

Skate Sharpening Recommendations

The Inside Edge Skating Supply Shop 462-7191

The sharpening of your skates will make all the difference in the performance of your skates. Nothing will ruin a skate quicker than an improper sharpening.

Skate blades need to be sharpened level and have the appropriate amount of hollow or depth of groove sharpened into the blade to allow for proper edges while skating. Your level of skating and your weight will determine the amount of hollow required on your blade. A reputable sharpener should be able to determine according to your individual level the proper amount of hollow needed. For example, a competitive skater will require more hollow than a canskater doing badges, or an adult weighing 150 pounds will require less than an 80 pound girl doing the same level of skating.

The heels of your blade should remain square and not be rolled off or curved. Some sharpeners who are used to doing a lot of rounded hockey blades tend to round off the heels of figure skates because they are accustomed to that rounding motion when sharpening.

Ensure blades are kept dry between skating sessions so rust will not form on the blade. Rusty blades will require more passes to sharpen the blade therefore shortening the life of your blade.

DO NOT sharpen off the bottom picks! The bottom pick serves a very important function in figure skating. It is used as a balance point for spinning as well as many other moves.

A properly maintained blade will last for many sharpenings. Blades can also be replaced on all skates that have screws in the bottom and not rivets. If your blade becomes damaged in some way, check to see if you can replace the blade without replacing the boot.