The object of this invention is to provide a convenient, effective and inexpensive method and means for honing safety razor blades.

It is well known that the cutting edges of a razor blade, under a magnifying glass, appear as a series of row of teeth-like projections which become crossed and awry by use, causing the blade to pull the whiskers instead of cutting them off as they did at first when the ends of the teeth were in a row, and the object of this invention is to bring the displaced teeth back to their original alignment.

In the accomplishment of my invention I use the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device illustrating the manner of holding it in one hand and manipulating the razor blade with the other to hone the blade,

Fig. 2 is a plan view looking at the open end of the honing device.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2,

Fig. 4 is an elevation looking at the short wall.

Fig. 5 is a plan view and Fig. 6, an elevation of a modified form of the honing device.

The required mechanism comprises a smooth concave surface, preferably an approximate semi-cylinder of an inch radius, long enough to contact the full length of a safety razor blade.

This is generally made out of glass, although other material as porcelain may be used.

My preferred form illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, is a little more than a semicylinder 7 in its outside measurement, it is hollow and has its inner end closed by the transverse wall 8. Extending forward from the wall 8, for about half of the length of the cylinder is a flat side 9, the front edge of which is preferably concaved as best shown in Fig. 4.

The purpose of the flat side is to afford a better grip of the user's hand in grasping the honing device, and the wall is less than the full length of the cylinder to provide a recess through which a lather brush may be readily introduced for depositing lather on the concave surface of the hone.

The hone shown in Figs. 5 and 6 has full cylinder walls and is not flattened on one side or recessed as in the preferred form.

The method of honing a safety razor blade is as follows: A sufficient quantity of lather to lubricate the operation is deposited on the concave surface of the hone by the aid of a lather brush. Then a blade is introduced into the hone and is pressed by the operator's finger with sufficient force against the concave surface to bow the blade downwardly, thereby presenting the contacting edges of the blade at the proper angle, to the concave walls. The blade is reciprocated laterally by proper movement of the operator's finger for about a minute, and then the blade is turned over and honed in like manner on the other side. The number of reciprocating movements of the blade varies with the quality of its steel and its dullness, so that the above operations may be shortened or may have to be repeated. The user will quickly acquire skill and judgment in determining when a blade is properly honed. When thus honed the blade is ready for use. Oil or other lubricant may be substituted for the lather, water also may be used.

It is not my intention to limit my patent protection to the exact details specified, but changes may be made within the scope of the inventive ideas as implied and claimed.

I claim:

1. A razor blade hone comprising a cup of hard material having a flat side wall, a side wall joining the ends of the flat wall substantially semi-cylindrically shaped, and an integral bottom closure between the two.
walls, said flat wall being much shorter than the semi-cylindrical wall.

2. A razor blade hone comprising a side wall of hard material substantially semi-cylindrical in shape and a flat side wall joining the ends of the semi-cylindrical wall, the flat wall being much shorter than the other wall whereby an appreciable length of the semi-cylindrical wall extends above the flat wall.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EMMET L. IRELAND.