

# GMC 900W belt sander

Anthony Bailey gets a handle on a little belter

One of a group of Global Machinery Company powertools, the 900W belt sander is potentially a very useful addition to the home workshop.

This model is quite big and heavy for its 76mm belt width, which is no bad thing because belt sanding shouldn't involve a lot of hand pressure to make it sand successfully. It sits flat with a slight tendency to rock to the belt drive side of the machine because of the overhanging weight. The casing is tough and features both carbon fibre and solid magnesium segments on the casing. The handgrips have thick rubber overmould for grip and comfort. The front handgrip can be adjusted up or down by

undoing a lock knob on the side. To fit a sanding belt, a silver lever on the side is flicked, compressing the front roller spring allowing a belt to be slipped on. At the rear is a large rubber covered drive roller. The belt sits on a stainless steel platen that lies on a thin cork bed, as is the case on other belt sanders. There is a tracking knob to adjust the belt position when running. The switch is well sprung with a lock-on button that suits right-hand users, and there is a variable speed wheel at the rear of the body. Lastly, the dust box snaps onto the dust exhaust and it can be exchanged for a spout to link to an extractor.

## On test

It sits well on the wood and sands efficiently on power up. Dust removal is very good – a removable fine filter in the dust box collects most particles and when used with extraction, is very efficient.

A few minus points: the front handgrip waggles



Mike says

"A great value product that works well"



## AT A GLANCE

- Rubber overmould handgrips
- Good weight for size
- Adjustable front handgrip

## THE NUMBERS

- Model: BS900CF Belt Sander
- Input Power: 900 watts
- Belt size: 76 x 533mm
- Sanding area: 76 x 140mm
- Weight: 4.9kg
- £86.50 inc VAT

## WHERE TO BUY

- [www.toolstation.com](http://www.toolstation.com)

## PROS & CONS

- Good ergonomics
- Effective sanding
- Front handgrip loose
- Ineffective belt tracking

## 5 STAR RATING

- VALUE FOR MONEY ★★★★★
- PERFORMANCE ★★★★★
- BUILD QUALITY ★★★★★

slightly even when tightened – it really needs to be in a fixed position. Belt tracking isn't entirely effective as the belt's most comfortable position is slightly overhanging the drive roller. A last thing is that the dust box can easily pop open during use. ■