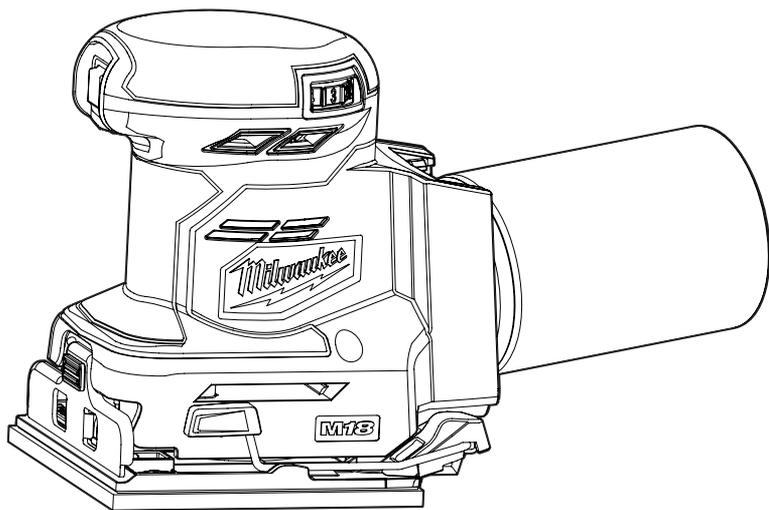




## OPERATOR'S MANUAL



Cat. No.  
**M18 BQSS**

**M18™ 1/4 SHEET SANDER**

 **WARNING**

 To reduce the risk of injury, user must read and understand operator's manual.

## GENERAL POWER TOOL SAFETY WARNINGS

**⚠WARNING** Read all safety warnings, instructions, illustrations and specifications provided with this power tool. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury. **Save all warnings and instructions for future reference.** The term "power tool" in the warnings refers to your mains-operated (corded) power tool or battery-operated (cordless) power tool.

### WORK AREA SAFETY

- **Keep work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered or 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 extension cord suitable for outdoor use.** Use of a cord suitable for outdoor use reduces the risk of electric shock.
- **If operating a power tool in a damp location is unavoidable, use a residual current device (RCD) protected supply.** Use of a RCD 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 personal protective equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Protective equipment such as a dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.

- **Prevent unintentional starting. Ensure the switch is in the off-position before connecting to power source and/or battery pack, picking up or carrying the tool.** Carrying power tools with your finger on the switch or energising power tools that have the switch on invites accidents.
- **Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the power tool on.** A wrench or a key 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 and clothing 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 these are connected and properly used.** Use of dust collection can reduce dust-related hazards.
- **Do not let familiarity gained from frequent use of tools allow you to become complacent and ignore tool safety principles.** A careless action can cause severe injury within a fraction of a second.

### 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 and/ or remove the battery pack, if detachable, from the power tool 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 and accessories. 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, taking into account the working conditions and the work to be performed.** Use of the power tool for operations different from those intended could result in a hazardous situation.
- **Keep handles and grasping surfaces dry, clean and free from oil and grease.** Slippery handles and grasping surfaces do not allow for safe handling and control of the tool in unexpected situations.

## BATTERY TOOL USE AND CARE

- **Recharge only with the charger specified by the manufacturer.** A charger that is suitable for one type of battery pack may create a risk of fire when used with another battery pack.
- **Use power tools only with specifically designated battery packs.** Use of any other battery packs may create a risk of injury and fire.
- **When battery pack is not in use, keep it away from other metal objects, like paper clips, coins, keys, nails, screws or other small metal objects, that can make a connection from one terminal to another.** Shorting the battery terminals together may cause burns or a fire.
- **Under abusive conditions, liquid may be ejected from the battery; avoid contact. If contact accidentally occurs, flush with water. If liquid contacts eyes, additionally seek medical help.** Liquid ejected from the battery may cause irritation or burns.
- **Do not use a battery pack or tool that is damaged or modified.** Damaged or modified batteries may exhibit unpredictable behavior resulting in fire, explosion or risk of injury.
- **Do not expose a battery pack or tool to fire or excessive temperature.** Exposure to fire or temperature above 130°C (265°F) may cause explosion.
- **Follow all charging instructions and do not charge the battery pack or tool outside the temperature range specified in the instructions.** Charging improperly or at temperatures outside the specified range may damage the battery and increase the risk of fire.

## SERVICE

- **Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts.** This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.
- **Never service damaged battery packs.** Service of battery packs should only be performed by the manufacturer or authorised service providers.

## SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES FOR SANDERS

- **Collected sanding dust from sanding surface coatings such as polyurethanes, linseed oil, etc. can self-ignite in the sander dust bag or elsewhere and cause fire.** To reduce the risk of fire always empty the dust bag frequently (10-15 minutes) while sanding and never store or leave a sander without totally emptying its dust bag. Also follow the recommendations of the coatings manufacturers.

**AWARNING** To reduce the risk of injury, when working in dusty situations, wear appropriate respiratory protection or use a suitable dust extraction solution.

- **Always use common sense and be cautious when using tools.** It is not possible to anticipate every situation that could result in a dangerous outcome. Do not use this tool if you do not understand these operating instructions or you feel the work is beyond your capability; contact MILWAUKEE® Tool or a trained professional for additional information or training.
- **Maintain labels and nameplates. These carry important information.** If unreadable or missing, contact a MILWAUKEE® service facility for a replacement.

**AWARNING** Some dust created by power sanding, sawing, grinding, drilling, and other construction activities contains chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. Some examples of these chemicals are:

- lead from lead-based paint
- crystalline silica from bricks and cement and other masonry products, and
- arsenic and chromium from chemically-treated lumber.

Your risk from these exposures varies, depending on how often you do this type of work. To reduce your exposure to these chemicals: work in a well ventilated area, and work with approved safety equipment, such as those dust masks that are specially designed to filter out microscopic particles.

## ADDITIONAL BATTERY SAFETY RULES

**AWARNING** To reduce the risk of fire, personal injury, and product damage due to a short circuit, never immerse your tool, battery pack or charger in fluid or allow a fluid to flow inside them. Corrosive or conductive fluids, such as seawater, certain industrial chemicals, and bleach or bleach-containing products, etc., can cause a short circuit.

**AWARNING** Do not charge non-rechargeable batteries.

## SYMBOLGY



Volts



Direct Current

**OPM**

Orbits per Minute (OPM)



Read Operator's Manual



Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM). This product meets applicable regulatory requirements.

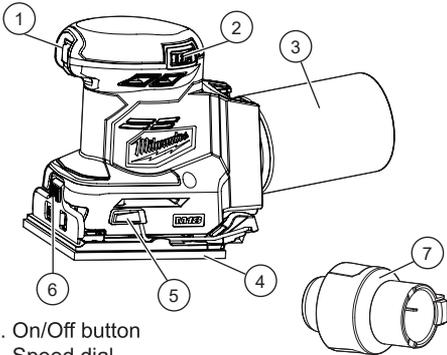


Do not dispose of electric tools together with household waste material. Electric tools and electronic equipment that have reached the end of their life must be collected separately and returned to an environmentally compatible recycling facility.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Cat. No. ....	M18 BQSS
Volts.....	18V DC
Battery Type.....	M18™
Charger Type.....	M18™
Orbits Per Minute (OPM).....	11,000 - 13,000
Sandpaper Type .....	Hook and Loop
	Clamp On (Not Included)
Sandpaper Size.....	108 mm x 115 mm
	114 mm x 139 mm (Not Included)
Recommended Ambient	
Operating Temperature.....	-17°C to 51°C

## FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION



1. On/Off button
2. Speed dial
3. Dust bag
4. Sanding pad
5. Side Clip
6. Front clamp
7. Universal hose adapter
8. Paper Punch (not shown)

## ASSEMBLY

**WARNING** Recharge only with the charger specified for the battery. For specific charging instructions, read the operator's manual supplied with your charger and battery.

### Removing/Inserting the Battery

To **remove** the battery, push in the release buttons and pull the battery pack away from the tool.

**WARNING** Always remove battery pack before changing or removing accessories.

To **insert** the battery, slide the pack into the body of the tool. Make sure it latches securely into place.

**WARNING** Only use accessories specifically recommended for this tool. Others may be hazardous.

### Selecting Sandpaper and Grits

Sandpaper can be made from various grit materials and these should be selected according to the material to be sanded. The guidelines below list materials and grit materials that should be used with them.

- Fine woodwork** – garnet or aluminium oxide
- Rough woodwork** – aluminium zirconia or ceramic aluminium oxide
- Manufactured wood products** (particleboard, medium density fiber board, etc.) – silicon carbide or aluminium oxide
- Solid surface materials** (Corian®, quartz, granite, etc.) – silicon carbide or aluminium oxide
- Metals** – emery or aluminium oxide

Sandpaper is also graded by coarseness. Start your work with an abrasive grit just coarse enough to remove high spots and excessive roughness. Follow with a second sanding using a grit one or two grades finer. Continue with successively finer grits until you obtain the desired finish.

Do not switch from a coarse grit to a very fine grit in one step because it may be difficult to remove the marks made by the coarse grit abrasive. Use the finest grits practical for the roughing operation, and finish by using successively finer grits.

Grit	Type	Typical Application
60 80	Course	Ideal for initial sanding on rougher surfaces. For fast stock removal. Rough sanding and stripping of painted and rusted surfaces.
100 120	Medium	For intermediate sanding and removal of minor surface imperfections.
150 180 220	Fine	Ideal for fine sanding prior to straining, priming, or sealing.

## Installing Sandpaper

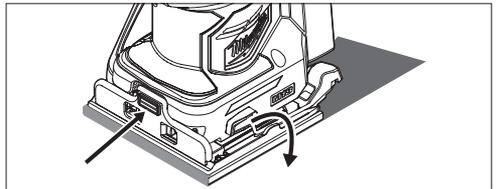
Inspect sandpaper before installing. DO NOT use if broken or defective.

### •Attaching Hook and Loop Sandpaper

1. Remove the battery pack.
2. Align sanding sheet with backing pad, then carefully press fuzzy side of sanding sheet against backing pad as tightly as possible.

### •Attaching Clamp Held Sandpaper

1. Remove the battery pack.
2. Push in and hold the front clamp.
3. Insert edge of new 1/4 sheet sandpaper approximately 6.4 mm (1/4") under the front clamp.



4. Release the front clamp.
5. Wrap the sandpaper around the sanding pad.
6. Release the side clip to open the rear clamp.
7. Insert the loose end of the sandpaper under rear clamp, pulling the sandpaper tight against pad.
8. Return the side clip to close the rear clamp.
9. Multiple sheets of sandpaper can be installed at one time for convenience.

## Paper Punch

A paper punch template has been supplied with the sander for aligning and punching holes in sandpaper. The punched holes must align with the holes in the sanding pad.

1. Install sandpaper on the sander.
2. Align sanding pad over the paper punch.
3. Push down on sander.

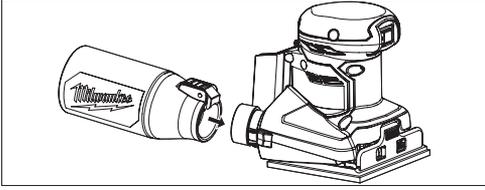
**WARNING** Collected sanding dust from sanding surface coatings such as polyurethanes, linseed oil, etc. can self-ignite in the sander dust bag or elsewhere and cause fire. To reduce the risk of fire always empty the dust bag frequently (10-15 minutes) while sanding and never store or leave a sander without totally emptying its dust bag. Also follow the recommendations of the coatings manufacturers.

Do not use the dust bag when sanding metal. This causes a fire hazard and can result in serious injury.

## Using the Dust Bag

The dust bag provides dust collection for the sander. To use the dust bag:

1. Remove battery pack.
2. To **attach**, press and hold the latch on the top of the dust bag while sliding the dust bag onto the dust port.



3. To **remove**, press and hold the latch on the top of the dust bag while pulling the dust bag away from the dust port.
4. Empty dust from the dust bag by holding it away from the user's face and tapping the dust bag into a rubbish bin, or other reasonable container. Do not clean the dust bag with water or compressed air. For more efficient operation, empty the dust bag when it is no more than half full. This will allow the air to flow better through the dust bag. Always empty thoroughly upon completion of a sanding operation and before storing the sander.

**▲WARNING** When sander is not connected to vacuum, always reinstall dust bag assembly back onto sander. Failure to do so could cause sanding dust or foreign objects to be thrown into face or eyes which could result in possible serious injury.

## Universal Hose Adapter

Use the universal hose adapter to attach the sander to a vacuum hose.

1. Remove the battery pack.
2. Remove the dust bag from the sander.
3. To **attach**, press and hold the latch on the top of the adapter while sliding the universal hose adapter onto the dust port. Connect the vacuum hose to the adapter.
4. To **remove**, disconnect the vacuum hose from the adapter. Then, press and hold the latch on the top of the adapter while pulling the adapter away from the dust port.

## OPERATION

**▲WARNING** To reduce the risk of injury, always wear proper eye protection marked to comply with AS/NZS 1337.1.

When working in dusty situations, wear appropriate respiratory protection or use a suitable dust extraction solution.

## Starting and Stopping the Tool

To **start** the sander, toggle the ON/OFF button to ON (I).

To **stop** sander, toggle the ON/OFF button to OFF (O).

## Speed Dial

The speed dial allows the sander to operate at variable speeds - from low speed (1) to high speed (6).

1. To increase speed, turn the dial to a higher setting.
2. To decrease speed, turn the dial to a lower setting.

**▲WARNING** Finish sanding can produce clouds of fine dust that could ignite in the presence of sparks or open flame. Always wear a suitable dust mask or respirator and use your sander in a well-ventilated area.

To reduce the risk of injury, inspect for and remove all raised nails and fasteners from workpiece before sanding. Striking a fastener while sanding could cause loss of control.

## General Sanding

When using sanders, remember:

- Varying pressure applied to the sander will affect its speed. A light pressure is recommended for fine work, moderate pressure for rough work. Excessive pressure will limit the movement of the sanding pad which will limit the effectiveness of the sander.

- Keep sanding pad flat on the workpiece. Tipping the sander or using the edges of the pad may produce an uneven finish, and reduce pad life.
- Keep sander moving in broad even strokes across the workpiece. Sanding in one spot too long can cause gouging and uneven results.

1. To prevent rough action due to starting under load, toggle the ON/OFF button to ON (I), before applying sander to workpiece.
2. Work in slow, overlapping strokes parallel to grain. This sander is designed for even weight distribution. Excessive pressure may damage workpiece and motor as well as cause premature sandpaper wear.
3. Repeat operation using successively finer grits of sandpaper until desired finish is obtained. Example: 60 Coarse, 100 Medium, 150 Fine.

**▲WARNING** Properly secure workpiece before sanding. Unsecured work could be thrown towards the operator causing injury.

Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery when operating sander. They could get caught in moving parts causing serious injury. Keep head away from sander and sanding area. Hair could be drawn into sander causing serious injury.

## Removing Paint or Varnish

1. When removing several layers of paint or varnish, remove as much as possible with a paint solvent or varnish remover.
2. Scrape away the residue with a putty knife or other scraping tool and allow the surface to cool and dry before applying sander to the workpiece.

**▲WARNING** To reduce the risk of fire and explosion, paint solvents and varnish removers must be removed from the workpiece and the workpiece must be completely dry before sanding.

3. Select a coarse grit sandpaper sheet to help prevent the sandpaper from clogging.
4. Keep the sander moving over new areas to avoid heating and softening the old coating (paint or varnish).
5. Work in wide, overlapping strokes to produce a uniform finish.
6. As the workpiece begins to show through the old coating, switch to a medium grit sandpaper sheet to avoid scratching the surface of the workpiece. Gradually switch to a fine grit sandpaper until you achieve the desired finish.

## MAINTENANCE

**⚠WARNING** To reduce the risk of injury, always unplug the charger and remove the battery pack from the charger or tool before performing any maintenance. Never disassemble the tool, battery pack or charger. Contact a **MILWAUKEE®** service facility for ALL repairs.

### Maintaining Tool

Keep your tool, battery pack and charger in good repair by adopting a regular maintenance program. Inspect your tool for issues such as undue noise, misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, or any other condition that may affect the tool operation. Return the tool, battery pack, and charger to a **MILWAUKEE®** service facility for repair. After six months to one year, depending on use, return the tool, battery pack and charger to a **MILWAUKEE®** service facility for inspection.

If the tool does not start or operate at full power with a fully charged battery pack, clean the contacts on the battery pack. If the tool still does not work properly, return the tool, charger and battery pack, to a **MILWAUKEE®** service facility for repairs.

**⚠WARNING** To reduce the risk of personal injury and damage, never immerse your tool, battery pack or charger in liquid or allow a liquid to flow inside them.

### Cleaning

Clean dust and debris from vents. Keep handles clean, dry and free of oil or grease. Use only mild soap and a damp cloth to clean, since certain cleaning agents and solvents are harmful to plastics and other insulated parts. Some of these include petrol, turpentine, lacquer thinner, paint thinner, chlorinated cleaning solvents, ammonia and household detergents containing ammonia. Never use flammable or combustible solvents around tools.

### Repairs

For repairs, return the tool, battery pack and charger to the nearest service centre.

## ACCESSORIES

**⚠WARNING** Use only recommended accessories. Others may be hazardous.

For a complete listing of accessories, go online to [milwaukeetool.com.au](http://milwaukeetool.com.au) / [milwaukeetool.co.nz](http://milwaukeetool.co.nz) or contact a distributor.



## **WARRANTY - AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND**

Please refer to Australian and New Zealand warranty supplied with tool. This warranty applies only to product sold by authorised dealers in Australia and New Zealand.

## **SERVICE - AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND**

**MILWAUKEE®** prides itself in producing a premium quality product that is Nothing But Heavy Duty™. Your satisfaction with our products is very important to us! If you encounter any problems with the operation of this tool, please contact your authorised **MILWAUKEE®** dealer.

For a list of **MILWAUKEE®** dealers, guarantee or service agents please contact **MILWAUKEE®** Customer Service or visit our website.

(Australia Toll Free Telephone Number 1300 645 928)

(New Zealand Toll Free Telephone Number 0800 645 928)

or visit [milwaukeetool.com.au](http://milwaukeetool.com.au)/[milwaukeetool.co.nz](http://milwaukeetool.co.nz).

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