

# HIRETECH FLOOR SANDER & FLOOR EDGER



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## SPECIFICATION

The HT8-1.2 Hiretech Floor Sander will sand hard and soft wood floors, cork and composition floors that require rapid sanding and leveling to a fine finish. A powerful motor drives a finely balanced sanding drum which is covered in a unique drum rubber providing a high quality finish to both hard and soft woods and other surfaces. Completely self contained with a high efficiency dust pickup the machine breaks down into three simple component parts for easy transport. With low voltage trip and overload protection the HT 8-1.2 is a high performance sander suitable for professional and home owner use.

Power Supply:	110/120 V 50/60 Hz 220/240 V 50/60 Hz
Off Load Current:	110/120 V 8A 220/250 V 5A
Average Load Current:	110/120 V 15A 220/250 V 8A
Noise:	95 dBA at 1metre (3' 3")
Vibration:	1.60 m/s <sup>2</sup> r.m.s.
Switch:	Low voltage trip and overload protection.
Motor:	Continuous heavy duty AC/DC self cooling 4 brush.
Motor RPM:	8,500
Drum RPM:	3,300
Sanding Drum:	8" (203mm) wide aluminium extrusion with moulded rubber drum cover.
Drive:	Non-slip toothed timing belts and gear cut pulleys.
Dust Pickup:	Seated oversize vacuum fan with adjustable dust pan, disposable paper dust or cloth bag.
Moving Parts:	Sealed for life ball bearings.
Guards:	High impact injection moulded ABS.
Abrasive:	495mm (19.5") total length x 203mm (8") wide sheet with notched and angled ends 24 to 120 grit.
Power Cable:	7m (23') Non-marking outer insulation.
Weight Net:	41.5kg (91.5lbs)
Shipping Weight:	50.0kg (110.3lbs)
Shipping Dimensions:	78 x 40 x 44cm (30.75" x 15.75" x 17.5")
Warranty:	2 years



Read the following Safety and Operational notes before using your Hiretech HT 8-1.2 Floor Sander.

## SAFETY

- For safety it is recommended that a residual current circuit breaker (ground fault interrupter) is used with this machine.
- Check the operating voltage is correct and that the machine is switched OFF ('O') before connecting to the power supply.
- Always disconnect from the power supply when changing the abrasive paper, servicing the floor sander, replacing the dust bag or leaving the machine unattended.
- Always replace the dust bag (paper type) or empty the dust bag (cloth type) when the dust in the bag reaches the MAX' line or when the machine is left unattended.
- Never dispose of or empty the contents of the dust bag into a fire or incinerator.
- Never reuse the paper dust bag or use a non standard bag. Cloth bags must be in good condition with no holes.
- Always wear a dust mask when using the floor sander, handling the dust bag or cleaning the machine after use.
- Wear ear protection when using the floor sander.
- Ensure adequate ventilation of the work area to avoid the formation of a combustible mixture of flying dust and air.
- Never smoke when using or servicing the floor sander or when handling the dust bag.
- Never expose the machine to rain or damp. Always store in a dry place.
- Stop the floor sander immediately if damage to the machine or abrasive paper is suspected.
- Never allow the power cable to come into contact with the sanding drum when the floor sander is in operation. If the power cable becomes damaged and the inner conductors are exposed switch the power OFF and remove the plug before attempting to move the machine. The cable must be replaced by an authorised dealer or qualified electrician using Hiretech® genuine spare parts only.
- Keep hands, feet and loose clothing away from all moving parts of the machine.
- Punch down or remove all nails, screws, tacks and other fixings from the floor before sanding to prevent contact with the sanding drum.
- Never operate the machine without all the guards in place.
- Keep children and pets clear at all times.
- If the machine should fail to operate refer to the Fault Finding Guide on page 10.

### Assembly and Transport

1. The HB-1.2 breaks down into three component parts, the main body, handle assembly and dust tube for easy handling and transport. To assemble loosen the Clamp Bracket Ref.21 and slide the handle assembly into the Handle Bracket Ref.51. Adjust the height of the handle so that your arms are slightly bent when standing upright behind the machine. This will provide you with maximum control in operation. Tighten the clamp bracket firmly. Always ensure that the clamp bracket is tight, check periodically during use.
2. Connect the Cable Handle Ref.20 to the Body Twist Lock Ref.24 at the rear right hand side of the floor sander body. Align the plug with the pins, push in and twist clockwise to lock.
3. Slide the Exhaust Tube Ref.59 into the Exhaust Bracket Ref.56 and push fully home.
4. Fit a paper dust bag following the instructions printed on the bag. If a cloth bag is used ensure that it is tied securely around the dust tube neck and that the bag is in good condition with no holes.
5. To prepare the floor sander for use place the machine on the floor and remove the main cable from its storage position on the handle assembly. Check that the cable is in good condition and that all fittings are secure.
6. To dismantle the floor sander reverse procedure 1 to 5 above.
7. Always ensure that the floor sander is secure and cannot move when being transported in a vehicle. The floor sander is heavy. Take care when lifting and carrying the machine.

### Installing Abrasive Paper

1. Ensure the power cable is disconnected from the power supply.
2. Tip the floor sander back so that it rests on the handle.
3. Lift the Drum Guard Ref.35 and turn the Drum Ref.168 to expose the Paper Clamp Bar Ref.175. Take care not to trap your fingers when turning the drum.
4. Loosen the 2 Paper Clamp Screws Ref.174 with a coin or suitable screw driver so that the clamp bar raises about 1/2" (12mm) only. DO NOT remove the screws completely.
5. Select a suitable grade of abrasive paper (see Abrasive Paper Guide on page 5). To help install coarse grit abrasive papers draw the smooth side

(back) of the paper over the edge of a work bench to make it curl.

6. Kneeling in front of the machine place one end of the abrasive paper under the clamp bar so that the notches align with the clamp bar screws and clamp bar.

Carefully holding the abrasive paper in place rotate the drum 1 revolution. Tuck the other end of the abrasive paper under the clamp bar and use both hands to squeeze the sheet tight around the drum. Make sure it is square to the edges of the drum with no overlap and both ends of the abrasive sheet are equal distance under the paper clamp bar.

Firmly tighten the two clamp bar screws. Check the abrasive sheet is skin tight around the drum. If in doubt repeat the above procedure. Loose or damaged abrasive sheets will tear during sanding and can be expensive to keep replacing. Damage may also occur to the floor and floor sander.

7. Lower the drum guard and stand the machine up. The floor sander is now ready for use.

**Note:** Use Hiretech genuine floor sander abrasives for the best sanding performance and finish. They will also reduce the risk of tearing due to poor fit which is a common problem with generic and non standard abrasives.

### PREPARATION

1. Where possible remove all furniture from the area or room. The HB-1.2 Floor Sander features an efficient dust pickup, however, some dust will escape.
2. Remove all tacks, staples and other unwanted fixings from the floor. Failure to do so will result in damage to the abrasive paper and sanding drum.
3. Punch all nails below the surface of the floor using a suitable nail punch and hammer. Any screws used to fix boards should be counter sunk below the surface. During sanding any nails or screws that become exposed must be punched or counter sunk further.
4. Firmly fix all loose boards or blocks.
5. Remove heavy wax, grease and dirt deposits by hand.
6. Sweep and vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove dirt and discarded fixings.
7. Ensure good ventilation by opening windows.

## OPERATION

1. Move the floor sander to the location of your work.
2. Connect the power cable to a suitable power supply ideally located behind or to one side of the machine and work area.
3. Wear a dust mask and ear protection.
4. Hold both handles with the main cable held in a small loop in the left hand and then passed over the left shoulder.
5. Apply light downwards pressure on the handles to tip the floor sander back to raise the sanding drum off the floor. Switch on by pushing the ON/OFF switch to the 'I' position.



CAUTION - the 8-1.2 Floor Sander is a powerful machine. Always ensure that you have a firm grip before switching on.

6. Now move the floor sander slowly forward and at the same time release the pressure on the handles to gently lower it so that the sanding drum comes into contact with the floor.
7. Guide the floor sander in a straight line at a slow walking pace. Do not force or hold the floor sander back. Allow the machine to do the work and always move at an even pace.
8. At the end of the pass while still moving forward tilt the floor sander back so that the sanding drum comes clear of the floor. Now moving backwards lower the floor sander again and pull it backwards over the area just sanded moving at a steadily even pace. Take care to ensure that the power cable is kept clear of the sanding drum at all times. At the end of the sanding pass and while still moving backwards tilt the floor sander back so once again the sanding drum comes clear of the floor.

Move the machine over so that it overlaps the area just sanded by 3" (75mm) and start to sand the next pass repeating the above technique.



CAUTION - to prevent damage to the floor surface, work piece or machine follow these rules.

- i. Always ensure that the floor sander is moving when in operation and the sanding drum is in contact with the floor.
- ii. Never lift the back of the machine when sanding.

- iii. Never apply pressure to try to increase the rate of sanding. Damage to the floor and machine will occur.
  - iv. Never bounce or drop the floor sander on to the floor. Always lower the machine gently.
  - v. Never dwell in one place, move steadily at all times.
  - vi. Never allow the power cable to come into contact with the sanding drum.
9. When the dust in the dust bag reaches the 'MAX' line stop sanding. Disconnect the power cable from the power supply and remove the paper dust bag. Turn the top of the paper dust bag over to stop the escape of dust and dispose of into a suitable container. Never reuse the paper dust bag or empty it or dispose of it into a fire. If a cloth bag is used empty into a suitable container being careful to contain the dust. Do not dispose of the contents into a fire.
  10. Fit a new paper dust bag or refit the cloth bag. Reconnect the floor sander to the power supply and continue sanding.
  11. When taking a break from work disconnect the power cable from the supply, remove and dispose of the paper dust bag, or empty the cloth bag as detailed in 8. above. Never leave the floor sander unattended with the dust bag in place containing dust.
  12. On completion disconnect the power cable from the supply. Remove and dispose of the paper dust bag, or empty the cloth bag as detailed in 8. above. Stow the cable on the handle assembly and if required dismantle for transportation. Carry out maintenance as recommended in Maintenance and Servicing.



DANGER - never leave the floor sander unattended with dust in the dust bag. Always remove the dust bag and dispose of into a suitable container.

**HT8-1.2 Floor Sander (Drum)** - a powerful floor sander designed for the rapid leveling and sanding of all types of wood flooring excluding thin laminated or veneered floors. Load the sander with abrasive making sure that it is skin tight around the drum. Loose sheets will tear. Place the sander on the right hand wall (unless you are making an angled cut on uneven floors) with about two thirds of the floor in front of you. Start the sander with the drum off the floor then walk forward at an even pace and ease the drum on to the floor. As you near the end of the pass, gradually raise the drum off the floor. Practice this technique before turning on the sander.

Cover the same path you made on the forward cut by pulling the machine backwards and easing the drum to the floor as you begin the backward pass until you reach the original starting point, then ease the drum off the floor.

When two thirds of the floor is sanded, turn the floor sander around and sand the remaining third in the same way. Overlap the one third area by 0.6 to 0.9 meters (2 to 3 feet) with the two thirds area to blend the two areas together.



**WARNING** - never bounce the sanding drum or dwell in one place as this will sand dips and hollows in the floor.

**HT7-2 Disc Floor Sander (Edger)** - a powerful disc floor sander designed for sanding along the edges of a floor without damaging the baseboards or moldings. Also suitable for smaller areas where the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander will not reach like stair treads and closets load the abrasive disc making sure the retaining bolt is tight. Start the edger with the disc off the floor then lower the disc to the floor as you move the sander. Work progressively moving the sander in a sweeping motion from side to side.

**HTF-2 Floor Sander (Orbital)** - a orbital action floor sander designed for re-finishing, sanding between coats of varnish and re-surfacing floors in good condition. load the abrasive sheet, pad or strip. Start the sander, move immediately and sand in the direction of the grain using the same technique as the drum floor sander. For difficult to reach areas use the disc floor sander with a fine grit abrasive, or sand by hand.

**Hand Sanding** - to sand difficult to reach areas scrape and sand the floor by hand. Use a scraper to remove old finishes, always scraping in the direction of the grain, and then sand by hand using the same grit abrasive as you finished with when machine sanding. See Floor Sanding Technique diagrams on page 5.

### PLANK & STRIP FLOORS

Old floors in good condition - when the floor is in good condition - no uneven edges, cupping or crowning of planks and strips - and you want to re-surface the floor, sanding back to new wood, start sanding in the direction of the planks or strips - with the wood grain. Start with a medium grit abrasive. Complete the first cut with the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander then sand up to the baseboards and door thresholds with the HT7-2 Disc Floor Sander, using a medium grit abrasive, blending the edges in with the main floor area. Sweep the floor. Using a medium/fine grit abrasive, sand the main floor area with the drum sander and then complete the floor with the edger using a fine grit abrasive. Sweep the floor. Finish sanding the main floor area with the drum floor sander using a fine grit abrasive. If the floor is in particularly good condition (level with no deep scratches or blemishes) you may re-surface the floor using the HTF-2 Floor Sander, however, as the sanding action of this machine is less aggressive than the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander the job will take more time.

**Uneven floors** - when the floor is uneven sand diagonally at 45° across the room in both directions using the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander with a coarse grit abrasive. Only make one cut on both diagonals, this will achieve a basic level. Now complete the floor for a level strip or plank floor. Use the same grit abrasive as was used on the 45° cut for the first cut parallel to the planks or strips.

Floors with an existing finish - when re-finishing a floor remove as little of the existing surface as possible. If the old finish is worn and the floor is generally in good condition use the HTF-2 Floor Sander with Hiretech abrasive pads and strips which have been especially designed for re-finishing floors. These will maintain the integrity of any stain used to colour the wood and prepare the surface for a new coat of finish. If the floor is badly marked and scratched and has to be sanded back to new wood use the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander and HT7-2 Disc Floor Sander. Always try a medium grit paper first, particularly on a diagonal cut. If 90% of the old finish is removed and the floor is generally leveled, you do not need to use a coarse grit abrasive.

### VENEERED LAMINATED & THINNER FLOORS

Use the HTF -2 Floor Sander for veneered and laminated floors or thinner floors that may have been subjected to repeated sanding. The HTF-2 will remove old surface finishes and prepare the floor for re-finishing. Sand the floor using the same method as a strip, plank, or parquet floor. If the floor has deeper scratches or marks these should be sanded

**HT8-1.2 Floor Sander (Drum)** - a powerful floor sander designed for the rapid leveling and sanding of all types of wood flooring excluding thin laminated or veneered floors. Load the sander with abrasive making sure that it is skin tight around the drum. Loose sheets will tear. Place the sander on the right hand wall (unless you are making an angled cut on uneven floors) with about two thirds of the floor in front of you. Start the sander with the drum off the floor then walk forward at an even pace and ease the drum on to the floor. As you near the end of the pass, gradually raise the drum off the floor. Practice this technique before turning on the sander.

Cover the same path you made on the forward cut by pulling the machine backwards and easing the drum to the floor as you begin the backward pass until you reach the original starting point, then ease the drum off the floor.

When two thirds of the floor is sanded, turn the floor sander around and sand the remaining third in the same way. Overlap the one third area by 0.6 to 0.9 meters (2 to 3 feet) with the two thirds area to blend the two areas together.



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**HTF-2 Floor Sander (Orbital)** - a orbital action floor sander designed for re-finishing, sanding between coats of varnish and re-surfacing floors in good condition. load the abrasive sheet, pad or strip. Start the sander, move immediately and sand in the direction of the grain using the same technique as the drum floor sander. For difficult to reach areas use the disc floor sander with a fine grit abrasive, or sand by hand.

**Hand Sanding** - to sand difficult to reach areas scrape and sand the floor by hand. Use a scraper to remove old finishes, always scraping in the direction of the grain, and then sand by hand using the same grit abrasive as you finished with when machine sanding. See Floor Sanding Technique diagrams on page 5.

## PLANK & STRIP FLOORS

Old floors in good condition - when the floor is in good condition - no uneven edges, cupping or crowning of planks and strips - and you want to re-surface the floor, sanding back to new wood, start sanding in the direction of the planks or strips - with the wood grain. Start with a medium grit abrasive. Complete the first cut with the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander then sand up to the baseboards and door thresholds with the HT7-2 Disc Floor Sander, using a medium grit abrasive, blending the edges in with the main floor area. Sweep the floor. Using a medium/fine grit abrasive, sand the main floor area with the drum sander and then complete the floor with the edger using a fine grit abrasive. Sweep the floor. Finish sanding the main floor area with the drum floor sander using a fine grit abrasive. If the floor is in particularly good condition (level with no deep scratches or blemishes) you may re-surface the floor using the HTF-2 Floor Sander, however, as the sanding action of this machine is less aggressive than the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander the job will take more time.

**Uneven floors** - when the floor is uneven sand diagonally at 45° across the room in both directions using the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander with a coarse grit abrasive. Only make one cut on both diagonals, this will achieve a basic level. Now complete the floor for a level strip or plank floor. Use the same grit abrasive as was used on the 45° cut for the first cut parallel to the planks or strips.

Floors with an existing finish - when re-finishing a floor remove as little of the existing surface as possible. If the old finish is worn and the floor is generally in good condition use the HTF-2 Floor Sander with Hiretech abrasive pads and strips which have been especially designed for re-finishing floors. These will maintain the integrity of any stain used to colour the wood and prepare the surface for a new coat of finish. If the floor is badly marked and scratched and has to be sanded back to new wood use the HT8-1.2 Floor Sander and HT7-2 Disc Floor Sander. Always try a medium grit paper first, particularly on a diagonal cut. If 90% of the old finish is removed and the floor is generally leveled, you do not need to use a coarse grit abrasive.

## VENEERED LAMINATED & THINNER FLOORS

Use the HTF -2 Floor Sander for veneered and laminated floors or thinner floors that may have been subjected to repeated sanding. The HTF-2 will remove old surface finishes and prepare the floor for re-finishing. Sand the floor using the same method as a strip, plank, or parquet floor. If the floor has deeper scratches or marks these should be sanded

out by hand and blended in with the main floor. To check the wood depth in the floor remove a baseboard or molding from around the edge of the floor. This should provide access to the edge of the floor for inspection.

**PARQUET & BLOCK FLOORS**

The grain of the wood will run in a number of directions so sand the floor in the direction of the main source of natural light in the room. If there is no source of natural light sand in the direction of the longest side of the room or, if the room is square, in the direction the furniture is laid out and how people normally use and view the room.

This technique will help mask any imperfections in the

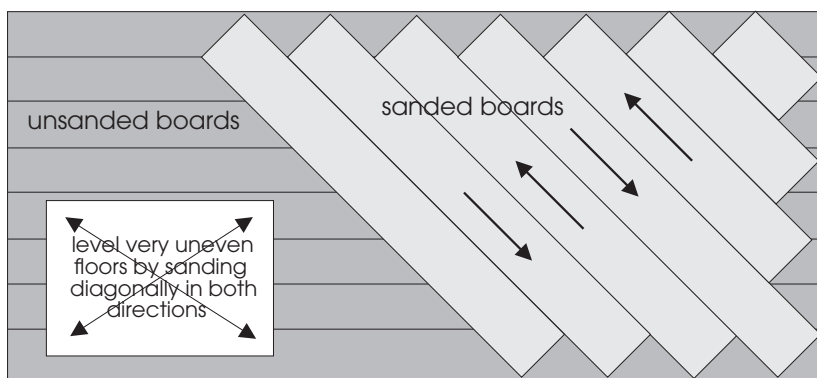
floor. Complete the sanding operation as detailed for plank or strip floors.

**BETWEEN COATS OF FINISH ( VARNISH)**

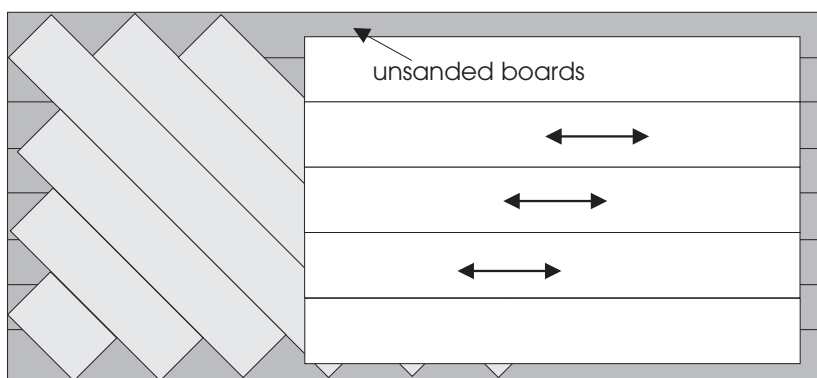
Use the HTF-2 Floor Sander to sand between coats of floor finish, particularly when using water based varnishes. These types of finishes tend to raise the wood grain when first applied to raw wood. Allow each coat of varnish to dry completely following the manufacturer's directions. Use Hiretech abrasive pads to sand between each coat of varnish. The fine abrasive pads will remove light brush/applicator marks and raised grain while maintaining the integrity of the coat of varnish applied

**FLOOR SANDING TECHNIQUE**

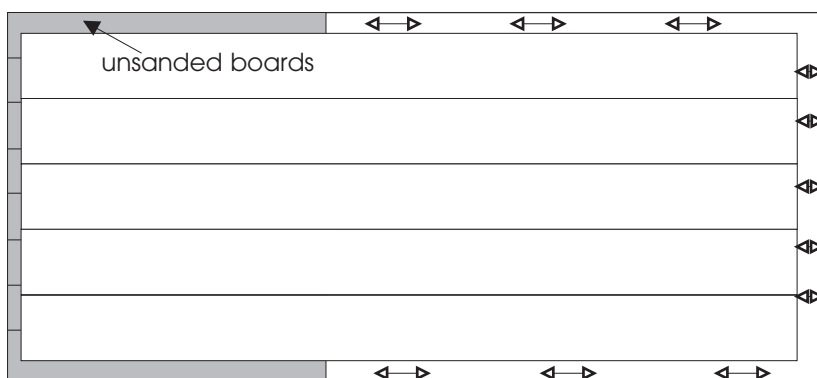
Level uneven floors.



Sand main floor area.



Sand and blend edges in with main floor area



**Plank and Strip Floors** - sand in the direction the boards are laid, with the wood grain.

**Parquet and Wood Block Floors** - sand in the direction of the main source of natural light. If there is no natural source of light, sand in the direction of the longest side of the room. If the room is square, sand in the direction the furniture is laid out and how people normally use the room.

Abrasive Grade	Floor Type and Condition
Grit P24 Open Coat (Very Coarse non-glogging)	For removing surface coatings from old floors such as varnish, stains and wax polishes. For the rapid sanding and removal of scratches and marks. Sanding level the joints of sub-flooring like particle board and masonite.
Grit P24 (Very Coarse)	For the rapid sanding and removal of scratches and marks. Sanding level the joints of sub-flooring like particle board and masonite.
Grit P36 to P50 (Coarse/Medium)	For removing surface coatings from old floors such as varnish, stains and wax polishes. For the rapid sanding and removal of scratches and light marks. Sanding level the joints of sub-flooring like particle board and masonite.
Grit P60 to P80 (Medium)	For the rapid sanding and removal of scratches and light marks. Sanding level the joints of sub-flooring like particle board and masonite.
Grit P100 to P120 (Medium/Fine)	Intermediate sanding of all types of woodfloor. For final sanding of all types of wood floor.
Grit P150 - P180 (Fine/Very Fine)	For final sanding of all types of wood floor. First sanding of cork or composition floors. For sanding between coats of solvent based and 2 pack varnishes.

**DO NOT OVER-SAND USE ONLY AS HEAVY GRADE ABRASIVE AS IT TAKES TO DO THE JOB. PROGRESS FROM FIRST GRADE USED THROUGH FOLLOWING GRADES TO REMOVE ALL VISIBLE SANDING MARKS DO NOT MISS A GRADE .**

**SERVICE & ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**



CAUTION - maintenance and repairs must be carried out by authorised personnel only. To prevent injury, always remove the power cable from the power supply before undertaking any work on the machine. Do not operate this machine unless it is fully assembled and all guards are in place. Use Hiretech genuine spare parts only.

**General**

1. Always make a list when first examining the machine, to remind you of parts or action needed on completion of repair/service.
2. The HT7-2 is subject to high speeds. All screws should be fitted using a suitable thread lock compound.
3. On completion of any work or service on an electrical tool or appliance statutory safety tests must be carried out by a competent person and recorded.
4. The HT7-2 needs no lubrication during routine servicing.
5. Always ensure that the electrical supply is disconnected before starting any routine servicing or repair.

**Visual Inspection**

1. To clean the machine and remove dust, use a vacuum cleaner to avoid damage and prevent inhalation of dust.
2. Examine all guards and mechanical parts for condition including the Disc Guard Ref.54 which should be undamaged and moving freely.
3. Examine the sanding pad, a worn or damaged pad must be replaced to maintain performance and to avoid injury. There must be a minimum of 4mm (5/32) 'tread depth'.
4. Examine the power cable for damage. If the outer insulation shows the slightest of abrasions or the inner conductors are exposed then the cable must be replaced. The cable must not be repaired with tape or insulation sleeve.
5. Ensure all labels are sound, readable and secure.
6. Check that the castors are sound and moving freely. If a castor is found to be loose or damaged then the 'cutting' angle must be checked and reset as necessary .