

Manuals+

[Q & A](#) | [Deep Search](#) | [Upload](#)

[manuals.plus](#) /

› [Blue Marble](#) /

› [National Geographic Professional Rock Tumbler Kit Instruction Manual](#)

Blue Marble NGPROTUM5

National Geographic Professional Rock Tumbler Kit

Model: NGPROTUM5 | Brand: Blue Marble

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the exciting world of rock tumbling! The National Geographic Professional Rock Tumbler Kit allows you to transform rough rocks into beautiful, polished gemstones. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your rock tumbler to ensure optimal results and a safe experience.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- **Choking Hazard - Small Parts:** This kit contains small parts which may pose a choking hazard for young children. Keep all components out of reach of children under 3 years of age.
- **Electric Toy:** This product is an electric toy and is not recommended for children under 8 years of age. As with all electric products, precautions should be observed during handling and use to prevent electric shock.
- Always supervise children during operation.
- Ensure the tumbler is placed on a stable, level surface away from water sources.
- Do not immerse the motor base in water.
- Unplug the unit from the power outlet when not in use or before cleaning.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your National Geographic Professional Rock Tumbler Kit includes the following components:

- Professional-grade Rock Tumbler with 2 lb. capacity leak-proof rubber barrel
- Heavy-duty, 3-speed motor with programmable 9-day timer and LED user interface
- 1 lb. of rough rocks (9 different types)
- 4-stage rock tumbling grit (coarse, medium, pre-polish, polish)
- 5 jewelry fastenings (for creating custom jewelry)
- Large strainer
- GemFoam rock polisher (reusable)
- Instruction manual and Rock Tumbler Learning Guide

- Extra drive belt

TUMBLING MADE EASY!



Figure 1: Overview of the rock tumbling process from rough rocks to polished gemstones.

9 GEMSTONES

FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Amethyst



Sodalite



Rose Quartz



Red Jasper



Dalmatian Jasper



Aventurine



Tiger's Eye



Black Jasper



Agate

Figure 2: The variety of 9 rough gemstones included in the kit.

SETUP

1. **Unpack Components:** Carefully remove all items from the packaging. Inspect for any damage.
2. **Position the Tumbler:** Place the tumbler base on a flat, stable surface. Ensure there is enough space around the unit for proper operation and ventilation.
3. **Connect Power:** Plug the power adapter into the tumbler base, then into a suitable electrical outlet.
4. **Prepare the Barrel:** Ensure the rubber barrel is clean and dry before first use.

RUGGED AND DURABLE



- Large 2 lb Capacity Barrel
- Leak-Proof
- Stainless Steel Lid
- Heavy-Duty Motor
- Programmable 1 Hour-12 Days, 3 Speeds

Figure 3: Key features of the rock tumbler, including its durable construction and control panel.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS: THE TUMBLING PROCESS

The rock tumbling process involves several stages, each using a different grit size to gradually smooth and polish the rocks. Each stage typically runs for 7 days. Always clean the barrel and rocks thoroughly between stages to prevent contamination.

Stage 1: Coarse Grinding (60 Grit)

- Load Rocks:** Place your rough rocks into the rubber barrel. Fill the barrel approximately 2/3 full.
- Add Grit:** Add 2 tablespoons of the Step 1 Coarse Grit (60 grit) to the barrel.
- Add Water:** Pour water into the barrel until it just covers the rocks.
- Seal Barrel:** Securely attach the lid and tighten the nut to ensure a watertight seal.
- Set Tumbler:** Place the sealed barrel onto the tumbler base. Set the timer for 7 days and the speed to 1. Press the power button to start.
- Clean Between Stages:** After 7 days, carefully open the barrel. Strain the contents over a bucket (do not pour grit down the drain). Rinse the rocks and the barrel thoroughly until all grit residue is removed.

Stage 2: Medium Grinding (220 Grit)

Repeat the process from Stage 1, but use 2 tablespoons of the Step 2 Medium Grit (220 grit). Run for 7 days. Clean thoroughly after this stage.

Stage 3: Pre-Polishing

Repeat the process, using the Step 3 Pre-Polish grit. Run for 7 days. Clean thoroughly after this stage.

Stage 4: Final Polishing

Repeat the process, using the Step 4 Polishing grit. Run for 7 days. Clean thoroughly after this stage.

GemFoam Application for Dazzling Shine

For an extra brilliant shine, use the included GemFoam:

1. After the final polishing stage and thorough cleaning, place the polished rocks back into the barrel.
2. Add the reusable GemFoam pieces to the barrel.
3. Add water to cover the rocks and GemFoam.
4. Seal the barrel and tumble for an additional 3 days.
5. Rinse the rocks and GemFoam. The GemFoam can be reused.



Figure 4: GemFoam for achieving a high-gloss finish on your tumbled rocks.

Video 1: An official overview of the National Geographic Professional Rock Tumbler Science Kit, demonstrating its features and the rock tumbling process.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Regularly clean the tumbler barrel and lid with water. Ensure no grit remains from previous stages.

- **Drive Belt:** Check the drive belt periodically for wear and tear. Replace with the extra belt provided if necessary.
- **Motor Care:** Keep the motor base clean and free of dust and debris. Do not submerge in water.
- **Storage:** Store the tumbler and all components in a cool, dry place when not in use.

75% QUIETER THAN PLASTIC BARRELS



Figure 5: The rubber barrel design contributes to quieter operation.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Tumbler not turning	Power not connected; Drive belt loose or broken	Check power connection; Replace drive belt
Rocks not smoothing	Insufficient tumbling time; Incorrect grit amount; Barrel too full or too empty	Increase tumbling time; Adjust grit as per instructions; Ensure barrel is 2/3 full
Barrel leaking	Lid not sealed properly; O-ring damaged	Ensure lid is tightly secured; Inspect and replace O-ring if damaged
Excessive noise	Unstable surface; Rocks too large or too few; Worn drive belt	Place on stable surface; Adjust rock quantity/size; Replace drive belt

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Product Dimensions:** 16.06 x 10.83 x 5.51 inches
- **Item Weight:** 6.35 pounds
- **Item Model Number:** NGPROTUM5
- **Manufacturer Recommended Age:** 8 years and up
- **Barrel Capacity:** 2 lbs.
- **Motor Speeds:** 3
- **Timer:** Programmable (up to 9 days)
- **Manufacturer:** JMW Sales, Inc.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Blue Marble, the manufacturer of this National Geographic product, is committed to providing high-quality, hands-on science toys and exceptional service. Your purchase helps support the global nonprofit National Geographic Society in its work to protect and illuminate our world through exploration, research, and education. For any questions or support, please contact our U.S. support team.