

Belt Sanders

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Machinery & Power Tools



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A belt sander is a power tool that drives an abrasive belt over two rollers, removing material fast along the grain of wood and metal. It is for rapid stock removal and levelling, not fine finishing, and needs controlled handling to avoid gouging the surface.

Key Features

- Belt sizes 100 x 610 mm common benchtop
- 75 x 457 mm handheld belt sizes
- Belt tracking adjustment
- Dust collection ports
- Variable or fixed belt speeds

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Remove paint and finish quickly
- Level joints and glued panels
- Shape edges and ends before final sanding
- Deburr and clean up metal edges

Safe Operation

1. Fit the belt and check the tracking arrow
2. Rest the sander flat before switching on
3. Keep it moving along the grain, never resting in one spot
4. Lift before stopping to avoid gouging
5. Vacuum the surface after sanding

SAFETY NOTES

- Never touch a moving belt or point it at people
- Clamp work firmly; the belt can pull it
- Do not press hard - let the belt remove stock
- Wear a dust mask with extraction
- Switch off before changing the belt

Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean the belt after use with a rubber cleaner
- Check tracking and replace worn belts
- Vacuum dust from the rollers and housing
- Check the drive belt tension
- Store spare belts flat and dry

Specification & Buying Notes

A benchtop belt sander with dust port suits school workshops better than handhelds for static work. Buy a pack of 80 and 120 grit belts as consumables.