

# Protecting Your Pressure Washer

- ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT SPRAY NOZZLE! – See our Nozzle Chart. If the spray nozzle is too small, it will increase water pressure inside the pump resulting in damage. If the spray nozzle is too large it will result to low pressure.
- ALWAYS EXAMINE SPRAY NOZZLE BEFORE OPERATING MACHINE! – Check for debris and damage. Clogged spray nozzles can cause a pressure spike resulting in pump damage.
- ALWAYS PULL THE SPRAY GUN TRIGGER FIRST! – Before you yank the starter rope, pull the trigger on the spray gun (or have someone else pull the trigger for you). This will relieve pump pressure and lower the engine resistance making the machine easier to start.
- ALWAYS TURN YOUR MACHINE OFF! – To avoid damaging the pump; Never run your pressure washer longer than 2-3 minutes while the spray gun trigger is off.
- ALWAYS ENSURE PROPER HOSE CONNECTIONS! – Making sure hoses are securely connected is common sense when it comes to safety, but it will also prevent air leaks in your machine.
- ALWAYS START MACHINE WITHOUT SPRAY NOZZLE ATTACHED TO LANCE! – Running your machine, with the spray gun trigger pulled, and without a spray nozzle attached for 20-30 seconds will purge any air in the hoses and the pump. This will help prevent cavitation and damage to the pump.
- DO NOT ADJUST YOUR UNLOADER OR YOUR PUMP! – If you need to decrease your machines pressure just throttle down the engine. (For engines with throttle control only).
- NEVER RUN YOUR PUMP DRY! – Always make sure your water source is turned on and moving through the pump before starting your machine.
- PERIODICALLY CHECK FOR LEAKS! – Check the pump head, water inlet, water outlet, hoses, trigger gun and nozzle fore leaks regularly. Leaks in the plumbing will cause cavitation or loss of pressure resulting in damage to the machine.
- ALWAYS CHECK PUMP AND ENGINE OIL BEFORE USE! – Pump oil should be filled halfway and engine oil should read at least half way up the dip stick. (Avoid over filling!)
- ALWAYS OPERATE PRESSURE WASHER ON A FLAT SURFACE! – Running the machine while it is parked on an incline can prevent the oil in the pump and engine from being evenly distributed. This prevents the oil from coating the inner working of the machine and can result in damage.

- RELEASE THE EXCESS PRESSURE AFTER TURNING OFF THE MACHINE & BEFORE DISCONNECTING ANY OF THE HOSES OR SPRAY GUN! – This allows most of the remaining water to drain and relieves the pressure built up inside the pump and hoses.
- ALWAYS DRAIN THE PUMP! – Disconnecting the inlet and outlet hoses from the pump and running the pressure washer for 5-10 seconds will purge most of the water from the pump.
- ALWAYS TURN OFF THE BURNER SWITCH OFF FIRST (HOT WATER UNITS ONLY)! – Be sure to turn the burner switch off first. Hold the trigger on the spray nozzle for 30-60 seconds to allow cool water to circulate through the systems. This will allow the pump and the coil to cool.
- WINTERIZE! WINTERIZE! WINTERIZE! – The most common pressure washer issue for all types of machines is freezing during the off season. Neglected water in the pump does the most damage. When the temperature drops outside the water remaining inside the pump freezes and expands. This causes damage to the ceramic and metal piston rod sleeves and the seals throughout. The forged brass or nickel-plated pump heads will crack under the increased pressure. For instructions on how to protect your machine during the winter check out our Winterizing Instructions.
- WHEN STORING YOUR MACHINE FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS – Be sure to add a fuel stabilizer to the gas tank to ensure bad fuel will not cause problems the next time you are ready to use your machine. For machines with a fuel switch; turn off the fuel switch and allow the machine to die before disconnecting the water and draining the pump. This will clear the carburetor reservoir and prevent fuel from solidifying while you are storing the machine.

