

# Technical Notes

# **Ceramica Metal**

Alpha® Ceramica Metal is the latest in technological advances within the stone industry. These discs are specifically designed for polishing harder types of natural stone such as granites. Alpha® Ceramica Metal discs are the workhorses of the Alpha® Ceramica line. Available in 60, 150 and 300 grits, the Alpha® Ceramica Metal discs are designed to improve the quality of the preparation work required to bring out the deep glossy finish that only Alpha® Ceramica can produce. Fabricators love the ease with which they can begin polishing in tight, difficult to reach areas such as internal corners, inside rim of sink holes, and any concave area. Tile contractors will experience excellent results on the profile and curved edges. Monumentalists will be able to polish any curved or flat portion of monuments. Extremely flexible, with improved high quality performance, Alpha® Ceramica Metal will increase production capability and provide cost savings through an increased life and consistent performance. Only Alpha® Ceramica Metal has the hardness of a metal bond diamond in a flexible resin bond disc. This unique combination gives Alpha® Ceramica Metal a long life and superior aggressiveness compared to a standard resin bond diamond disc. These discs work well on granite, engineered stone and porcelain slab.

### Sections:

- How to Use
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Helpful Hints
- Reference



| Part No. | Size | Grit | Color  |
|----------|------|------|--------|
| FD30060M | 3"   | 60   | Blue   |
| FD30150M | 3"   | 150  | Yellow |
| FD30300M | 3"   | 300  | Orange |
| FD40060M | 4"   | 60   | Blue   |
| FD40150M | 4"   | 150  | Yellow |
| FD40300M | 4"   | 300  | Orange |

# **How to Use**

Shape the edge of the stone using an Alpha® Profiler, Alpha® Grinding/Shaping Wheel, or Alpha® Router Bit.

Use the Ceramica Metal grits 60M, 150M or 300M making sure to eliminate all scratches or saw cut marks before moving onto the next polishing grit in the sequence.

Use the Alpha® Ceramica EX or Ceramica Resin discs, depending on the material you are polishing, to complete the polishing process.

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## What materials can I use the Alpha® Ceramica Metal on?

Alpha® Ceramica Metal is designed for all natural stones such as granite, marble, porcelain and concrete.

### What sizes are Ceramica Metal offered in?

Alpha® Ceramica Metal discs are available in 3" and 4".

### Why is the hook & loop colored?

Alpha® provides colored hook & loop material to help identify the grit of the disc. The Color ID is as follows: Ceramica Metal - Blue = 60 grit, Yellow = 150 grit and Orange = 300 grit.

What is the RPM range at which I should use Alpha® Ceramica Metal?

Ceramica Metal should not exceed 4,000 RPM.

#### What tools should Ceramica Vitrified discs be used on?

Alpha® recommends central water-feed polishers such as the Alpha® AIR-658, AWP-158 and VSP-120.

#### What are the difference between Vitrified and Metal 150 and 300 grits?

Vitrified discs are the most aggressive discs among the four types of bonds available in the Ceramica Family (Vitrified, Metal, Resin and Buff). They are most suited for convex surfaces such as a bullnose edge. Ceramica Metal offers a combination of extra flexibility of resin bond and long life of metal bond. Ceramica Metal is suitable for concave and convex such as ogee edges and internal corners.

### What are the differences between Resin and Metal 150 and 300 grits?

Resin grits are the most common bond available on the market today; Ceramica Metal lasts up to 6 times longer compared to resin discs. Ceramica Metal outperforms the resin disc in all aspects of light grinding and polishing.

#### Can I use Ceramica Metal Dry?

No. Alpha® Ceramica Metal discs are designed for wet applications only. Ceramica Metal performs best with wet polishers with central water-feed systems.

#### Can I use Alpha® Ceramica Metal for concrete polishing for breaking the surface of cured concrete?

Yes. Ceramica Metal can be used on concrete countertops and for breaking the surface when cured concrete needs to be smoothed. Please note that due to the aggressive nature of concrete, life of the disc may be shorter.

### Which type of backer pad should I use with Ceramica Metal?

If you are working on a contoured surface, we recommend using our Flexible Backer pads. If you are working on a flat edge or surface, we recommend using our Rigid Backer pads.

### Can I use Ceramica Metal 300 grit after the Alpha® Vitrified 150 grit?

Yes. You can mix bond types as long as you follow the grit sequence.

Example

Ceramica Vitrified 60 followed by Ceramica Metal 150 Ceramica Vitrified 150 followed by Ceramica Metal 300

# **Helpful Hints**

- Ceramica Metal is WET USE ONLY!
- If you are choosing to polish a flat surface using Ceramica Flexible Diamond Discs over Twistouch Turbo Wheels, we recommend using Ceramica Metal over Vitrified and Resin grits to obtain better results.
- When you polish tight corners and internal rims, we recommend using undersized Twistouch Backer Pads with Twistouch Double Magic for extra flexibility.

Example: use a 3" Twistouch Backer Pad with a 4" Twistouch Double Magic and a 4" Alpha® Ceramica Metal disc.

- 60 grit is recommended for use after a router bit application.
- We suggest that you practice on scrap pieces in order to hone your skills.

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· Very little pressure is needed when using Ceramica Metal, the high quality diamond grits will do the job for you.

### Reference

For more product information, visit us on the web at www.alpha-tools.com.