

Good dust extraction is essential in a workshop. Not only does it protect your health; it also makes working so much easier if you don't have to stop every so often to sweep up the mess. However, it's important to get the right extractor for your needs.

TESTED BY ANDY STANDING



Record CX2600 dust/chip collector

There are two types of workshop extractor: those with a low pressure and high volume, and those with a high pressure and low volume. The former are used with machines such as planers and moulders that produce a high volume of larger chippings, but they can't cope with fine dust.

The second type of extractor is a vacuum machine. This operates by sucking air through filters to separate out the debris, enabling them to deal effectively with fine dust. They're designed for use with machines such as sanders and routers.

Some manufacturers are now producing twin-bag machines with much finer filters, able to cope with finer dust as well as chippings.

Machine design

The Record CX2600 is just such a machine. The airflow is generated by a large plastic impeller driven directly by the motor. This forces the debris through to the plastic waste sack and the air is exhausted through the upper filter bag.

With the needlecord bag fitted, the extractor can safely be used for machines such as planers, circular saws and moulders. It will contain the larger chippings, though any very fine dust will escape. With the optional corrugated paper fine filter the filtration area is greatly increased, making it better able to cope with finer dust.

Airflow matters

This type of machine relies on passing large volumes of air through the impeller, and consequently uses large-diameter piping of 100mm diameter or above. Lengthening the pipe or connecting it to smaller diameter pipework will greatly reduce its



SPECIFICATION

POWER	550W
CAPACITY	75 litres
DIMENSIONS	1850 x 895 x 540mm
AIRFLOW	1150cu m/hour
FILTRATION	5 microns
HOSE LENGTH	2.5m
WEIGHT	31.5kg

VERDICT

This is a well-specified machine with good performance. The optional fine dust filter cartridge at £59.99 makes a considerable difference and is well worth the extra money.

- PROS**
- Good all-round performance
 - Easy to move around as needed
- CONS**
- A bit on the noisy side
 - Fine filters are expensive

VALUE FOR MONEY

PERFORMANCE



FURTHER INFORMATION

- Record Power
- 0870 770 1777
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efficiency. Curiously, a step-down adapter is included to allow you to connect one or two vacuum-cleaner-sized hoses to the extractor, and though this works after a fashion, the suction is fairly limited.

The CX2600 does its job well. The motor is rather noisy, but it manages to move a lot of air. With the fine filter cartridge fitted the airflow actually increases, giving greater suction combined with higher filtration. It's the ideal machine for the smaller workshop.



The corrugated paper fine filter cartridge



The shielded NVR switch on the motor body