

# MAGNESIUM BELT SANDER

BS900M  
INSTRUCTION MANUAL

**GMC**<sup>®</sup>  
GLOBAL MACHINERY COMPANY

**2 YEAR**  
REPLACEMENT WARRANTY

Black

Magenta

Code: BS900M

Cyan

Yellow

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## Full 2 Years Home Use Warranty

Whilst every effort is made to ensure your complete satisfaction with this tool, occasionally, due to the mass manufacturing techniques, a tool may not live up to our required level of performance and you may need the assistance of our service department.

This product is warranted for a 2-year period for home domestic use from the date of the original purchase. If found to be defective in materials or workmanship, the tool or the offending faulty component will be replaced free of charge with another of the same item. A small freight charge may apply.

The warranty replacement unit is only made available by returning the tool to the place of purchase with a confirmed register receipt. Proof of purchase is essential. We reserve the right to reject any claim where the purchase cannot be verified.

This warranty does not include damage or defects to the tool caused by or resulting from abuse, accidents, alterations or commercial or business use.

It also does not cover any bonus accessories unless the tool is a GMC Platinum Professional model.

Please ensure that you store your receipt in a safe place. Conditions apply to the above warranty.

If you need direction of what constitutes a free of charge warranty claim, please review the guide given on the rear of the Receipt Holder. An indication is given as to the types of claim that are permissible, and those that are not.

## Dear Customer

If you require any help with your product, whether it is a Warranty claim, spare part or user information, please phone our Help Line for an immediate response. Phone 1300 880 001 in Australia or 0800 445 721 in New Zealand.

## Introduction

Your new GMC power tool will more than satisfy your expectations. It has been manufactured under stringent GMC Quality Standards to meet superior performance criteria.

You will find your new tool easy and safe to operate, and, with proper care, it will give you many years of dependable service.

**CAUTION.** Carefully read through this entire Instruction Manual before using your new GMC Power Tool. Take special care to heed the Cautions and Warnings.

Your GMC power tool has many features that will make your job faster and easier. Safety, performance, and dependability have been given top priority in the development of this tool, making it easy to maintain and operate.

## Environmental protection



Recycle unwanted materials instead of disposing of them as waste. All tools, hoses and packaging should be sorted, taken to the local recycling centre and disposed of in an environmentally safe way.

## Description of symbols

The rating plate on your tool may show symbols. These represent important information about the product or instructions on its use.



Wear hearing protection.

Wear eye protection.

Wear breathing protection.



Double insulated for additional protection.



N380

Conforms to relevant standards for electromagnetic compatibility.

## Specifications

|                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Voltage:              | 230–240Vac ~ 50 Hz         |
| Input power:          | 900W                       |
| No load speed:        | 260 – 360min <sup>-1</sup> |
| Insulation:           | Double insulated           |
| Sanding area:         | 76mm x 140mm               |
| Belt size:            | 76mm x 533mm               |
| Weight:               | 4.9kg                      |
| Sound pressure level: | 87.7dB(A)                  |

## Safety instructions

**WARNING.** Read and understand all instructions.

Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury. The term “power tool” in all of the warnings below refers to your mains-operated (corded) power tool or battery-operated (cordless) power tool.

### Save these instructions

#### Work area

- **Keep work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered and dark areas invite accidents.
- **Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.** Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.
- **Keep children and bystanders away while operating a power tool.** Distractions can cause you to lose control.

#### Electrical safety

- **Power tool plugs must match the outlet.** Never modify the plug in any way. Do not use any adapter plugs with earthed (grounded) power tools. Unmodified plugs and matching outlets will reduce risk of electric shock.
- **Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators.** There is an increased risk of electric shock if your body is earthed or grounded.
- **Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions.** Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.
- **Do not abuse the cord.** Never use the cord for carrying, pulling or unplugging the power tool. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts. Damaged or entangled cords increase the risk of electric shock.
- **When operating a power tool outdoors, use an outdoor extension cord suitable for outdoor use.** Use of a cord suitable for outdoor use reduces the risk of electric shock.

## Personal safety

- **Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating a power tool.** Do not use a power tool while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication. A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.
- **Use safety equipment.** Always wear eye protection. Safety equipment such as a dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.
- **Avoid accidental starting.** Ensure the switch is in the off-position before plugging in. Carrying power tools with your finger on the switch or plugging in power tools that have the switch on invites accidents.
- **Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the tool on.** A wrench or a key that is left attached to a rotating part of the power tool may result in personal injury.
- **Do not overreach.** Keep proper footing and balance at all times. This enables better control of the power tool in unexpected situations.
- **Dress properly.** Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery. Keep your hair, clothing and gloves away from moving parts. Loose clothes, jewellery or long hair can be caught in moving parts.
- **If devices are provided for the connection of dust extraction and collection facilities ensure that these are connected and properly used.** Use of these devices can reduce dust-related hazards.

#### Power tool use and care

- **Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application.** The correct power tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.
- **Do not use the power tool if the switch does not turn it on and off.** Any power tool that cannot be controlled with the switch is dangerous and must be repaired.

- **Disconnect the plug from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.** Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the power tool accidentally.
- **Store idle power tools out of the reach of children and do not allow persons unfamiliar with the power tool or these instructions to operate the power tool.** Power tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.
- **Maintain power tools.** Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts and any other condition that may affect the power tool's operation. If damaged, have the power tool repaired before use. Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained power tools.
- **Keep cutting tools sharp and clean.** Properly maintained cutting tools with sharp cutting edges are less likely to bind and are easier to control.
- **Use the power tool, accessories and tool bits etc., in accordance with these instructions and in the manner intended for the particular type of power tool, taking into account the working conditions and the work to be performed.** Use of the power tool for operations different from intended could result in a hazardous situation.

#### Service

- **Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair personnel using only identical replacement parts.** This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.

#### Additional safety rules for sanders

**WARNINGS.** Before connecting a tool to a power source (mains switch power point receptacle, outlet, etc.) be sure that the voltage supply is the same as that specified on the nameplate of the tool. A power source with a voltage greater than that specified for the tool can result in serious injury to the user, as well as damage to the tool. If in doubt, do not plug in the tool. Using a power source with a voltage less than the nameplate rating is harmful to the motor.

#### Always remove the plug from the mains socket before making any adjustments or maintenance, including changing the sanding belt.

- Fully unwind cable drum extensions to avoid potential overheating.
- When an extension cable is required, you must ensure that it has the right ampere rating for your power tool and is in safe electrical condition.
- After long working periods external metal parts and accessories could be hot.
- If possible, always use clamps or a vice to hold your work.
- Always switch off before you put the sander down.
- Do not force the sander; let the tool do the work at a reasonable speed. Overloading will occur if too much pressure is applied and the motor slows resulting in inefficient sanding and possible damage to the sander motor.
- When sanding wood, always connect the dust bag or use a dust extraction system.
- Before using the sander with metal, always remove the dust bag from the outlet as sparks may ignite the dust or the bag.
- Do not continue to use worn, torn or heavily clogged sanding belts.
- Do not touch the moving sanding belt.
- Ensure that you have removed foreign objects such as nails and screws from the work before commencing sanding.
- Rags, cloths, cord, string and the like should never be left around the work area.
- Use safety equipment including safety goggles or shield, ear protection, dust mask and protective clothing including safety gloves.

**Wear goggles**

**Wear earmuffs**

**Wear a breathing mask**

The tool must be used only for its prescribed purpose. Any use other than those mentioned in this Manual will be considered a case of misuse. The user and not the manufacturer shall be liable for any damage or injury resulting from such cases of misuse.

The manufacturer shall not be liable for any changes made to the tool nor for any damage resulting from such changes.

Even when the tool is used as prescribed it is not possible to eliminate all residual risk factors. The following hazards may arise in connection with the tool's construction and design:

- Damage to the lungs if an effective dust mask is not worn.
- Damage to hearing if effective earmuffs are not worn.

### **Unpacking**

Due to modern mass production techniques, it is unlikely that your GMC Power Tool is faulty or that a part is missing. If you find anything wrong, do not operate the tool until the parts have been replaced or the fault has been rectified. Failure to do so could result in serious personal injury.

### **Contents of carton**

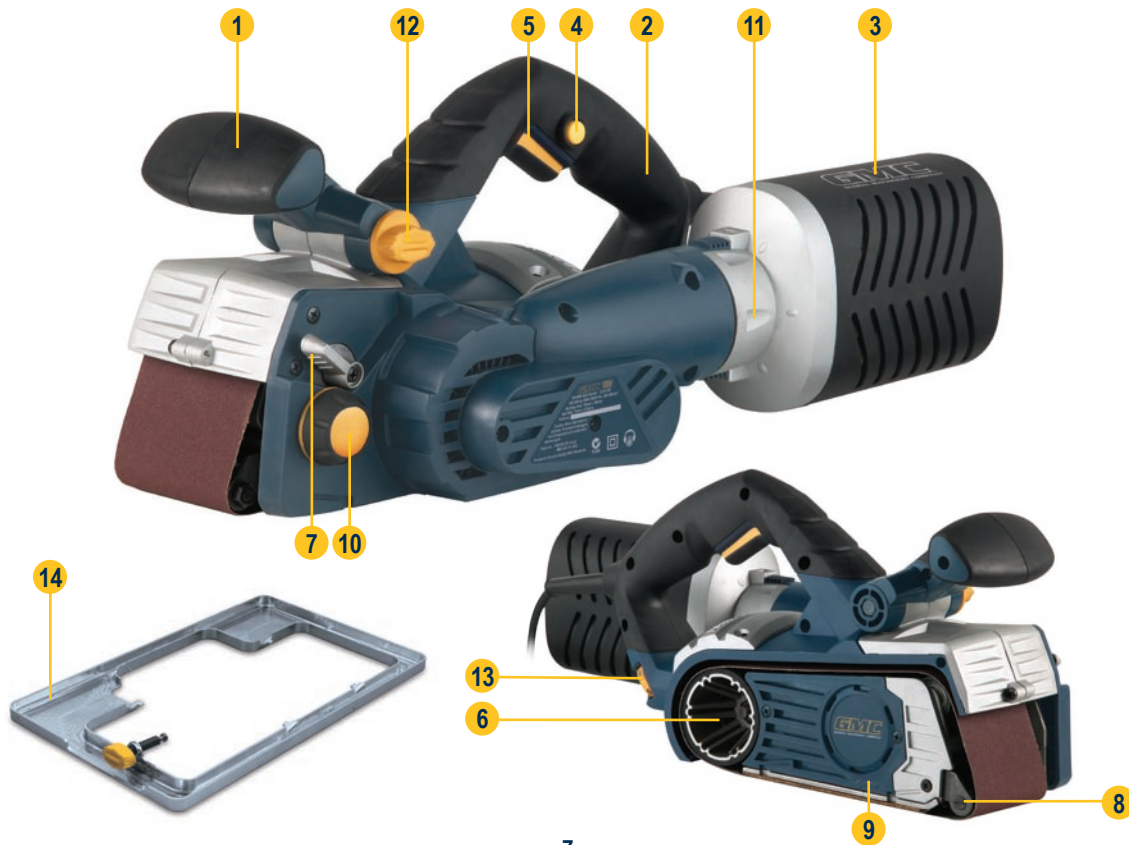
- 2 x 80 Grit sanding belts (1 fitted on product)
- Sanding frame
- Spare drive belt
- Dust canister set
- Vacuum adaptor

### **Assembly**

The Sander is packed, fully assembled, apart from the dust canister.

## Know your product

1. Auxiliary handle
2. Main handle
3. Dust extraction canister
4. Lock-on button
5. On/Off trigger switch
6. Drive roller
7. Belt tension lever
8. Front belt roller
9. Belt rotation indicator
10. Tracking adjustment knob
11. Dust extraction port
12. Handle lock
13. Variable speed control knob
14. Sanding frame



## Switching on and off

1. Pull the on/off trigger (5) upward to start the sander (fig. A).
2. By pulling the switch on and pressing the lock-on button (4), you can lock the sander on (fig. B).



3. Pulling the switch on again and releasing it turns the sander off.

## Adjusting the speed

The speed can be adjusted to suit the material being sanded.

1. To adjust the speed, move the variable speed control (13) until you are satisfied that the speed is what you need for the job in hand (fig. C).



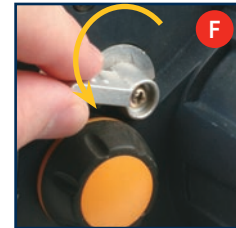
## Attaching a sanding sheet

**CAUTION:** Switch off the sander and disconnect it from the power point.

1. Turn the belt tension lever (7) to release the tension on the belt and slide off the old belt (fig. D).
2. Check that the replacement belt has a good join and is not frayed at the edges.
3. Slip the new belt into position with the rotation arrow on the inside of the belt pointing in the same direction as the arrow on the sander (fig. E).



4. Turn the belt tension lever (7) anti-clockwise to re-tension the belt (fig. F).



5. Plug the sander into a power point and with the sander held tight, pull the on/off trigger switch (5) and allow the belt to rotate for a short period (fig. G).



6. Whilst the belt is running, adjust the tracking knob (10) to align the belt to the centre of the roller (6). Repeat the trigger action and tracking adjustment until the belt is correctly aligned. Run the sander for a minute or so to ensure correct alignment before using the sander on a workpiece (fig. H).



**WARNING:** Do not continue to use the sander with a sanding belt that is worn or damaged.

**WARNING:** Do not use the same sanding belt for wood and metal. Metal particles become embedded in the belt and will scour a wooden surface.

## Selecting the right grade of sanding belt

Different grades of sanding belt can be purchased from your local hardware store. Typical grades are Coarse (40 grit), Medium (80 and 100 grit) and Fine (120 grit).



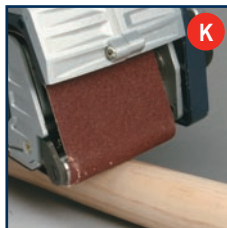
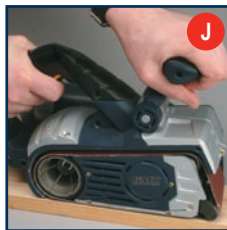
Use Coarse grade to remove rough finishes, Medium grade to smooth the work and Fine grade to finish it off. It is best to make a trial run on a scrap piece of material to determine the optimum grades of belt for a particular job.

In order to take full advantage of your sander, always purchase good quality belts.

**Note.** After sanding with a belt sander, an orbital sander should be used to give a better surface finish.

## Sanding

1. The sander is designed for sanding wood, metal, plastic and similar materials. It is used mainly for quickly removing a large amount of material. Do not use this sander for sanding magnesium.
2. Ensure that the belt is in good condition.
3. Plug in the tool to the power socket.
4. Bring down the sander onto the work piece and apply light pressure (fig.I).
5. Pull up the trigger switch (5) and allow the belt to reach full speed before moving it across the work (fig.J).
6. Press the lock-on button (4) if you require continuous operation.
7. Sand with the grain, in parallel overlapping strokes.
8. To remove paint or smooth very rough wood, sand across the grain at 45° in two directions, and then finish parallel with the grain.
9. Use the front roller (8) only to sand corners or irregular shapes (fig.K).



10. Lift the sander off the work before switching off.
11. Remember to keep your hands away from the moving belt, as it will continue to move for a short time after the machine is switched off.
12. Wear safety goggles, a dust mask and earmuffs.

## Using the sanding frame

Belt sanders are ideal for removing lots of material quickly. The sanding frame allows other functions, namely:

- Controlling the depth of sanding
- Preventing the gouging of a workpiece
- Fine finishing with the use of a fine grit belt and the frame height adjusted for a minimal depth of sanding



To fit the sanding frame:

1. Remove the dust extraction canister.
2. Turn the sander upside down with the cordset facing you.
3. Screw the knob on the frame all the way in.
4. Fit the frame over the base of the sander taking care that the spigot on the end of the frame knob locates into the T-shaped groove in the body of the sander and the four tabs on the inside of the frame locate in the corresponding recesses in the sides of the sander.
5. Screwing the frame knob in or out causes the four tabs to slide along the inclined slots on the sides of the sander and adjusts the height of the frame relative to the sanding belt.
6. Refit the dust canister.

## Dust extraction

1. Disconnect the plug from the power supply.
2. To remove the dust extraction adaptor and canister squeeze the two catches on either side of the dust extraction adaptor. The canister and adaptor will release (fig. M).
3. Pull the canister away from the adaptor, remove the dust bag and empty it (fig. N & O).



**WARNING:** For optimum dust removal, empty the dust bag when it is no more than half full.

Do not use the dust bag when sanding metal. The hot metal particles could cause residual wood dust or the bag itself to catch fire. A vacuum cleaner adaptor can be used to connect a household vacuum cleaner or workshop dust extraction system to the sander. The adaptor fits into the dust extraction port (11).

## General inspection

- Regularly check that all the fixing screws are tight.
- The supply cord of the tool and any extension cord used should be checked frequently for damage. If damaged, have the cordset replaced by an authorised service facility. Replace the extension cord if necessary.

## Cleaning

1. Keep the tool's air vents unclogged and clean at all times.
2. Remove dust and dirt regularly. Cleaning is best done with a soft brush or a rag.
3. Re-lubricate all moving parts at regular intervals.
4. If the body of the sander needs cleaning, wipe it with a soft damp cloth. A mild detergent can be used but nothing like alcohol, petrol or other cleaning agent.
5. Never use caustic agents to clean plastic parts.

**CAUTION.** Water must never come into contact with the sander.



Carefully read the entire Instruction Manual before using this product.

Before returning this product for a Warranty Claim or any other reason  
Please Call 1300 880 001 (Australia) or 0800 445 721 (New Zealand)

When you make your call, please have the following information at hand:

■ GMC Product Type ■ GMC Product Code

A GMC Service Engineer will take your call and, in most cases, will be able to solve your problem over the phone.

You are welcome to use this phone-in service to make suggestions or give comments about any GMC product.

With continuing product development changes may have occurred which render the product received slightly different to that shown in this instruction manual.

The manufacturer reserves the right to change specifications without notice.

**Note:** Specifications may differ from country to country.

 Helpline 1300 880 001 (Australia) or 0800 445 721 (New Zealand)

Register your warranty on line at [www.gmcompany.com](http://www.gmcompany.com) and enter your receipt details.

The GMC 777 Helpline operates from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week (EST).

This allows you to contact GMC directly with any queries and technical questions you have regarding products.

**Save this Manual for future reference**

**GMC Head Office:**

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