

## **Coloring of parquet: „It all depends on the final cut!”**

Generally it is important for a connected parquet floor space to have a homogeneous final cut. Experts know, that even before applying oil to certain types of wood, e.g. confireous wood, cherry or pear tree, the surface towards the edge should preferably be adjusted with a single disc grinder.

Sanding marks or sanding mistakes which are not noticable after sealing with a finish will come clearly to the surface when coloring the area. You should be aware of this when calculating: Before coloring, the area has to be prepared at 150%. When using coloring systems the pigment is always the largest particle of the product. It will always stick to the pore of the wood or the sanding structure of the surface. A coloring of the wood down to the core will only be achieved by curing with ammonia or by steaming the surface.

Owing to the wide variety of parquet floors it is, unfortunately, not possible to give one standard recommendation for sanding work. On wood with large pores, like oak or ash, a final cut with the grid cloth P100 is sufficient. Using this on wood like pear or maple, sanding marks will occur.

**With the following sanding order we were previously able to achieve the best results:**

### Coarse sanding:

1. working cycle – use a belt grinder, grade P40, depending on the kind of parquet and the type of laying, either at a slight angle or diagonal
2. working cycle - Edge grinder, grade P40

### Medium sanding:

3. working cycle - Belt grinder, grade P80
4. working cycle - trowel fill the parquet area

### Final cut:

5. working cycle - Edge grinder, grade P80 for sanding of the putty on the surface
6. working cycle - Edge grinder, grade P100 to equalize/ buff the semi-glossy/ glossy transitions of the sanding paper change
7. working cycle - Belt grinder, grade P120

## Equalization/ buffing of the edge and area sanding:

8. working cycle - Single disc grinder, grid cloth P100  
The area must be thoroughly sanded in a criss-cross pattern.

### Frequently occurring mistakes

- Damaged sanding paper of the belt grinder, equalization/ buffing with the single disc grinder not possible, sanding marks will appear even clearer. In order to avoid this, the area must be vacuumed before trowel filling, so that no loose sanding granules or dirt, which could damage the sanding paper, are left in the joints.
- Sanding paper cycle – do not skip more than one granulation. Should the area be re-sanded with a single disc grinder, we recommend to go back one granulation, since grid cloths always achieve a finer sanding than sanding paper.
- The equalization/buffing with the single disc grinder must be done thoroughly and in a criss-cross pattern. Doing this too quickly will achieve a bad result.
- Edge sanding paper is being changed too late.
- Using angle grinders with a high r.p.m. (revolutions per minute) for the edge sanding. For r.p.m.'s over 3000, a sanding paper with a paper back is not suitable. The sanding granules will quickly come loose and the wood surface will be polished glossy until a new paper will be used. This transition is clearly noticeable.

Before coloring, the sanded area must be looked at precisely. Only the worker himself will be able to notice sanding mistakes, since he/she operated the machines. Check especially the transitions from the edge to the area, the turning area of the belt grinder a.s.o. If necessary – test stain the area!