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Blasting Media Comparison Chart

	Aluminum Oxide	Crushed Glass Grit	Glass Beads	Silicon Carbide	Plastic Abrasives
Description	Sharp, long lasting media for fast etching & profiling; Brown/black or White	Silica-free, 100% recycled glass; Efficient, economical stripping	Round, soda-lime glass to produce a bright, satin finish; Minimizes stress on part	Very hard, aggressive cutting media; Ideal for stone, glass and hard surfaces	Abrasive, soft media designed for automotive & aerospace applications
Surface Profile	High etch	Medium-high etch	No etch, satin finish	Very high etch	No etch, stripping
Working Speed	Fast	Fast	Medium-fast	Very fast	Medium
Recyclability	High	None; consumable	High	High	High
Surface Removal	Yes	Slight	Slight	Yes	Slight
Hardness, Moh	8 - 9	5 - 6	5 - 6	9 - 9.5	3 - 4
Bulk Density	110 lbs/ft ³	100 lbs/ft ³	95 lbs/ft ³	90 lbs/ft ³	50 lbs/ft ³
	Steel Shot	Steel Grit	Corn Cob	Walnut Shells	
Description	Carbon steel, round spheres designed for polishing and peening applications	Angular, carbon steel for fast stripping & aggressive cleaning	Organic, soft media ideal for soft surfaces such as wood	Angular, organic grit for mildly aggressive stripping w/out damage to surface	
Surface Profile	No etch	High etch	None	Low etch	
Working Speed	Medium	Medium-fast	Slow	Medium-slow	
Recyclability	Very high	Very high	Low	Low	
Surface Removal	No	Moderate	No	Very slight	
Hardness, Moh	40-51 HRC	40-65 HRC	4 - 4.5	4.5 - 5	
Bulk Density	230 lbs/ft ³	260 lbs/ft ³	40 lbs/ft ³	50 lbs/ft ³	