

Abrasives Characteristics Comparison

Material	Mesh Size	Shape	Density lbs/ft ³	Mohs	Friability	Initial Cost	No. of Cycles	Per Use Cost	Source	Typical Applications
Sil. Sand †	6-270	★	100	5.0-6.0	high	low	1	med.	nat.	Outdoor blast cleaning
Min. Slag	8-80	★	85-112	7.0-7.5	high	med.	1-2	med.	b-p	Outdoor blast cleaning
Steel Grit	10-325	★	230	8.0	low	high	200+	med.	mfg.	Removing heavy scale
Steel Shot	8-200	●	280	8.0		high	200+	low	mfg.	Cleaning, peening
Al. Oxide	12-325	★	125	9.0	med.	high	6-8	med.	mfg.	Cleaning, finishing, deburring, etching
Silicon Carbide	12-325	★	110	9.5	med.	high	5-6	med.	mfg.	Surf. prep on extremely hard substrates
Glass Bead	10-400	●	85-90	5.5-6.0	med.	med.	8-10	low	mfg.	Cleaning, finishing
Plastic	12-80	★	45-60	3.0-4.0	low/med.	high	8-10	med.	mfg.	Paint stripping, deflashing, cleaning
Wheat Starch	12-80	★	45	3.0	med.	med.	12-15	high	mfg.	Paint, adhesive removal; composites
XL-Corn Hybrid Polymer	16-60	★	45	3.0	low	high	14-17	med.	mfg.	Composite paint removal, adhesive deflash
Corn Cob	8-40	★	35-45	2.0-4.5	med.	low	4-5	low	b-p	Removing paint from delicate surfaces

★ = Angular ● = Spherical nat. = Natural b-p = By-product mfg. = Manufactured
 † Consult OSHA regulations before using silica sand as a blast abrasive.

Compressed Air and Abrasive Consumption

Nozzle Orifice	Pressure at the Nozzle (psi)								*Consumption based on abrasives that weigh 100 pounds per cubic foot.
	50	60	70	80	90	100	125	140	
No. 2 (1/8")	11	13	15	17	18.5	20	25	28	Air (cfm)
	.67	.77	.88	1.01	1.12	1.23	1.52	1.70	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	67	77	88	101	112	123	152	170	Compressor hp
	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	6.2	
No. 3 (3/16")	26	30	33	38	41	45	55	66	Air (cfm)
	1.50	1.71	1.96	2.16	2.38	2.64	3.19	3.57	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	150	171	196	216	238	264	319	357	Compressor hp
	6	7	8	9	10	10	12	13	
No. 4 (1/4")	47	54	61	68	74	81	98	110	Air (cfm)
	2.68	3.12	3.54	4.08	4.48	4.94	6.08	6.81	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	268	312	354	408	448	494	608	681	Compressor hp
	11	12	14	16	17	18	22	25	
No. 5 (5/16")	77	89	101	113	126	137	168	188	Air (cfm)
	4.68	5.34	6.04	6.72	7.40	8.12	9.82	11.0	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	468	534	604	672	740	812	982	1,100	Compressor hp
	18	20	23	26	28	31	37	41	
No. 6 (3/8")	108	126	143	161	173	196	237	265	Air (cfm)
	6.68	7.64	8.64	9.60	10.52	11.52	13.93	15.6	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	668	764	864	960	1052	1152	1393	1,560	Compressor hp
	24	28	32	36	39	44	52	58	
No. 7 (7/16")	147	170	194	217	240	254	314	352	Air (cfm)
	8.96	10.32	11.76	13.12	14.48	15.84	19.31	21.63	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	896	1032	1176	1312	1448	1584	1931	2,163	Compressor hp
	33	38	44	49	54	57	69	77	
No. 8 (1/2")	195	224	252	280	309	338	409	458	Air (cfm)
	11.60	13.36	15.12	16.80	18.56	20.24	24.59	27.54	Abrasive (cu.ft./hr & Lbs/hr)
	1160	1336	1512	1680	1856	2024	2459	2754	Compressor hp
	44	50	56	63	69	75	90	101	

Minimum Air Volume Table
Air Volume Requirements at 100 PSI for a Complete Blast System

Nozzle	Size of Orifice	Volume of Air	Plus Helmet	Plus 50% (reserve)	Minimum Air Required
No. 4	1/4"	81	20	50	151 cfm
	6.5mm	2.3	0.5	1.4	4.2 m ³ /min
No. 5	5/16"	137	20	79	236 cfm
	8.0mm	3.9	0.5	2.2	6.6 m ³ /min
No. 6	3/8"	196	20	108	324 cfm
	9.5mm	5.5	0.5	3.0	9.0 m ³ /min
No. 7	7/16"	254	20	137	411 cfm
	11.0mm	7.2	0.5	3.9	11.6 m ³ /min
No. 8	1/2"	338	20	179	537 cfm
	12.5mm	9.6	0.5	5.0	16.1 m ³ /min

Metric Nozzle Chart Compressor Air and Abrasive Consumption

Nozzle Orifice	Pressure at the Nozzle (bar & kPa)								Requirements: Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) * & kW
	3.5 350	4.2 420	4.9 490	5.6 560	6.3 630	7.0 700	8.6 860	10.3 1035	
5mm (3/16")	0.73 68 4.5	0.84 78 5.3	0.92 89 5.6	1.06 98 6.4	1.15 108 7.1	1.26 120 7.5	1.54 145 9.0	1.82 174 10.8	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW
6.5mm (1/4")	1.31 122 7.9	1.51 142 9.0	1.71 161 10.1	1.90 185 11.6	2.08 203 12.4	2.27 224 13.5	2.75 276 16.2	3.22 325 19.4	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW
8mm (5/16")	2.16 212 13.1	2.50 242 15.0	2.83 274 19.1	3.16 305 20.2	3.53 336 21.0	3.84 368 22.9	4.71 445 27.5	5.57 534 33.0	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW
9.5mm (3/8")	3.02 303 18.0	3.53 347 21.0	4.00 392 24.0	4.50 435 27.0	4.85 477 28.9	5.50 573 33.0	6.64 632 39.6	7.79 758 47.5	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW
11mm (7/16")	4.12 406 24.8	4.76 468 28.5	5.44 533 32.6	6.09 595 36.4	6.73 657 40.1	7.11 719 42.4	8.80 876 50.9	10.48 1040 61.1	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW
12.5mm (1/2")	5.46 526 32.6	6.28 606 37.5	7.06 686 42.0	7.85 762 46.9	8.65 842 51.8	9.46 918 56.3	11.46 1115 67.6	13.45 1333 81.1	Air (m ³ /min) Abrasive (kg/h) kW

* Based on abrasive with a density of 1.5 kg per liter.

Effect of Nozzle Wear on Air Consumption

Nozzle Size.	Orifice size		Air Flow in cfm	Increase in Air Consumption
	inches	metric		
4	1/4	6.5mm	81 cfm	
5	5/16	8.0mm	137 cfm	69% more than No. 4
6	3/8	9.5mm	196 cfm	43% more than No. 5
7	7/16	11.0mm	254 cfm	29% more than No. 6
8	1/2	12.5mm	338 cfm	33% more than No. 7

Information shown is based upon air consumption at 100 psi (7 bar/700kPa)

Minimum Compressor Air Line Sizes

Nozzle No.	Nozzle Orifice Size	Minimum Air Line ID
No. 3	3/16" (5.0mm)	1" (25.0mm)
No. 4	1/4" (6.5mm)	1" (25.0mm)
No. 5	5/16" (8.0mm)	1-1/4" (32.0mm)
No. 6	3/8" (9.5mm)	1-1/2" (38.0mm)
No. 7	7/16" (11.0mm)	2" (50.0mm)
No. 8	1/2" (12.5mm)	2" (50.0mm)
No. 10	5/8" (16.0mm)	2-1/2" (64.0mm)
No. 12	3/4" (19.0mm)	3" (76.0mm)

Minimum Connector ID by Nozzle Orifice Size		
Nozzle Orifice Size	Minimum Connector ID	
3 3/16" (5mm)	3/4" (19mm)	
4 1/4" (6.5mm)	1" (25mm)	
5 5/16" (8mm)	1-1/4" (32mm)	
6 3/8" (9.5mm)	1-1/2" (38mm)	
7 7/16" (11mm)	2" (50mm)	
8 1/2" (12.5mm)	2" (50mm)	
10 5/8" (16mm)	2-1/2" (64mm)	
12 3/4" (19mm)	3" (76mm)	

Approximate Pressure Loss Caused by Commonly Used Fittings based on 100 psi (7 bar) in 1" (25mm) pipe

Fitting	Pressure Loss
90° pipe elbow	3 psi (0.2 bar/21 kPa)
pipe tee	5 psi (0.3 bar/34 kPa)
45° pipe elbow	1-1/2 psi (0.1 bar/10 kPa)
swing check valve	18 psi (1.2 bar/124 kPa)

Internal Area Loss Due to Hose Size Reduction

Main Hose Size	Whip Hose Size	% of reduction
2" (50mm)	1-1/2" (38mm)	44%
2" (50mm)	1-1/4" (32mm)	61%
1-1/2" (38mm)	1-1/4" (32mm)	31%
1-1/2" (38mm)	1" (25mm)	56%
1-1/4" (32mm)	1" (25mm)	36%
1-1/4" (32mm)	3/4" (19mm)	64%
1" (25mm)	3/4" (19mm)	44%

Typical ID to OD Relationship in Common Blast Hose

Standard Hose (2 Braid & 4 Ply)		SUPA Hose (Lightweight 2 ply)	
ID	OD	ID	OD
1/2"	1-5/32"		
3/4"	1-1/2"	3/4"	1-5/16"
1"	1-7/8"	1"	1-1/2"
1-1/4"	2-5/32"	1-1/4"	1-7/8"
1-1/2"	2-3/8"		

Blast Hose Rating

Types of Blast Hose	Construction	Working Pressure Rating	Features and Applications
Two-braid	Two layers of cross-woven fabric	175 psi (12 bar, 1206 kPa)	Moderate flex with enough outer support to keep hose round. Common among contractors and at fixed sites and blast rooms.
Two-ply	Two layers of semi cross-woven fabric	175 psi (12 bar, 1206 kPa)	Smaller overall wall dimension for optimum flexibility with maximum internal diameter. Sometimes used as whip hose.
Four-ply	Four layers of straight-woven fabric	175 psi (12 bar, 1206 kPa)	Stiff, with greater exterior endurance, rebounds to a fully round shape. Used in shipyards, high traffic areas to withstand weight of motor vehicles.

Pipe ID-Area-Nozzle Size

Pipe or Valve ID		Area *	Nozzle Sizes**	
(Inches)	(Metric)	(Sq. Inches)	(Inches)	(Metric)
1/2"	12.5mm	.20"	1/8"	4mm
3/4"	19mm	.45"	3/16"	5mm
1"	25mm	.80"	1/4"	6.5mm
1-1/4"	32mm	1.2"	5/16"	8mm
1-1/2"	38mm	1.8"	3/8"	9.5mm
2"	50mm	3.2"	7/16"	11mm
2"	50mm	3.2"	1/2"	12.5mm
2-1/2"	64mm	4.9"	5/8"	16mm
3"	76mm	7.1"	3/4"	19mm

* Area derived from $(\pi)r^2$ and rounded.
 **Nozzle sizes supported at one hundred feet.
 (Piping of 1/2" is used only on 10" diameter blast machines.)

Clemco (USA) Blast Machine Model Reference

Model Numbers	Dimensions		Capacity (Vol.)* Cu Ft	Capacity (Vol.)** Lbs
	Diameter	Height		
1028	10"	28"	.5	50
1042	10"	42"	1	100
1440	14"	40"	1.5	150
1642	16"	42"	2	200
1648	16"	48"	3	300
2016	16"	42"	2	200
2020	20"	42"	4	400
2024	24"	52"	6	600
2452	24"	52"	6	600
3054	30"	54"	7	700
3661	36"	61"	10	1000
3680	36"	80"	20	2000

* Actual volume may vary based on head and cone sizes.
 ** Based on abrasives with a density of 100 pounds per cubic foot.

Clemco International Blast Machine Reference Table

European Models	Capacity (Vol.) * Capacity (Wt.) **	
	Liters	Kg
1028	20	25
1440	50	76
1628	40	60
1638	60	90
1648	100	150
2040	100	150
2048	140	210
2452	200	300

* Actual volume may vary based on head and cone sizes. European machines are built to slightly larger dimensions and may have greater volumes.
 ** Based on abrasives with a density of 1.5 kg per liter.

Degrees of Cleanliness

	SSPC Std.	NACE Std.	SIS Std.
White Metal Blast	SSPC-SP 5	NACE No. 1	SA-3
Near White Metal Blast	SSPC-SP 10	NACE No. 2	SA-2 1/2
Commercial Blast	SSPC-SP 6	NACE No. 3	SA-2
Brush-off Blast	SSPC-SP 7	NACE No. 4	SA-1