3M Precision Grinding & Finishing bundles the know-how and experience of the Winterthur, Slip-Naxos and WENDT brands under the umbrella brand 3M. As a part of the 3M Abrasive Systems Division, 3M Precision Grinding & Finishing is your committed and competent supplier for abrasives, tools, service and support.
Conventional grinding
For a good reason with 3M

The definition of grinding
Grinding is an abrasive, path-based manufacturing process for manual or automatic machining of surfaces or for cutting off parts of using minerals and bonded abrasive grit. According to DIN 8580, it belongs to the cutting group and to the subgroup of machining with a geometrically undefined cutting edge.

Why grinding?
To manufacture precise products with corresponding shape or positional tolerances or after heat treating a material, it is essential to fine grind a workpiece in order to obtain the required surface finish quality while staying within the correspondingly low shape, positional, and dimensional tolerances. The benefits of the grinding over other types of machining include the ability to machine harder materials well, the high dimensional and geometrical precision, and the low waviness and roughness of the ground surfaces (Rz = 0.5 to 10 μm). Due to the large number of cutting edges compared to other hard fine machining processes, the highest process reliability is guaranteed.

Conventional grinding
In conventional grinding, aluminum oxide (Al2O3) and silicon carbide (SiC) are used as the minerals. Aluminum oxide is extremely reasonably priced, very versatile, and can be used for almost every grinding application. The slightly more expensive and slightly harder silicon carbide grinds with ease due to the needle-shaped abrasive grit and is primarily used to grind high alloy steels, cast iron, non-ferrous metals, and for fine-grain grinding wheels. The most important applications are found in the automobile, machine tools, tool and die, glass, and steel industries.

Conventional grinding with 3M
As a full scale provider of machines and accessories, we at 3M are one of the top companies for modern grinding technology. Throughout the entire grinding process on the way to perfect surfaces, we represent the peak of technology in grinding wheels, dressing tools, and machines. In addition to the optimization of processes and working speeds, the ability to react quickly to new materials is the primary motivation for most innovations.
Qualities and grain sizes

The assignments of the grain numbers to certain particle size distributions are specified according to an internationally valid grain size standard (see the table). Very fine grains (micrograins starting at about grain no. 230) are obtained from slurries.

The surface finish roughness produced during grinding not only depends on the abrasive grit size, but also on the grinding and dressing method. Coarsely dressed grinding wheels yield higher performance, but also produce a rougher surface. When grinding profiles or small radii, the particle size has a direct influence on the selection of the specification. The dressing process must be taken into account in this case. The diameter of the abrasive grain should fit 2–3 times inside the smallest concave radius of the workpiece.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grain No.</th>
<th>Dimensions (Mm)</th>
<th>Dimension (Mm)</th>
<th>Grain size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from</td>
<td>to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Very coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>Fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>Fine</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.15</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>Very fine</td>
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<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.06</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>0.075</td>
<td>0.045</td>
<td>Very fine</td>
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<tr>
<td>240</td>
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<tr>
<td>280</td>
<td>0.038</td>
<td>0.035</td>
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<tr>
<td>320</td>
<td>0.031</td>
<td>0.028</td>
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<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>0.016</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>0.014</td>
<td>0.012</td>
<td>Very fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>0.010</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>Very fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>0.008</td>
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<td>1000</td>
<td>0.005</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>0.004</td>
<td>0.003</td>
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Grinding performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coarse</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Fine</th>
<th>Very fine</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-36</td>
<td>46-80</td>
<td>90-220</td>
<td>240-600</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grinding performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edge retention/surface finish quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coarse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very fine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New 3M abrasive names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3M abrasives</th>
<th>Grain type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11A A Regular aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33A 3A Semi-friable aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26A 2A Monocrystalline aluminum oxide mixture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29A 2A Monocrystalline aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31A 3A Mix of regular, semi-friable, and high-grade white aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35A 3A Semi-friable aluminum oxide mixture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40A 42A High-grade white aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40A 49A High-grade white aluminum oxide with a blue bond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40A 53A High-grade white aluminum oxide with a brown bond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54A 53A High-grade white aluminum oxide with a green bond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55NA 55N Special aluminum oxide mixture (NanoWin)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57A 57A High-grade pink aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64A 64A Monocrystalline aluminum oxide and high-grade pink aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68A 68A High-grade red aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77A 77A Special aluminum oxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79A 79A Sintered aluminum oxide mixture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81A 81A Sintered aluminum oxide mixture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93NA 93N Special aluminum oxide mixture (NanoWin)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93A 93A Sintered aluminum oxide mixture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93DA 93DA Cubitron II with 3M Precision-Shaped Grain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99DA 99DA Cubitron II with 3M Precision-Shaped Grain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13C C Black silicon carbide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15C 1A Green silicon carbide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A = Aluminum oxide  
C = Silicon carbide  
NA = Special grains  
DA = 3M Precision-Shaped Grain
Hardness & structure
For your individual requirements

Hardness
The hardness is determined by the following factors:
- Abrasive grit size
- Bond ratio
- Bond type
- Porosity
- Grinding wheel structure

The term “grinding wheel hardness” does not refer to the hardness of the abrasive grit, but to the ability of the bond to resist breaking off of the abrasive grit. The softer the wheel, the easier it is for the abrasive grit to break off. Letter codes A (soft) – Z (hard) refer to the hardness grade (see the table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Code</th>
<th>Hardness Grade</th>
<th>Hardness Designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A/B/C/D/F</td>
<td>Extremely soft</td>
<td>Grinding wheel is softer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E/F</td>
<td>Very soft</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/H</td>
<td>Soft</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J/K/L</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/N/O/P</td>
<td>Hard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q/R/S/T</td>
<td>Very hard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/V/W/X/Y/Z</td>
<td>Extremely hard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The wheel hardness also depends on the grain size and porosity. In a given wheel hardness range (for example hardness F), a grinding wheel with small grains and fine pores appears “harder” during the grinding process than a wheel with large grains and coarse pores.

The hardness scale defines the proportion of binder. The further down the specification of the hardness is in the alphabet, the more binder the grinding wheel contains.

Structure
Every grinding wheel has a natural porosity. At 3M, the porosity is expressed in structure numbers ranging from 1 to 9, which are referred to as normal structures. The higher the structure number, the more porous the grinding wheel. The natural porosity of a grinding wheel can be increased by adding a special pore formation agent that creates additional pore space. This increased porosity is expressed using the structure numbers 11-19, which are referred to as porous structures. During the manufacture of grinding wheels, the numbers 1 and 11 stand for the highest pressure while 8 and 19 stand for the lowest pressures.

Comparison of the grinding wheel porosity

The higher the structure number, the more open the grain.

The wheel hardness also depends on the grain size and porosity. In a given wheel hardness range (for example hardness F), a grinding wheel with small grains and fine pores appears “harder” during the grinding process than a wheel with large grains and coarse pores.

The hardness is determined by the following factors:
- Abrasive grit size
- Bond ratio
- Bond type
- Porosity
- Grinding wheel structure

The higher the bond ratio, the harder the grinding wheel.

The numbers on the left describe the hardness of the grinding wheel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural Porosity</th>
<th>Artificial Porosity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal Structure</td>
<td>Porous Structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td>11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The higher the structure number, the more open the grain.
Bonds & shapes
We manufacture your grinding wheel

Bond
The bond does not have any grinding action. Its most important task is to provide the grinding wheel with stability. The bond ratio determines the hardness and influences the free-cutting ability of the grinding wheel.

We manufacture vitrified bonded and synthetic resin bonded grinding wheels for the most demanding applications. The strength, hardness, and cutting ability of a grinding wheel depends on the type of bond used and its percentage of the total volume.

Synthetic resin bond
(letter code B)
Synthetic resin bonds consist of phenolic resins and various fillers that have a decisive influence on the bonding properties. Synthetic resin bonded grinding wheels are hardened at a temperature of about 180°C. They are less sensitive to sudden temperature changes, shock, and impact than vitrified bonded grinding wheels. However, exposure to chemicals and long storage periods should be avoided.

Vitrified bond
(Letter code V with bond number, for example 300W)
Our vitrified bonds are manufactured primarily of synthetic, technical glasses referred to as low temperature bonds and are fired at approx. 900°C. They can be manufactured identically again and again. They are insensitive to chemicals and can be stored for indefinitely, but abrupt temperature changes, shock, and impact are to be avoided, though. The bond hardness is specified by the bond number (for example 300W or 600W).

Fiberglass-reinforced synthetic resin bond (letter code BF)
Synthetic resin bonded, fiberglass-reinforced roughing and cutoff grinding wheels are equipped with fiberglass mesh and thus exhibit higher strength.

Caution: The grinding wheel may only be weakened to one half the thickness of the wheel by gouges.

STANDARD SHAPES 1, 5, 7

T1 – D x T x H

T5 – D x T x H – 1 – P x F

T7 – D x T x H – 2 – P x F

EDGE SHAPES (FOR SHAPES 1, 5, 7)
STANDARD SHAPES 20 TO 26

T20 – D/K x T/N x H

T21 – D/K x T/N x H

T22 – D/K x T/N x H – P x F

T23 – D x T/N x H – 1 – P x F

T24 – D x T/N x H – 2 – P x F/G

A = 2 mm standard width
Generative gear grinding

T1 (without profile)
T1SP – D x T x H (pre-profiled)
Specify the module, pressure angle, number of starts, and direction of lead

Thread and profile grinding

T1E – D x T x H - V°
T1ESP – D x T x H - V° - U
T39ESP – D/J x T/U x H - V°

GRINDING SEGMENTS

T3101 - B x C x L
T3102 - B/A x C x L - R
T3103 - B/A x C x L - R
T3105 - B/A x C x L - R
T3107 - B x C x L - R
T3108 - B x C x L - R
T3109 - B/A x C x L - R
T3109 - B/A x C x L
## Specifications

### For conventional grinding wheels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral</th>
<th>Grain Size</th>
<th>Hardness</th>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Bond</th>
<th>Special Codes</th>
<th>Bond Number</th>
<th>Bond Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitrified bond</td>
<td>Very coarse</td>
<td>Extremely soft</td>
<td>Normal structure</td>
<td>V = Vitrified bond</td>
<td>P = Porous structure</td>
<td>300 W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33A</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>301 W</td>
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<tr>
<td>28A</td>
<td>Coarse</td>
<td>Very soft</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>B = Synthetic resin bond</td>
<td>M = Medium porosity</td>
<td>302 W</td>
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<tr>
<td>29A</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>304 W</td>
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<td>31A</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>BF = Fiberglass-reinforced synthetic resin bond</td>
<td>H = High porosity</td>
<td>450 W</td>
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<tr>
<td>35A</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Soft</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>G = Large pores</td>
<td>GG = Very large pores</td>
<td>470 W</td>
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<td>Medium</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>F = Fine pores</td>
<td>FF = Very fine pores</td>
<td>601 W</td>
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<td>49A</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>602 W</td>
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<tr>
<td>40A</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<td>54A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>55A</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>900 W</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>93NA</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Q</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>800</td>
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</table>

Example: 64A60 H15VP300W
- Abrasive 64A
- Medium grain 60
- Very soft hardness grade H
- Structure 15
- Vitrified bond
- Porous structure

### Grain price/removal performance

- Sintered aluminum oxide
- High-grade pink aluminum oxide
- High-grade white aluminum oxide
- 3M Precision-Shaped Grain
- Green silicon carbide
- Regular aluminum oxide
- High-grade red aluminum oxide
- Black silicon carbide
- High-grade white aluminum oxide
- 3M Precision-Shaped Grain
Safety when grinding
We have summarized the most important safety measures for you in the following recommendations. Please note that you as a user are required to be familiar with the regulations applicable in your country.

Guidelines for Europe
The applicable safety codes are available in your local language from the FEPA (Federation of European Producers of Abrasives). We recommend you visit the FEPA homepage to become more familiar with the safety code. You will find an excellent collection of the relevant regulations there. Every grinding wheel delivery sent by us includes a copy of the guideline "SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF ABRASIVE PRODUCTS". We would be happy at any time to send you additional copies of this guideline and other binding recommendations published by FEPA.

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The sound check
A sound check must be conducted immediately before mounting a new or used vitrified grinding wheel. To conduct the sound check, lightly tap the grinding wheel to the right and left of the centerline using a non-metallic hammer. Place lighter wheels on your finger or an awl for the sound check. Heavy wheels are placed upright on the floor. A crack-free wheel makes a clear sound while a cracked wheel makes a dull thudding sound. Synthetic resin bonded wheels do not make the same clear sound as vitrified wheels.

Properly mounting on the flange
You must first check if the wheel is imbalanced and balance the wheel if necessary. The machine speed should not be set higher than the permissible rotational speed (for new wheels) or circumferential speed. According to the applicable safety regulations (ISO, DIN, FEPA) and safety recommendations, the new wheel must be subjected to a test run (without a load) after mounting at a speed no higher than the max. operating speed. The hazardous area must be secured accordingly. Caution: Our grinding wheels must never be operated at speeds higher than the specified maximum operating speed or rotational speed (for new wheels).

Recommendations and prohibitions
The proper use of grinding wheels

Always:
Read the safety regulation of your country!
Inspect the wheel upon delivery and before mounting for damage during transport!
Store the wheels properly in the racks specified for this purpose!
Check if the wheel is suitable and authorized for use at the circumferential speed of the machine!
Use a paper or plastic blotter as a middle layer! Make sure to wet the paper flange with cooling lubricant!
Use a torque wrench to tighten the flange nuts!
Start the machine and let it idle for a minute before you actually start grinding!
Check to make sure all safety devices are functioning properly!
Wear protective goggles!

Never:
Never exceed the maximum working speed specified by the manufacturer!
Never mount a ceramic grinding wheel without conducting a sound check!
Do not use the wheel if it makes a dull thudding sound!
Never force the wheels onto an arbor (flange)!
Never remove or bypass the safety devices on the machine!

If you are unsure of anything, please contact our service technicians!

Balancing
Any imbalances in the rotating parts will have a negative impact on the surface finish quality of the workpieces, the service life of the grinding wheel, and the results produced on the machine. Only a properly balanced grinding wheel will achieve an optimal surface finish quality. In general, static balancing of the grinding wheel is sufficient if it has already been mounted on a flange.

To statically balance a grinding wheel, mount it on a polished shaft and place it on the balancing unit. Depending on how worn the grinding wheel is, it may be necessary to repeat the balancing procedure.

The wheels can be balanced dynamically and continuously provided that the grinding machine is equipped with an automatic balancing system. Modern quality requirements for ground workpieces and increased circumferential speeds often require use of continuous dynamic balancing. This is especially true when the wheel thickness is greater than 1/6 of the diameter of the wheel.

In accordance with DIN, ISO, FEPA, and ANSI standards, every grinding wheel must idle for at least one minute before grinding, and the circumferential speed during this time must never exceed the recommendations of the wheel manufacturer. During the idle phase, the operator should pay special attention to the wheel.

Imbalances can also arise when mounting the grinding wheel on a flange and are eliminated by shifting the balancing weights accordingly.

The sound check before mounting
Essential:
The sound check before mounting
Tighten the mounting bolts uniformly in a crosswise pattern using a torque wrench.

3M grinding wheels are subjected to a strict balancing test in the factory and are rejected if damaged. Our internal imbalance tolerances are much lower than the corresponding DIN or ISO standards.

The wheels can be balanced dynamically and continuously provided the grinding machine is equipped with an automatic balancing system. Modern quality requirements for ground workpieces and increased circumferential speeds often require use of continuous dynamic balancing. This is especially true when the wheel thickness is greater than 1/6 of the diameter of the wheel.

In accordance with DIN, ISO, FEPA, and ANSI standards, every grinding wheel must idle for at least one minute before grinding, and the circumferential speed during this time must never exceed the recommendations of the wheel manufacturer. During the idle phase, the operator should pay special attention to the wheel.

* The following pages are a summary, by no means complete, of the most common general safety rules.
### International Standard Dimensions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D (Diameter (mm))</th>
<th>T (Thickness (mm))</th>
<th>H (Bore (mm))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>9.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3.2</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>50.8</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1060</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bore tolerances:**
- H7: CBN/diamond wheels and special applications
- H12: Bore diameters up to 50.8 mm
- H11: Bore diameters of 76.2 mm or larger
- H13: For roughing grinding wheels

2) For fiberglass-reinforced cut-off or roughing grinding wheels on portable grinders

3) For grinding wheels listed under 2: But also for the types 6 and 11 when used on portable grinding machines

Minimum thickness for vitrified bonded grinding wheels = 2% of the outer diameter.

### Required labels on our grinding wheels

In accordance with ISO, DIN, and CEN standards as well as with FEPA regulations, our grinding wheels are marked with the following information and specifications:

- Manufacturer; trade mark
- Max. permissible rotational speed (rpm)
- Max. operating speed (m/s)
- Serial number and article number
- Type
- Dimensions
- Composition

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**Wheel labels and markings**

![Wheel labels and markings diagram](image-url)

- Manufacturer
- Dimensions
- Certification
- Shape
- Abrasive specification
- 3M Product Code
- Max. permissible speed - rpm (for new wheels)
- Maximum operating speed
- Safety instructions
- Source

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Manufacturer
Dimensions
Certification
Shape
Abrasive specification
3M Product Code
Max. permissible speed - rpm (for new wheels)
Maximum operating speed
Source
Responsibilities & tasks
Everything runs smoothly

Who is responsible for what?

Grinding machine manufacturer
- Guarantee multiple levels of safety of the grinding wheel against breakage. The corresponding safety factors vary depending on the working method and design of the grinding machine
- Test run conducted in the factory at high circumferential speed
- Breakage tests in the factory
- Labeling of the grinding body with specification of the permissible rotational speed (for new wheels)

The responsibility extends to include proper packaging for shipment, but not for damage occurring during transport or through improper storage.

Grinding wheels manufacturer
- Easy adjustment of the workpiece support and safety covers that adjust as the diameter of the wheel decreases
- Forced locking of the speed levels
- Securing continuously variable speed regulators
- Suitable safety cover made of a rugged material that will retain the pieces of the grinding wheel in case of breakage
- Proper design of the grinding wheel flange

User, operator
- Sound check and inspection for external damage during transport before mounting the grinding wheel
- Starting a grinding wheel
- Flanging and mounting
- Checking for imbalances and balancing the grinding wheel when necessary
- Checking the permissible speed (for new wheels)
- Readjusting the workpiece support and safety covers
- Idling the newly mounted grinding wheel while operating at full speed
- It is prohibited to carve the grinding wheel

Standard or normal operating speeds
The maximum operating speed for each wheel must be established by the wheel manufacturer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General International Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitrified bonded wheels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resinoid bonded wheels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting-off wheels on fixed machines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VE 4: Only authorized for use in closed working areas
In a closed working area, the grinding wheel is enclosed on all sides by machine components to ensure broken pieces are completely retained inside the machine in case of wheel breakage.

When grinding bodies are labeled with this usage restriction, then they may only be used on stationary grinding machines on which the retaining safety devices are approved as a “closed working area” and correspondingly marked with the symbol shown together with the specification of the maximum circumferential speed.

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Storage of grinding wheels
Grinding bodies require carefully handling and proper storage.

Every delivery you receive should be checked upon receipt for damage during transport (sound check).

Grinding bodies must be stored so that they will not be damaged. The storage room must be dry, frost-free, and protected against excess heating and vibration.

Vitrified bonded grinding wheels can be stored indefinitely.

Synthetic resin bonded grinding wheels should not be stored for more than 3 years because otherwise the strength of the wheel could drop due to embrittlement.

What is a closed working area?
Grinding tools requiring authorization for use are now subject to certain usage restrictions. These usage restrictions are written by 3M in the factory either directly on the grinding tool, its flange, or on an enclosed label. The following restriction, for example, always leads to calls to our technicians:

Who is responsible for what?
Modern production & comprehensive services

Quality requires commitment
To manufacture our grinding wheels in outstanding quality, we only use the highest quality raw materials and work with the most modern machines and systems. We meet the expectations of our demanding customers every day to manufacture premium quality grinding wheels using state-of-the-art manufacturing technology.

CNC-controlled presses to ensure the homogeneous wheel structure is reproducibly maintained.

Kilns with electronic control of the temperature curve for reproducible and documented quality.

CNC-controlled precision lathes to ensure precise finishing.

Computer-controlled test machines to test for imbalances and conduct high speed test runs.

High availability, shortest delivery times
Through our inventory management, we can guarantee high availability of blank grinding wheels, which we then use to quickly manufacture a custom grinding wheel for you. They can be equipped with edge profiles, the hole widened to depth, or formed along the diameter or along the side.

Recess
Diameter D
Width T
Bore H
Edge forms

Modern production & comprehensive services
Process optimization

Grinding process optimization with 3M OPTIMA software

Today there are highly developed machines and tools available even for the most demanding processes in grinding technology. In the framework of conducting scientific research into the grinding process, more than one hundred different factors with an influence on the grinding time were identified (VDI Guideline 03398).

With our OPTIMA software, you can optimize the grinding process as a user by adjusting individual parameters. Thirteen evaluation criteria are determined automatically from seven easy-to-specify parameters. Through limited simulation of the grinding process on the screen, the number of practical tests required is reduced to a minimum, and the key data for an optimized process are calculated according to the target parameters specified.

Our innovative 3M process optimization software supplies you with process parameters for many relevant grinding processes:
- OD and ID grinding
- Deep grinding (creep-feed grinding)
- Gear grinding (generative and profile grinding)
- Centerless grinding

Also for in-process measures such as:
- Dressing with stationary and rotary diamond dressing tools
- Cooling lubricant flow rate, nozzle design, and cooling lubricant system capacity

For further information, contact our application technicians!

Quality control according to ISO 9001 & ISO 14001

ISO 14001 environmental certification

Due to our responsibility for nature and the environment, we consistently ensure the following:
- Raw materials and production processes are non-toxic
- End products are non-toxic
- We use energy efficiently
- We recycle the consumable materials in the factory
High porosity grinding wheels

The porosity of a grinding wheel is created artificially using pore formation agents in the bond/grain mixture since high porosity grinding wheels enable improved cooling lubricant supply and chip removal. In particular, though, highly porous structures optimize the self-sharpening process in order to prevent and protect against grinding burn.

During deep grinding and the higher feed increments associated with it, there are larger contact surfaces (A<sub>k</sub>) between the grinding wheel and workpiece, which in turn generally leads to lower grinding forces (normal force F<sub>n</sub>) on the abrasive grit.

The diagram below shows how the grains on high porosity grinding wheels are separated from each other in order to use fewer grains per mm<sup>2</sup> on a given contact surface. These grains are thus easier to splitter when subjected to a perpendicular force, enabling the wheel to self-sharpen.

To obtain a self-sharpening effect, the abrasive grit must splitter in every grinding process. Due to its numerous advantages, we use naphthalene as pore formation agent:

- No chemical traces in the finished grinding wheel.
- No expansion during firing (no stresses).
- Good mixability with the abrasive grit and binder (no imbalances).
- Consistent porosity (connected pores for high levels of coolant transport).

40A120 L15VPMF302W
Medium-fine porosity for OD grinding

3M™ Grinding wheels
Highly porous for the best results

Compound wheel with artificial porosity

Microcrystalline sintered aluminum oxide (81A, 93A, among others)

The enormous performance of sintered aluminum oxide as a mineral when compared to conventional aluminum oxides is due to its unique microstructure. Using a special manufacturing process, we are able to obtain crystals smaller than 1 μm in size. The pressure resulting during grinding leads to microsplittering, which continuously produces new, sharp cutting edges. To fully utilize the performance potential of this grain, we have developed a bonding system that fully exploits these self-sharpening properties.

57A46 H18VPHM9G900W
Highly porous structure with large pores for the highest material removal rates; mainly for hard-to-grind parts from aerospace industry

Features
- High removal rates; therefore shorter cycle times
- Longer service life of the wheel; fewer wheel changes
- Constant grinding performance and grinding forces
- Low shape deviation, and therefore consistent quality
- Longer intervals between dressing operations due to the longer service life

Benefits
- Improved process capability
- Improved price/performance ratio

 Abrasive grit  Pores  Bond posts
Total break-out  Macro break-out  Micro break-out
High-grade aluminum oxide  High-grade aluminum oxide  Sintered aluminum oxide

Scanning electron microscope image; magnified 10,000x

Conventional aluminum oxides  Sintered aluminum oxide

dull  self-sharpening

Features
- High removal rates; and therefore shorter cycle times
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Benefits
- Improved process capability
- Improved price/performance ratio
With the invention of the 3M Cubitron II vitrified wheel, 3M has completely redefined the grinding process. Due to the new generation of 3M Precision-Shaped Grain, we have brought high-performance ceramic grain into a defined, geometric form.

A stroke of genius: 3M™ Precision-Shaped Grain

The individual precision abrasive grains of the Cubitron II ceramic vitrified wheels are identical in size and precisely formed triangles made of sintered aluminum oxide. These self-sharpening triangular cutters cut like a knife through the workpiece. The heat generated is extracted directly in the chips, which greatly minimizes the risk of overheating. The very sharp grinding surface will convince you with never before seen material removal rates and service lives.

Precision-formed abrasive grain for excellent results

The tips of the triangular grains break off during the grinding process, creating new, sharp edges. The surface of the material is processed cleanly by new cutting edges. The result is fast, cool grinding and a longer mineral lifespan. This technology sets new standards, which is why this grain is not specified according to FEPA (e.g. P60), but by a “plus” sign (e.g. 60+). This “plus” stands for grinding like with standard grinding wheels, but with a significantly higher removal rate. Every single abrasive grain is shaped identically to generate a precisely defined grinding pattern.

Revolutionary advantages:

- Risk of overheating is almost nil
- Up to 50% shorter grinding times due to significantly higher material removal rates
- Perfect form and surface finish quality inspite of extreme material removal
- Highly reduced dressing requirements
- Wheel (worn) lifespans of up to twice as long
- Continuously constant grinding performance
- Significantly reduced cost per workpiece

The result: higher productivity and lower part costs!

Dressing Cubitron II Vitrified wheels

The precision-shaped abrasive grains of the Cubitron II also demonstrate their clear advantages when dressing since much less force is needed when dressing PSG abrasive grit. The dressing roller contacts the triangular grain and the predetermined breaking point integrated into the grain allows a segment of the grain to break off. This creates a new cutting edge while significantly reducing the load on the dressing roller. This permits a significantly longer lifespan of the dressing roller. Cubitron II is a real all-rounder amongst grinding wheels. Volumetric removal rates $Q'_w$ of over 30 mm³/mm/s are achieved when roughing, and surface roughnesses of $Ra < 0.3$ are achieved when finishing. Due to the new grain geometry, wear on the dressing tools is reduced to a minimum. Maximum performance with a perfect geometry and surface.

Perfect dressing in half the production time!
On 3M 22VD grinding wheels, the surface of the grain/bond compound is improved using self-organizing nano surface structures that practically eliminates cold bonding of the chips and other types of clogging. As a result, the grinding wheel retains its free-cutting ability during the processes, requires less drive power from the machine, and achieves consistent surface structures on the workpieces without creating grinding burn. 3M 22VD contains aluminum oxide nitride abrasive grains.

The advantages at a glance:
- Minimal risk of grinding burn
- High thermal stability and wear resistance
- Low wettability, and thus significantly fewer built-up edges
- Higher removal performance
- Constant surface finish qualities
- Less mechanical deformation of workpieces
- More tightly controlled process conditions
- Cost savings

More economical grinding with 3M 22VD
In comparison to standard aluminum oxide grinding wheels (Al₂O₃), 3M 22VD grinding wheels have higher specific volumetric removal rates (Q'w) with a lower risk of grinding burn and lower rejection rates.

Summary: The grinding process is less expensive while producing higher quality workpieces. The higher removal performance is especially advantageous when the cutting speed can be increased accordingly.

More economical grinding with 3M 22VD

Application examples:
- Outside diameter (OD) grinding
- Internal diameter (ID) grinding
- Surface grinding
- Profile grinding
- Deep grinding

3M Vitrified grinding wheels 33VB – 54A-series consist of high-grade white aluminum oxide abrasive grit with a green V604, V904, or V304 vitrified bond and are available with various specifications for various applications. As a synthetic optimization of conventional standard bonds, the low temperature bond used in the PolarWin series allows for energy-saving firing at 900°C and 100% reproducibility.
3M™ V450-Bond
Lower grinding costs – increased process reliability

In comparison to conventional bonds on wheels with high-grade aluminum oxide, the 3M V450 bonding system guarantees higher removal rates in combination with a lower risk of grinding burn. This means improved profile retention and lower rejection rates, enabling the highest possible efficiency and reliable processes.

Properties:
- Innovative glass/ceramic bond as a further development of ceramic low temperature bonds
- Higher percentage of grain for longer service lives and better profile retention
- Higher density of pores for easier grinding and better removal of chips
- Frame-like crystals that provide stability and act as reinforcement

Advantages:
- Greater hardness in spite of less bonding material
- Cooler grinding
- Less wear on the dressing tools
- Greater edge stability
- The reinforcing properties result in improved damping behavior when grinding

Application examples:
- Gear tooth grinding
- Deep grinding
- OD grinding

3M Grinding wheels and dressing tools
As you can see, we have a lot to offer

We have the innovative and technically demanding solution to every problem and requirement for modern precision grinding technology used in industrial settings. 3M is the only manufacturer that offers you precision grinding machines with the WENDT brand name and grinding tools as system solutions from a single company.

With our unique expertise in the manufacture of ultra-modern grinding machines and bonded minerals, we are in the position to optimize the operating and economic efficiency of your individual production processes and increase the value added to your products.

Our solutions are used in numerous branches of industry such as the following:
- Automobile industry
- Aviation industry
- Wind power industry
- Gear-cutting industry
- Machine tool industry
- Tool and die industry
- Glass industry
- Steel industry