

# Idrockman's Rotary Tumbler Instructions

1. Fill barrel 1/2 to 5/8 full of stones. Add COARSE (70). Add water even with top stones. Run tumbler with this mixture for approximately 14 days, 24 hours a day, or until smooth. WASH STONES AND BARREL WELL. (Kitchen colander is ideal for washing stones, **but do not wash into sink drains.**)

2. Place stones back into barrel. Add FINE (220). Add water even with top of stones. Run tumbler with this mixture for approximately 7 days, 24 hours a day, or until rocks are shiny when wet. WASH STONES AND BARREL WELL, **but do not wash into sink drains.**

3. Place stones back into barrel. Add PRE-POLISH (500/600). Add water even with top of stones. Add pellets if needed to make up the 1/2 to 5/8 full/ Run the tumbler with this mixture approximately 7 days, 24 hours a day, or until rocks show a luster when dry. WASH STONE AND BARREL WELL, **but do not wash into sink drains.**

4. Place stones back into barrel and plastic pellets if needed. Remember not to use the PRE-POLISH pellets; you will need to use new pellets, so as not to contaminate POLISH stage. Add POLISH. Add water even with top of stones. Run tumbler with this mixture approximately 7 days, 24 hours a day, or until rocks show a luster when dry. WASH STONES AND BARREL WELL, **but do not wash into sink drains.**

5. Place stones back into barrel. Add enough powdered detergent to make stiff suds. Add water even with top of stones. You may also add sawdust or some similar material to cushion the rocks during this clean-up stage. Run tumbler with this mixture overnight. WASH STONES AND BARREL WELL. SPREAD OUT ROCKS ON DRY SURFACE AND INSPECT YOUR FINISHED GEMSTONES, **but do not wash into sink drains.**

**Remember you can re-use the plastic pellets.**

Barrel Size in lbs	Course Grind	Medium Grind	Pre-Polish	Polish	*Burnish Soap
In Tablespoons					
1.5	4	4	5	5	0.5
3	4	4	6	6	1
4.5	8	8	8	8	1.5
6	10	10	12	12	3
12	20	20	24	24	4

\*For the soap, I use Ivory Snow (powder), White King or equivalent. Do not use any liquid detergents, dishwasher powders that have bleach or additives.