# PERFECT FINISH: SATIN/MATTE QUICK INSTRUCTIONS & TIPS

"Now you are able to sand the deck with one grit and go directly to a fine satin finish in one step. This saves sanding steps, labor, sandpaper, and finishing time. Perfect Finish gives you the ability to give customers the finish they want in two steps."

# **Recommended Equipment**

- 6" Porter Cable 7424XP outfitted with the CRE6 6", 6-hole back-up pad
- Water Spray/Misting Bottle
- Shop Apron
- Small Bucket
- Squeegee
- · Microfiber Towels or Soft Clean Shop Towels

### Supplies

- · 6" 60 Micron (or 220 Grit) sandpaper
- 6" Maroon Scuff-N-Buff Pad



### **Getting Started:**

Take a Porter Cable 7424XP or equivalent sander and install the CRE6 6", 6-hole back-up pad.

For best results turn the speed control knob on the sander to the highest setting.

Apply 10-12lbs of pressure while sanding. You should hear an audible change to the sound of the sander indicating that it is working properly. A light touch only results in more time spent sanding!

If a different sander is used, make sure it has a MINIMUM 3/16" stroke. The PC 7424XP has a 3/8" stroke resulting in more aggressive sanding with less time.

If there are scratches initially in the solid surface sheet work them out with 60 micron ONLY.

1 sheet of micron paper will sand 30sq/ft of material.

### STEP 1 - 60 Micron / 220 Grit Sanding

For all brands of solid surface, begin sanding from the sheet's factory finish (after protective plastic film is removed) with 60 micron (220 grit). DO NOT SAND THE DECK WITH A COARSER GRIT. If you do, you will create more work and not end up with a great looking finish due to the coarser grit lines left behind.

When working with darker colors and/or to achieve the best finish, opt for wet sanding with micron film-backed discs. Micron sandpaper is more carefully graded and uses an electrostatic charge to align the abrasive particulates onto the pad which results in a smoother and more even finish compared to regular grit sandpaper.

While sanding, periodically spray a water mist onto the holes of the CRE6 backup pad to flush away sanding residue build-up to ensure the micron disc is sanding at maximum efficiency. Sand in the normal North-South, East-West patterns. Apply 10-12lbs of pressure to the sander to make sure it is working optimally. Make at least 3 complete passes over the sheet. This creates the foundation for a quality finish.

**TIP:** Wet sanding keeps the sheet surface cool, reduces "gummy" sanding disc residue build-up thereby ensuring a better finish and longer disc life, and no airborne dust is created since everything is captured in the water slurry. The only challenge to wet sanding is it can be messier at first so wear a shop apron while learning.

When finished, thoroughly clean the sheet surface using the squeegee and water bottle to wipe all sanding residue into the bucket. Next, wipe the sheet surface clean using a microfiber or clean shop towel. It is very important to avoid grit contamination between steps – clean thoroughly, including the squeegee!

# STEP 2 - Maroon Scuff-N-Buff Sanding:

Place a 6" Maroon Scuff-N-Buff pad on your sander.

### SHAKE THE PERFECT FINISH BOTTLE WELL BEFORE EACH USE.

Drizzle a little Perfect Finish (satin) onto the deck. Water mist the Maroon Scuff-N-Buff pad and Perfect Finish compound using a spray bottle. Begin sanding by distributing the Perfect Finish evenly over the entire area to be worked. A slurry will develop on the surface. Do not let it dry out. Keep the Perfect Finish damp by periodically spraying a light water mist onto the sheet surface without flooding the surface. Apply 10-12lbs of pressure to the sander to make sure it is working optimally.

Make 3 complete passes over the sheet. After the 3rd pass watch the surface finish as you sand. Stop and squeegee a small section. Study how the light reflects off the surface. Continue sanding in complete passes until you reach the desired finish. Then use the window squeegee and additional water to thoroughly clean the surface. Finally wipe dry with a microfiber or clean shop towel.

TIP #1: Only a small amount of Perfect Finish compound is needed for each section, just enough to form a thin layer over the entire section on which you are working. Perfect Finish usage is normally 1 tsp. per 6 sq/ft. A 16oz bottle of Perfect Finish will polish over 15 sheets of material or 480sq/ft.

TIP #2: Perfect Finish is the ideal sanding method in a shop/production environment. Whether they know it or not every fabricator has a different sanding technique not to mention the abrasives they use will be a different levels of wear, all of which results in visible differences to the surface finish. When multiple fabricators are working on the same job the result is often different pieces will have different finishes.

Perfect Finish finally solves this problem! No matter the sanding technique, Perfect Finish will always produce the same final finish because fabricators cannot 'over sand' and there are no sanding discs to wear out.

This advantage also applies to field seems and on site touch-ups/repairs. Any fabricator using the Perfect Finish system can produce a matching satin/matte finish which looks great in very little time.

