

Flexible Extraction Arms

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Extraction & Ventilation

A flexible extraction arm is a counterbalanced, articulated hose that positions a suction hood exactly where dust and fumes are generated at workbenches and entry-level machines. It keeps the air clean at hand tools, sanders and soldering stations without ducting to every bench.

Key Features

- Reach from 1 m to 3 m typical
- Counterbalanced joints hold position
- Hood diameters 100-160 mm
- Wall or ceiling mounting brackets
- Connects to extractor or fume filter units

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Extract dust at bench sanding and grinding
- Pull fumes at soldering and hot work stations
- Clear dust at hand routers and disc sanders
- Vent areas the main ducting cannot reach

Safe Operation

1. Position the hood close to the dust source
2. Lock the joints so the hood stays put
3. Turn on the extractor before starting work
4. Move the hood as the work position changes
5. Fold the arm away at the end of the job

SAFETY NOTES

- Keep the hood clear of open flames and hot chips
- Do not let the arm trail across walkways
- Check hose integrity so suction is not wasted
- Avoid kinking the hose at the joints
- Keep the hood above head height when parked

Maintenance & Consumables

- Check joints and springs for tension and wear
- Inspect the hose for splits and holes
- Clean the hood lip from built-up dust
- Tighten the mounting bracket bolts
- Replace worn counterbalance springs

Specification & Buying Notes

Choose a wall-mounted arm with enough reach for the bench layout and a hood that matches the extractor flow. Heavier arms hold position better. Buy the mounting kit with it.