

# Abrasive brushes – why is it worth using for grinding surfaces and edges?

Did you know that the PolishStyl company – as the first polish producer – introduced abrasive brush technology to the domestic market 15 years ago? Today, it is revolutionizing grinding processes in thousands of factories in the furniture and wood industries in Poland and abroad. What are the advantages of using abrasive brush technology?



## What are abrasive brushes?

Abrasive brushes are grinding tools. They optimize the surface finishing process in sanding wood, wood-based materials and paint coatings.

Each abrasive brush is composed of a supporting body, i.e. a head, and replaceable abrasive inserts – brushes placed on its circumference, which directly grind the element. The heads can be made of a light metal alloy or of an appropriately stiff and deformation-resistant plastic. This structure allows you to carry heavy loads during grinding without compromising the durability of the head and machine drive.

PolishStyl – a polish producer of tools and abrasive materials – offers cylindrical and disc heads as well as hybrid heads as a combination of a cylindrical head with conical or disc heads. Cylindrical heads are made with straight or spiral grooves.

Abrasive brushes can be used both in production lines and in individual grinders and hand-held brush grinders. They are very universal tools and are used both in small carpentry workshops and large factories, significantly reducing the amount of manual work.

"In 2008, when we started producing our abrasive brushes, many people were shaking their heads and did not believe in the success of the technology we were introducing," recalls Bogusław Szkutnik, CEO of PolishStyl. "Today, our brushes work well in thousands of factories of the largest manufacturers of the furniture and wood industries in Poland. We are also very successful on foreign markets – recently, exports have been developing very well on the demanding North American market, which is the best proof of the quality of our technology."

## What is the difference between a tape and an abrasive brush?

The most famous product for sanding wood and wood-based materials are, of course, abrasive belts. However, in many applications it is worth replacing the tapes with abrasive brushes. Why?

"An abrasive brush is a flexible tool in which the abrasive material does not crumble, as is the case with too high pressures and allowances when sanding with an abrasive belt," emphasizes CEO of PolishStyl.

The bristles (brush) supporting the abrasive cloth are characterized by antistatic properties, thanks to which no electrostatic charges are generated on the surface of the sanded material. Of course, the bristles used also have excellent grinding, polishing and cleaning and dust removal properties.

Abrasive brushes are perfect for processing not only wooden elements, but also MDF boards, e.g. in the production of foiled fronts, which must be properly sanded before applying glue.

"Unfortunately, in many factories in Poland, grinding of such elements is still performed manually, but it is enough to place the front – already with millings – in a brushing machine to give it the final smoothness of the surface," informs Bogusław Szkutnik. What is also worth emphasizing is the repeatable quality of grinding and the rounding of sharp edges.

The technology of using abrasive brushes significantly reduces labor costs when grinding elements before and after painting. One brushing machine can replace up to a dozen or so workers performing manual grinding operations.

## Which type of brush for which applications?

The effect we achieve is determined by a number of parameters of the brush, such as the height of the abrasive material, its granulation, density, cut, shape of the cloth tip, and the type of grain on the cloth. Therefore, without appropriate advice and production tests, the correct selection of the entire technology is not possible.

"Our advisors – technicians go to the client and select all brush parameters depending on what machines the client uses, whether he is grinding surfaces or edges, or strips or fronts, and of course whether wood or board," says CEO of PolishStyl. "This is what makes us different from the competition – we sell our customers technology for which we take responsibility. This is a fundamental difference in the sales philosophy that customers appreciate."

Depending on the production needs and the effect you want to achieve, PolishStyl uses abrasive cloth, abrasive nonwoven fabric, natural leather, abralon, plant hair or horse hair to produce brushes. The appropriate selection of these materials and their granulation, cuts and support method ensures optimal results when performing grinding operations. When selecting parameters, the width of the grinding blade is also very important, as it affects the aggressiveness and mobility of grinding.

"Of course, if our client's technology requires it, as a manufacturer we are also able to make unusual designs of brushes and heads," notes Bogusław Szkutnik.

### Why PolishStyl?

PolishStyl, as a manufacturer of both grinding heads and brushes, is able to quickly respond to today's market needs. "Through professional advice, we can propose optimal grinding technology."

Thanks to the optimization of the most important parameters of abrasive brushes and high flexibility in the selection of effective grinding technology, it is able to meet the most difficult and unusual challenges when finishing surfaces.

"The success of our technologies did not come out of nowhere," says Bogusław Szkutnik. "Our greatest asset is our educated, experienced staff with extensive knowledge in the field of wood surface treatment. Our technicians supervise the everyday problems of grinding and surface finishing in hundreds of furniture and woodworking plants. I would like to emphasize that we provide pro-



fessional technical advice to all our current and future clients."

Moreover, using many years of experience, PolishStyl is able to produce and deliver virtually any abrasive tool. Nowadays, to compete on the market, you must not only offer very good quality products, but also stand out in the speed of order fulfillment. This is also what PolishStyl offers.

The PolishStyl company, which comes from a family passion for sanding and woodworking, contrary to the market trends in recent years, has focused on personalized materials for sanding various types of wood or wood-based boards as well as varnish coatings.

Only the optimal selection of the abrasive material for the production conditions and the material being processed will give the expected results of the demanding grinding process and will eliminate many errors at later stages of processing.

"This is what we have been teaching customers since the beginning of PolishStyl," summarizes Bogusław Szkutnik. "Sometimes changes and modernizations occur in the production process, which cause the repeatability of the final effect to be impaired. Very often we encounter an approach in which the client assigns all failures to the abrasive material... and this is our role as experienced specialists to point out weak points and improve the efficiency of the process, thus minimizing the costs of corrections and grinding."

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