



We make people and buildings cleaner, healthier and safer  
in every place we touch!

## MAINTENANCE MINUTE

### 7 Best Practices for Orbital Machines



With the onset of "stripping season," orbital machines (also known as oscillating machines) become more beloved by maintenance crews.

There is no comparison for their ability for chemical-free stripping with back and forth, side-to-side motion, reaching into corners and saving an incredible amount of labor time.

**In addition to stripping strength, these flexible machines perform multiple maintenance tasks**, including daily scrubbing, cleaning and buffing.

They perform on all different types of flooring such as rubber, textured, grouted, polished stone, wood, Marmoleum, TEKNOFLOR®, VCT, terrazzo, concrete, and epoxy.

Depending on the job they are performing, orbital machines use [industry standard color-coded pads](#) to determine the abrasiveness and maintenance need.

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**MENTION CODE WORD "STRIP FAST" GET 5% OFF** Orbital Machine purchases AND [ProLink Prep Pads for stripping and deep scrubbing](#)



To get the most from your orbital machine, here are some best practices:

1. For daily scrubbing, remember that the additional down pressure of the machine means **you can use a lighter duty pad.**

2. [Use a melamine pad](#) for effective maintenance cleaning of VCT, vinyl, terrazzo, tile, concrete and Epoxy floors. It removes black marks from floors and restores tile & grout without harsh chemicals. **Keep the melamine pad wet** for maximum effectiveness and to prevent premature disintegration.
3. Always **use an orbital machine with a backer or spacer pad** with your chosen stripping, scrubbing or cleaning pad.
4. If the pad detaches from the spacer pad, **use three to four strips of industrial Velcro to secure the two pads together.**
5. **Flip and vacuum the pad as recommended by the manufacturer.** The industry standard is to flip every 200 - 300 sq. ft. and then vacuum. After approximately 2,000 sq. ft., replace the pad for best results.
6. When stripping and [using a prep pad](#), keep in mind **oscillating machines quickly and easily remove several coats of finish.** If you need to strip all layers of finish, you will need to use chemicals.
7. Use an [optional baseboard attachment](#) to make fast work of the unpleasant baseboard stripping task.

With the many advantages and various techniques for maximizing the performance from an oscillating machine, trust our experts to provide you the best guidance. Call today at 800.640.4676.

[View our Orbital Pad Inventory](#)

[Read more about orbital advantages](#)

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