beginning to dull, with slight rounding and deformation of teeth.                                                        |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, NO LUBRICATION, BLADE 1       | Some dulling by the end of the cut.                                                                                                    | Feeling of dulling comparable to cut four in sterling tests, with the beginning of the deformation of the teeth. | Difficulty engaging blade, blade broke 1 7/8" into cut. Experience of bounce back and chatter similar to cuts seven and eight in sterling. |                                                                                                                                |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, NO LUBRICATION, BLADE 2       | Broken blade.                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, NO LUBRICATION, BLADE 3       | Beginning to feel dulling at 1 1/4".                                                                                                   | Progressive dulling throughout cut, with deformation of teeth.                                                   | Cutting dull and difficult with rounding on all teeth.                                                                                     | Very difficult cutting, with continued rounding of all teeth.                                                                  |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, LUBRICATION ON SHEET, BLADE 1 | Minor dulling after 2" of cutting.                                                                                                     | Blade broke tightening for cut.                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, LUBRICATION ON SHEET, BLADE 2 | Minimal dulling and minor degradation of teeth.                                                                                        | More dulling at 4" of cutting, but still fairly smooth with minor degradation of teeth.                          | Cutting dull but still fairly smooth and controllable.                                                                                     | Difficult to engage blade at beginning of cut. Cutting dull, slow, and difficult to control. Teeth clearly hooked and rounded. |
| 14K WHITE GOLD, LUBRICATION ON SAW BLADE      | Beginning to feel dulling at 2". Visible hooking and rounding of teeth.                                                                | Minor dulling and diminishing accuracy, no notable change in the condition of the teeth.                         | No change in performance from cut two, but with more hooking and rounding of teeth.                                                        | Cutting felt dull, but without the need for forward pressure or bounce back.                                                   |

| Cut five: 12-15"                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                              | Cut six: 15-18"                                     | Cut seven: 18-21"                                                                                                                                         | Cut eight: 21-24"                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div></div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Difficult to engage saw blade at the beginning of cut, difficult cutting with chatter and bounce back. Debris and deformation in some teeth. | No change.                                          | Increasing difficulty engaging saw blade, more chatter and bounce back. Debris and deformation of teeth only slightly greater than at the end of cut six. | No change.                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Progressive degradation in performance of blade, with significant deformation of teeth and some clogging.                                    | No change.                                          | No change.                                                                                                                                                | Blade broke; examination of blade revealed breakdown of the teeth in the area of the break. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Ease, accuracy, and quality of cutting beginning to diminish, with visible degradation of teeth.                                             | No change.                                          | Cutting dull and inaccurate, perhaps marginally better than the test with lubrication on the back of sample, no better than the test with no lubrication. | Dull and difficult cutting.                                                                 |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                             |
| Blade broke <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " into cut.                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                             |
| Difficult to engage saw blade at the beginning of cut. Cutting dull and slow, requiring forward pressure, with wax being drawn through to the top of the sheet on this cut. Easier cutting than cut five on 14k with no lubrication. |                                                                                                                                              | Blade broke <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " into cut. |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                             |
| Some difficulty engaging blade at the beginning of the cut, with slow but smooth cutting. Blade broke with <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " left in the cut.                                                                            |                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                             |



Smooth and easy cutting



Beginning of dulling



Difficult cutting



Extremely dull and difficult cutting