

Sandblasting Cabinets

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Metalworking Machines



Photo: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health — Public domain — via Wikimedia Commons (Sandblasting_without_proper_ppe.jpg)

A sandblasting cabinet is a sealed box with gloves and a viewing window in which abrasive media is blasted at parts to strip rust, paint and scale or to matt-finish surfaces, with the dust contained and extracted. It cleans metal, glass and plastic parts safely.

Key Features

- Cabinet sizes from around A5 to 400 x 600 mm
- Glove ports and viewing windows
- Abrasive return systems
- Dust extraction connections
- Foot or hand blast controls

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Strip rust, paint and corrosion from parts
- Clean castings and welded joints
- Matt and texture surfaces for finishing
- Prepare parts for painting and coating

Safe Operation

1. Put on eye protection and check the cabinet seal
2. Load parts through the side door
3. Start the extraction and blast continuously
4. Blast at an angle until the surface is even
5. Remove parts and clean the cabinet glass

SAFETY NOTES

- Never reach into the cabinet without gloves fitted
- Use the correct media for the material - silica dust is dangerous
- Wear a dust mask when maintaining the cabinet
- Check the window and seals for leaks
- Keep the extraction running after blasting

Maintenance & Consumables

- Drain and replace used abrasive
- Clean the window and gloves
- Check the nozzle and hose for wear
- Change the dust filter regularly
- Check the cabinet seals

Specification & Buying Notes

Choose a cabinet with a dust extractor and large window. Media choice matters - glass bead for fine finishes, garnet for stripping. Buy spare nozzles, gloves and media with the cabinet.