The Steel
We may recognize the steel used to manufacture Puma razors by their density, their elasticity and their reliability. By its special manufacturing process, double hammering, etc..., this steel attains perfection by answering all the qualities found in a finished puma razor. In a microscope, you can notice yourself how components such as carbon, chrome and manganese are bound by forming hard steel while maintaining flexibility and a keen velvet-smooth edge. It is one of the reasons for Pumas unmatchable steel quality.

The Tempering
The tempering of the sensitive steel of Puma razors is a primordial operation. The better the quality of the steel, the more delicate the tempering process is. The highly qualified craftsmen that temper the Puma razors are all masters. They have the habit of tempering in a constant and regular manner in a way that ensures that each Puma razor possesses the exact degree of tempering required.

Once tempered, the steel of a puma razor has a grain comparable to powdered diamond. It is one of the many reasons Puma razors have a find and long lasting cutting edge. Once you have used a Puma razor you will be enchanted. But it is not only to use excellent steel that suffices to produce a high quality razor. The sharpening of the blade is of decisive importance.

The 4 Phases of the Manufacturing Process
The sharpening is done in no less than 44 different steps of manufacturing by the Puma sharpeners that have extensive experience and sharpen each Puma razor individually by hand. The sensitivity of the sharpener's fingertips of the Puma sharpener is passed on in families of sharpeners from generation to generation, from father to son.

It is only after 26 verifications that each Puma razor is packaged. Each piece in which the least imperfection is detected is thrown to scrap. This discarding process covers up to 33 % or more. In most cases, even a professional may not notice a slight fault in a finished razor. Before being scrapped, the blades that were unable to pass the 26 tests are destroyed, as there is no second quality for a Puma razor. The Puma Werk Company does not manufacture razors for any other company except Puma. Think twice when someone suggests a similar product.

The longevity of a Puma razor is practically unlimited when maintained with care. On almost every strop is a deposit of dust. This matter is composed of microscopic stones that are harder than steel. These microscopic stones make tiny nicks on the cutting edge and make it impossible to obtain a keen and smooth cut.

It is recommended to rub the palm of the hand on the leather before stropping your razor.

The control number is stamped on each razor, which gives your puma an individual number. If you have a comment to make concerning the razor, be it favorable or not, please write to us. We are always happy to know the opinions of professionals that take good care of their razor in order to know how the Puma works in his their hands.

All you have to do is indicate the control number stamped in the shank. With this information we are able to identify, even after many years, which worker tempered the blade, which worker sharpener sharpened it, and which controller conducted the 26 tests.

The Puma razor is a masterpiece of precision. Each worker, even after many years, remains individually responsible for his or her work.

Each Puma razor is equipped with a certificate of guaranty. The sixth control examines the stability of each Puma razor. This same control detects an eventual flaw.

Each blade in its crude but tempered state is hammered 4 times on an engine block. During this operation, each blade that doesn't posses the required stability or has the slightest flaw eventually breaks under the 8 kg pressure of the hammering process. Each Puma blade must pass this test with success. Otherwise, it is unconditionally scrapped.
This is why a finished Puma razor can never have a flaw and always possesses the necessary amount of resistance.

After the sharpening process, but before the honing on a stone, each puma blade undergoes a special control. During the honing process, it is possible to detect a certain number of flaws. Before honing, the blade of a puma razor must pas the nail test. This control is done after sharpening.

The blade is held almost horizontally and lightly pulled across the thumbnail. The pressure is placed on the cutting edge. The controller must ensure that the blade possesses sufficient elasticity and the required resistance after its hollowing and sharpening.

It is essentially the cutting edge that must be sufficiently elastic and resistant; otherwise the blade cannot have a smooth cut which is the first characteristic of a puma razor. The controller sees and feels at the same time, he must be knowledgeable of puma razors and have experience, which he can only acquire after several years.
The Puma controllers are masters that know their profession well.

The cutting edge of a hollowed razor must naturally never be pulled on the nail; we would only destroy the wire. Each razor is equipped with a guarantee voucher.

The cutting edge of a Puma razor is excessively sharp and resistant. During the hollowing process, the wire is pulled several times on a hard wood with a pressure of 200 grams. The fibers of the wood are harder than ebony. All puma razors are subjected to this test; otherwise they would not be packaged. Thus said, it is impossible to find traces of wire edges on the finished razors cutting edge. In the contrary, during one of the last controls:

The Hair Test
The slightest inconstancy is discovered. Each millimeter of the cutting edge must cut a hair that is under tension between two fingers. This is how each Puma razor cuts and we hear the expression: a Puma shave…by caressing!

To discover that a new razor is damaged is something that happens frequently. This is why one must be especially careful when buying a new razor and this for good reason.

There are buyers that are shown a multitude of razors. They pull the blade on the nail of each razor 8 to 10 times, try to cut paper, and then they purchase the razor. But the other tested razors are returned to their shelves and the seller then offers it to the next customer that may well be you.

The cutting edge of all the tested razors are ruined and no longer shave smoothly and neatly.

How to protect yourself from this inconvenience?
You should receive your puma razor in the same condition that it was in when it left the factory after the 26 controls. In order to ensure this, each Puma razor is encased in a lead cellophane package of the puma brand. Think about it, and never purchase a puma razor that is not in its lead packaging. You may then be certain that no hand has damaged the sharp edge of your Puma razor.

The patented case of the Puma razor is made of durizol; which is unbreakable. Under the head of the Puma is a printed number that may be easily erased with alcohol or gasoline: The polish of the case cannot be erased. But refuse any razor that is not presented in the patented durizol puma case. It is recommended to clean this case namely the Puma incrustation from time to time with gasoline to give it a brand new shine.

How to maintain your Puma razor
The cutting edge of a Puma razor is honed so finely that it is excessively sensitive. The sharpness that results from the honing of the cutting edge is necessary in order to obtain a perfect cut, as only a razor that is finely honed, as is the case with the Puma razor, shaves neatly and gently and does not leave a single hair. These two qualities:

1) **Closest shave**
2) **Gentle cut**

Are paramount characteristics of a high quality razor.

The cutting edge cannot be maintained unless a good leather strop is used. On one side of the strop, we lightly spread a Puma green paste and nothing on the other, (with the exception of our black extrafine Puma paste) Generally, you may use the leather without paste if a high quality strop is used, Russian leather for example.
On the side covered with green paste, the razor is stropped no more than 3 times by applying light pressure. Then, we wipe the blade with a cloth in order to ensure that no accumulation of green paste that produced the wire maybe be deposited on the side of the the leather that has not been pasted. On this side of the leather we may strop 20 20, 30; 40 or even 50 times without any problems.

A professional with certain sensitivity at the tip of the fingers may determine when the stropping of the razor is sufficient. By stropping on the non-pasted side of the leather, we remove miniscule accumulations of wire edges that have formed during the stropping on the pasted side of the leather. We may then obtain a clean and smooth cut.

As long as these precautions are followed, each professional may notice that there is no cut that is cleaner and smoother than that offered by a Puma razor. When stropping is necessary, use supple and smooth leather and press very gently without lifting the spine of the razor on the leather. Avoid pressing on the cutting edge at all costs, as you will dull the blade.

It is good to know that not any leather is appropriate for your razor. A poor leather may dull your blade in only a few strokes.

Inform yourself which paste to use by a professional, as a hard paste, or a paste that contains emery that is too large damages rather than sharpens the razor that is being stropped.