

The Fabricoater

Portable Flock Unit



FEATURES

- Battery operated
- Light & simple to use
- **3 sizes of applicators available**

The Flock Finish

Flock is precision cut lengths of nylon or rayon fibres, which vary in length from 0.5 to 3mm at a variety of deniers. When applied by electrostatic means an attractive seamless fabric-like coating is created which can cover almost any surface. The type of flock selected is dependant upon the article and the finish required eg: suede and velvet. The range of colours, that are available, is extensive and flock manufacturers are even able to cater for special shades.

The Uses For Flock

Originally, the flock finish was used to provide solely a decorative effect to a wide variety of items. This is now only one purpose of the flock finish. Some of the other advantages of flock are as follows:

- Reduction of condensation – caravan, boats, floor safes, air conditioning systems.
- Reduction of mechanical noises/rattles – plastic car parts.
- Sound insulation – load speakers, microphones.
- Improved feel to surfaces – inside surface of fibreglass
- Heat insulation – photocopier parts, sauna stoves.
- Non-reflective surface – jewellery, display trays, camera equipment.
- Masking unattractive substrates – chipboard, MDF, fibreglass, vacuum formed plastics.

Method of Application

Flock is loaded into the hopper of a plastic fibre applicator head. The applicator is provided with an internal conductive electrode that is charged by a miniature high voltage generator to a negative potential of approximately 35KV DC.

The object or surface to be coated is arranged electrically to be the opposite polarity to the charging electrode so causing the fibres to be attracted towards it until its pre-treated adhesive coated surface is totally coated. Due to the electrostatic lines of force created between the applicator and the object surface, the flock fibres are caused to penetrate 'end on' into the adhesive covering thus giving a high density pile effect of up to 150,000 fibres per square inch dependant upon the denier of the flock used.



The Adhesives

A wide range of adhesives are available the choice of which being dependant upon the surface to be coated and the wear and treatment to which the finish is to be subjected. Adhesives suitable for coating metal, wood, paper, hardboard, plaster, brickwork and a wide variety of plastics etc, are obtainable in addition to flexible adhesives for use on fabric and textiles, some of which being capable even of standing up to washing, scrubbing and dry cleaning. For best results, it is usual to use pigmented adhesives to match as near as possible the colour of the flock being used. Most adhesives are capable of being applied by roller, brush or spray and where two-pack adhesives employing a hardener are used, an open time of approximately two hours is achieved allowing ample working time for the actual flock spraying process.

Technical Specification

High Voltage DC output – 35KV negative
Current - 40 micro amps
Power supply – 4.5 VDC
Overall length – 450mm
Weight – 700 grams without batteries
980 grams with batteries