

Experiences of a total beginner with air abrasion!

I was interested in air abrasion, bumped into Brian at a Cornwall IDP meeting, but was not wishing to spend money. He got me interested, but I didn't want to commit until I had evaluated other systems.

To cut a long story short, I came full circle. Reasons I preferred the Crystal Mark System;

1. Quietest I heard in use. Very important not to have loud valve noises and control noises if part of the reason is for apprehensive patients.
2. It stops instantly. None of the other systems were as good. Some carried on blowing powder for over five seconds, which is unacceptable to me.
3. Engineering quality. Take off the panels and look at any machine. Then look at the Crystal Mark. Some machines are big boxes with nothing in them but a variation on the super cheap machines that most people use for occasional cleaning in the lab. These are no good for serious work on teeth.
4. Back up. The kit is personal to Brian, so he responds very quickly to questions. I found him very helpful and available.
5. Cuts at **low** pressure with the **least** powder of any machine. I don't want to arrive at the amelo-dentine junction at 160psi, and I don't want to take an age to get there at 40psi using enormous quantities of powder. I wanted the lowest powder, lowest pressure option.

I have had the machine for approx. six months and would say that I use it several times each day. I have just started my first re-fill of powder. What is it good for?

- Brilliant for all fissures, pits, cracks, minor defects of any kind. Nothing better for a confident result. I love the Diagnodent/Crystal Mark combination.
- Can't beat it for salvaging pins in old composites
- Excellent for fast simple cosmetic work on anterior teeth. Uses simply up to the imagination of the operator. Dark lines and cracks just disappear.
- Attrition, abrasion and erosion cases..... multiple teeth at one visit.
- Fast porcelain repairs to the highest possible standard.
- Kids seem to be very calm with this technique. Recent emergency case this last weekend resulted in two new private patients.
- I'm using the machine whenever I want to get the best bond strengths.
- Very useful for cleaning buccal enamel walls in major composite build-ups.
- Surprise revealing of fractures in the floors of heavily restored teeth.
- Cleaning of anything prior to cementing or bonding.
- Can often address a new problem at a scheduled visit while waiting for the patient to anaesthetize for the planned treatment.

I just dashed these notes off today drawing from personal experience so far. This kit grows on you fast once you take the plunge!