

DON'T ENJOY SANDING FOAM? JUST GET WET

By George White

One of the non-pleasures in life is sanding blue foam parts to create the shape you want. The stuff gets all over you like gnats on an Alabama afternoon, and clings to you like it really loves you.

The problem of course is static electricity. Why foam has to have so much of it is beyond my simple thought capacity, but I've found a way to defeat it. Just do your sanding with water. You can buy wet-or-dry sandpaper which works great — just get some pretty course stuff. I didn't have any handy, but I did find something designed for painters to sand things stashed away in my shop that I probably bought during the Johnson administration. It's a semi-hard foam thing which you can see in the photo that has abrasive molded into it. It looks like it's about the equivalent of 100 grit. Just stand over a sink, wet the sanding block and sand away. The foam particles can be washed away by simply running water over it. I'm sure you can find these things in any big box store in the paint department. Give it a try unless you've fallen in love with the foam particles which are sticking to every part of your body.

