

## Blast Media Selection Guide

Blast media is a small angular particle that is propelled by compressed air or a water pump. Blast media has many different types, shapes and grits. Below is a list of four different types of blast media and their uses.

### Blast Media Types

#### Aluminum Oxide Media

The most common media is aluminum oxide. This media is very sharp and long lasting and can be recycled many times. Aluminum oxide can be used to strip or polish even the hardest metals due to the hardness of the media. This media minimizes damage to thinner materials by eliminating surface stress caused by heavier cutting media. Aluminum oxide has a grit range from extra coarse to super fine.



#### Silicon Carbide Media

The hardest type of media available is silicon carbide, which allows for shorter blast times. This type of media splinters and has a blocky grain style that can have a fast cutting speed. Silicon carbide is mainly used in glass or stone cutting. This media does not generate static electricity and can be recycled many times. Silicon carbide has a grit range from extra coarse to very fine.

#### Glass Bead Media

Glass bead media is made from lead-free soda lime glass. Glass beads produce a smoother finish than harder, heavier abrasives. This type of media is normally used in a blast cabinet for polishing and finishing metals. Glass media can be recycled up to 30 times and have a grit range from extra coarse to very fine.



#### Corn Cob Media

Corn cob media is mainly used for fragile parts. This type of media is biodegradable and is from the wood ring of the corn cob. Corn cob media can remove debris and coatings on metal and glass. This media can be recycled multiple times during the blast process and has extra coarse grit.

	Aluminum Oxide					Silicon Carbide				Glass Bead			Corn Cob	
	Extra Coarse (36-50)	Coarse (60-80)	Medium (100-120)	Fine (150-180)	Very fine (220-280)	Super Fine (400)	Extra fine (320)	Very fine (220-280)	Extra Coarse (36-50)	Coarse (60-80)	Medium (100-120)	Fine (150-180)	Very Fine (220-280)	Extra Coarse (36-50)
For use with Metal Products	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
For use with Glass Products	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Rust, Corrosion, Paint Removal	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red									Red
Deburring	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red									Red
Cleaning and Polishing			Red	Red	Red									Red
Before Priming			Red	Red	Red									Red
Shaping						Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Smoothing									Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Before Priming									Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow



Information sources include W.W Grainger

If you are still having difficulty choosing Blast Media, please contact us at [askzoro@zoro.com](mailto:askzoro@zoro.com) or 855-289-9676

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