



The Case for Combination Sanders in Small and Mid-Size Fabrication Shops

How the Kalamazoo S612 Helps Fabricators Maximize Space, Productivity, and Precision

By Kalamazoo Industries



A Smarter Approach to Finishing Equipment

Space, labor, and time are three resources every fabrication manager must balance carefully. As project demands grow and job turnaround times shrink, equipment versatility has become a key factor in maintaining profitability.

For many small and mid-sized shops, finishing operations are still handled with single-purpose machines that occupy valuable floor space and require multiple setups. The result is inefficiency — operators moving between stations, lost minutes during changeovers, and inconsistent results.

The rise of combination sanding systems, such as the Kalamazoo Industries S612 6" x 48" Combination Belt and Disc Sander, represents a practical solution for modern shop environments focused on throughput and repeatable quality.

Two Functions. One Footprint.

The S612 integrates a 6" x 48" belt sander and a 12" disc sander into a single, heavy-duty unit. This design allows technicians to perform a range of finishing operations — from weld blending and deburring to precise angle sanding and edge dressing — without repositioning parts or changing workstations. For shops operating within limited floor space, this dual-function configuration is especially valuable. One machine replaces two while maintaining the industrial power and stability required for continuous production use.





Engineered for Industrial Performance

At the heart of the S612 is a 3 HP motor coupled to the sanding heads via a dual V-belt drive for reliable torque transfer and long service life. Cast-iron tables and a robust cast frame damp vibration, and the all-steel base delivers a smooth finish under heavy pressure.

The 6" x 48" belt runs in both horizontal and vertical positions for stock removal or edge work, while the precision-ground 12" disc table provides repeatable accuracy for miter and flat sanding.



Operator Efficiency and Repeatability

In an environment where skilled labor is at a premium, equipment must simplify workflow, not complicate it. The S612's intuitive layout reduces training time and helps operators move seamlessly from rough stock removal to fine finishing.

With both belt and disc functions immediately accessible, operators can achieve higher throughput with fewer setup interruptions — critical for small operations competing with larger production facilities.

Durability That Defines ROI

Unlike consumer-grade finishing tools, the S612 is built for years of industrial service. Every component — from its balanced disc to its heavy-duty drive assembly — is engineered to withstand daily use in demanding environments. This longevity directly impacts total cost of ownership, reducing downtime and maintenance expenses over the machine's life.

For shop managers evaluating capital equipment investments, durability and multi-function capability make the S612 a cost-efficient, long-term asset rather than a consumable tool.

Supporting the Modern Fabrication Workflow

In lean manufacturing and just-in-time production environments, flexibility and reliability are non-negotiable. The ability to perform multiple finishing operations within one station supports consistent part flow, reduces queue times, and aligns with continuous improvement goals.

Combination machines like the S612 help fabrication shops meet deadlines while maintaining the surface finish and accuracy that customers expect.



For Shops That Build to Last

The Kalamazoo S612 6" x 48" Combination Belt and Disc Sander embodies the durability, precision, and versatility required in today's competitive fabrication market. Built in the U.S.A. and backed by a reputation for industrial performance, it delivers the reliability small and mid-size shops need to compete — and grow.

One Station. Two Operations. Proven Results.

See how the S612 improves throughput and consistency. Specs and ordering:
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Kalamazoo Industries — Built to Work. Built to Last.