

REALITY

The information source for esthetic dentistry

2018

The Ratings | POLISHING INSTRUMENTS – COMPOSITE – RUBBER

1

★★★★★
(4.4)



RAVES & RANTS

- + **Very useful complement to regular version**
- + **Allows access to hard to reach areas**
- **Pricy for single-use instrument**
- **Less flexible than regular version**

MANUFACTURER

Dentsply Sirona Restorative

www.dentsplysirona.com

PRICES

Intro Kits

\$169.70/60 (\$2.83 ea)

Refills

\$109.80/40 (\$2.75 ea)

Enhance mini

INTRODUCTION/MANUFACTURER'S CLAIMS

Arguably the best smoothing (not polishing) instrument for composite and ionomer restorations is now available in a smaller size. The full size Enhance has been on the market since 1990 and, while it has performed admirably, a more petite version would clearly expand its usefulness.

Enhance is one of those products that is just as useful today as it was when it was introduced almost 28 years ago. That's a remarkable achievement when you consider all the products introduced to knock it off its pedestal. But there are still no competitors that can perform all the tasks at which Enhance excels.

Besides its unique ability to smooth and blend composite into the surrounding tooth structure, which creates virtually invisible margins, it can also be used to remove remnants of resin cement when ortho brackets are debonded. And it can perform these duties without the type of collateral damage caused by more aggressive instruments such as fluted carbides.

SHAPES

3 Disc, cup, and point. The cups and points differ somewhat from the conventionals. The mini cup, for example, has an almost hourglass-like profile compared to the more classic shape of the conventional version. The mini point has more of a bullet shape with a rounded tip compared to the more pointed conventional point. On the other hand, the disc is pretty much just a smaller version of the conventional one.

Half of the evaluators considered the point to be most useful, 33.3% thought they were all equally useful, the disc was favored by 11.1%, and the cup by 5.6%.

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SIZES

While the conventional discs have a diameter of about 9.8mm, the mini discs measure about 8.2mm. The conventional cups are about 6mm in diameter, while the mini version measures about 5.7mm. And the conventional points have a base (closest to the mandrel) diameter of 5.7mm, whereas the mini points come in at 4.6mm. Even though the differentials don't appear to be that significant, the minis are visibly much smaller than their conventional siblings and should give you better access to restricted space restorations.

Concerning the sizes, most (47.1%) evaluators preferred the smaller sizes over the conventional versions, 35.3% found the smaller sizes to complement the larger ones, so they needed both, and 17.6% felt the regular sizes work just fine and did not need the smaller minis.

GRIT

The composition remains the same as the original version, namely aluminum oxide and silicon dioxide embedded in a urethane dimethacrylate resin.

USE

These are finishing/smoothing instruments, not polishers. They are designed to be used dry after most contouring is completed using burs and coarse discs.

RECOMMENDED SPEED

10,000-15,000 rpm.

EFFECTIVENESS

Most (47.1%) evaluators found the mini versions equally effectiveness in smoothing compared to their regular brethren, 41.1% thought they were more effective, and 11.8% felt they were less effective.

FLEXIBILITY

The mini cups and discs retain the flexibility of their conventional analogs, while the mini points are somewhat stiffer than their larger sibling. Nevertheless, most (77.8%) evaluator found the points to be just right, while the other 22.2% thought they were too stiff. For the discs, most (82.4%) evaluators found them to be just right, while the other 17.6% thought they were too stiff. The cups were

found to be just right by most (66.7%) evaluators, while the other 33.3% thought they were too stiff.

DURABILITY

Half of the evaluators found them to be able to smooth 3-4 restorations, 38.9% could only smooth 1-2 restorations, and 11.1% used them for 5+ restorations. Two evaluators had problems with the tip separating from the shank.

PACKAGING

The introductory kit comes in a small white cardboard box sealed with a clear label. Inside are three, translucent blue plastic containers each holding one of the three shapes. These containers have attached lids with labels imprinted with the product name, shape, and reorder number for your convenience.

There is a secure snap flap at the front that prevents the container from accidentally opening, although opening the flap to access the instruments is not a simple maneuver. The bottom left corner, however, is squared off and extends out slightly to make this task less onerous.

Along with the three containers of Enhance mini is a single, clear plastic one with samples of its companion polisher, PoGo, which is still only available in conventional sizes.

Note: The minis have a blue mandrel to differentiate them from the brown mandrel of the conventionals.

Most evaluators thought the packaging was adequate.

DIRECTIONS

Folded paper, multilingual paper sheet. While most evaluators thought they were straightforward, easy to follow, and included important info such as the suggested RPM, one evaluator wanted a larger, bolder font to make them easier to read.

REALITY

STRENGTHS

Smooths composite, ionomers, and even enamel better than virtually any other similar rubber instrument. Small size gives better access to hard to reach areas and small grooves.

WEAKNESSES

Pricey for single-use instrument. Not as flexible as original version.

BOTTOM LINE

Expands the usefulness of the already terrific conventional version.

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Enhance®
Finishing System

Coarse when you need it, fine when you want it.

The Enhance Finishing System accomplishes the entire process of excess removal, contouring, and finishing simply by varying the pressure. Push harder to remove excess composite, ease it off for final results. In just one step the Enhance Finishing System delivers a smooth, contoured surface with a natural looking finish. It's all about pressure. **Finish in one step.**



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NEW

Enhance® mini

Improved access and versatility