



Solutions. Start to Finish.

Trimable vs. Standard Flap Discs

Over the past few decades, flap discs have become increasingly popular in the metalworking industry. They excel in stock removal, blending, and finishing.

Were you aware that there is an innovation that helps you get more value out of your flap discs? The answer is trimmable flap discs, which offer significant advantages over standard flap discs. Trimmable flap discs are lighter, easier to work with, and need to be changed less frequently. They produce fewer vibrations, require less energy to operate, and are quieter than grinding wheels.

Traditional flap discs contain fiberglass backing plates which are strong and lightweight, but don't allow for full utilization of the flaps. The backing plates for trimmable flap discs are plastic, which is lightweight and provides a combination of stability and conformability during use. The greatest benefit of the plastic backing plate is its ability to be trimmed, which extends the life of the disc as more of the flaps can be put to use, especially for blending and finishing. This results in an increased life span of 50%-200%, depending on the application, compared to standard flap discs. The trimmable backing also allows for high versatility, enabling the operator to access hard-to-reach areas and grind on-edges without the need to change tools.



The above photo illustrates just how much you can trim down and use on a single disc. So why are you not working with trimmable flap discs?



How do I trim a disc? Below are 3 easy steps to accomplish this:

1: Make sure your flap disc is trimmable. It should be marked on the product; Mercer uses a dotted line as a guide.

Warning: Be sure not to trim past the dotted line.

2: Use a secure piece of metal as a cutting edge and carefully bring the backing of the flap disc to the metal's edge. See above photo.

3: For safe and efficient trimming, slightly angle your grinder and trim the backing to the dotted line. You are now able to use the disc until fully worn.

Watch our video from our [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#) on how to trim a disc.



What does this all mean? Trimmable flap discs last longer to lower overall cost, save time due to less frequent disc changes, and lower grinding and finishing costs. Your staff and wallet will thank you.

Mercer offers several Trimmable flap discs in both [Zirconia](#) and [Ceramic](#). For more information on Trimmable discs see the product pages on our website.