

Hand-held vacuum pump



VACUUM/PRESSURE PUMP AND BRAKE BLEEDING KIT

- Checks vacuum operated automotive components
- Can be used to bleed hydraulic systems or siphon fluids
- Includes integrated vacuum/pressure gauge
- Special vacuum/pressure release mechanism
- includes assorted and hydraulic fluid reservoir

INTRODUCTION

The power built Vacuum/Pressure Pump may be used for many different tasks. Listed below are some examples

1. Testing vacuum-operated components (door locks, actuators, etc)
2. Engine mechanical testing (valves, cam timing, head gasket, etc)
3. Brake and clutch hydraulic system bleeding
4. Measurement of vacuum supplied by boosters, reservoirs, solenoids or the engine

DESCRIPTION

The Power built Vacuum Pump Kit consists of the following items

- Vacuum Pump Unit
- Fluid Reservoir
- Fully Sealing Cap for spare Fluid Reservoir (for temporary storage)
- Long vinyl Hose
- Assorted Small Sections of Vinyl Hose
- Assorted Adapters, Tees, Caps and Suction Cup



The vacuum pump consists of the following parts. See Figure:
Legend

1. Vacuum/Pressure Gauge—A 2 1/2" gauge calibrated in PSI, BAR and inches of mercury
2. Vacuum Fitting—This barbed fitting is for attachment of the supplied hose. It can also be directly attached to vehicle vacuum lines or components
3. Vacuum/Pressure Release Collar—The external collar on the pump slides back and forth on the pump body. The forward position is for pressure. The rearward position is for vacuum. Moving the collar from one

and then released. See Figure: Worn Piston Rings.

Air/Fuel (Idle) Mixture: An air/fuel mixture that is either too rich or too lean creates lower than normal vacuum, often fluctuating. See Figure: improper idle mixture.

Late Valve Timing: When cam timing is off, vacuum will float between 8–15" 1–2 in. Hg at idle. This can happen after a timing belt change if the belt is installed incorrectly. See Figure: Late Valve Timing.

Valve Seating: An intake valve that is not sealing will cause a momentary drop in manifold vacuum. As the pressure in the cylinder starts to rise, it will leak past the intake valve. This will result in a large pressure increase in the intake manifold. These pressures will cause the needle on the vacuum gauge to drop 1–2 in. Hg each time the cylinder fires. See Figure: Leaky Intake Valve.

An exhaust valve that is not sealing will dilute the incoming mixture and cause a misfire. The vacuum gauge will display a lower manifold vacuum without any fluctuation.

Broken Valve Spring: If the valve stays open too long as the result of a broken spring, a positive pressure is created. This can be seen on the vacuum gauge as substantial needle fluctuations each time the valve attempts to close.

Sticking Valve: A sticking valve will cause the needle to drop each time the offending valve hangs open. This is similar to a leaking valve, except that the vacuum reading will not drop at regular intervals. See Figure: Leaky Intake Valve.

Head Gasket Leak: When the head gasket is leaking, engine vacuum will float between 5–19" 1–2 in. Hg. See Figure: Blown Head Gasket.

For instance zero on your vacuum gauge would represent 14.7-psi at sea level. As the engine is cranked, the piston of each cylinder will increase manifold pressure. A cylinder that is not sealing properly will not produce sufficient compression pressures. We need to raise combustion chamber pressures and the resulting temperatures for reliable ignition.

An engine in good mechanical condition, depending on its size, will typically develop somewhere between 17 and 21 in. Hg at 1000 rpm.

Low Vacuum. A low steady vacuum reading at idle could indicate a problem with an external vacuum leak. Another cause could be late ignition or valve timing. If adjusting the ignition to specification does not increase the vacuum gauge reading, the valve timing should be checked.

Cranking: During cranking speeds, we should develop between 3 to 5 in. Hg with the throttle closed. This is a good test for an engine that will not start. A reading of zero would indicate there is an internal problem. A quick test here can save a lot of diagnostic time.

Base Idle: A quick test to see if the base idle screw of a fuel-injected vehicle has been tampered with is as follows. Hook up your vacuum gauge to ported vacuum on the throttle body at idle. There should be almost zero vacuum.

Restricted Exhaust (Catalytic Converter): When the engine is unable to exhale properly, a positive pressure will develop inside the cylinder each time the exhaust valve opens. This increases inside the manifold as the intake valve opens. The end result is lower manifold vacuum. See Figure: Restricted Exhaust. Run the engine at 1000 rpm and record the vacuum reading. Increase engine speed slowly to 2500 rpm. Exhaust backpressure, depending on the amount of restriction, will increase with engine rpm. If the vacuum reading at 2500 rpm should drop more than 3 in. Hg from the reading taken at 1000 rpm, the exhaust system is most likely restricted.

Worn Piston Rings: When piston rings are sealing properly, manifold vacuum will increase above a normal level whenever the throttle is quickly snapped closed. The closed throttle with high piston speed will create a large pressure differential in the intake manifold. If rings are worn out, the gauge should drop to zero, then rise to 22 in. Hg when the throttle is rapidly depressed

position to the other position will release stored pressure or vacuum to the atmosphere.

4. Handles—Comfort grip handles are designed so that they can be easily squeezed together to create vacuum or pressure.
5. Pump Body—Pump body includes piston, cylinder and valve assembly.

REPLACING PARTS:

When replacing the vacuum or vacuum fitting, it is important to wrap the threads with Teflon plumber's tape before threading the pieces together. A good seal must be maintained.

CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS REGARDING USE OF THE VACUUM PUMP

Handling—The Power built vacuum pump is a precision instrument. Handle it with the same care you would with any other precision tool. Do NOT drop it, handle it on hot manifolds or other engine parts. Avoid letting fluids enter the pump itself. If using as a fluid pump, make sure to use the fluid reservoir included.

Lubrication & Cleaning—The vacuum pump is lubricated with silicone oil at the factory. If you find it necessary to lubricate your pump, use silicone oil; or a silicone based brake fluid (Dot 5). Do NOT use petroleum based lubricants such as WD-40, motor oil, penetrating oil, etc.). Do NOT use cleaners such as carburetor cleaner or brake cleaner sprays in the pump mechanism.

USING THE PUMP

The power built vacuum pump can be used for a variety of automotive testing and diagnosis tasks. Examples are listed below:

1. Engine mechanical testing, such as testing of engine vacuum, testing intake and exhaust valves, testing manifolds and manifold gaskets for leaks, etc.), air/fuel mixture, cylinder leakage, turbocharger wastegate and mechanical and electrical vacuum pumps.
2. Testing of vacuum-operated mechanical components, including transmission modulators, heater and air conditioner doors, cruise control modulators, headlight doors, etc.
3. Fuel system testing, such as fuel tank testing, and testing of fuel lines, pumps, and pressure regulators.
4. Ignition system testing, such as distributor advance mechanisms, spark delay valve testing, vacuum delay valve testing, etc.
5. Emission control system testing, such as EGR valves, PCV valves, ported vacuum switches, thermostatic air cleaners transducer valves, etc.).

GENERAL USAGE INSTRUCTIONS

The Power built vacuum pump is most often used as a vacuum.

pump or test instrument The pump may be connected to a component with the provided vacuum line, connected directly to the component itself, or connected vacuum line, connected directly to the component itself, or connected to an existing vacuum line directly or with the provided tee connector.

To create vacuum:

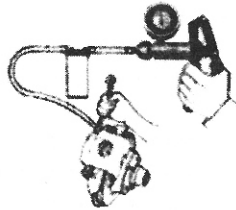
Move the collar to the rearward position (toward the handles). With the pump connected to the appropriate component or vacuum line, simply squeeze the moveable handle of the pump with your hand. Continue the squeezing motion until the gauge reads the desired level of vacuum.

To check vacuum:

With the pump connected to the appropriate component or vacuum line, read the measured amount of vacuum at the gauge (engine running). Do NOT pump the handle, as this will cause an incorrect reading.

RELEASING VACUUM

To release vacuum, slide the collar forward to the release. This allows air to enter the system relieving the vacuum.



PRESSURE:

Move the collar to the forward position (away from the handles). With the pump connected to the appropriate component, simply squeeze the moveable handle of the pump with your hand. Continue the squeezing motion until the gauge reads the desired level of pressure.

To check pressure:

With the pump connected to the appropriate component or vacuum line, read the measured amount of pressure at the gauge. Do NOT pump the handle, as this will cause an incorrect reading.

Releasing pressure:

To release pressure slide the collar rearward to the release.

Bleeding hydraulic components:

The pump may be used to draw hydraulic fluid through hydraulic lines such as brake and clutch lines. See figure: Bleeding Brakes. Attach a short piece of clear plastic line to pump. Using the fluid reservoir with vacuum nipples, attach the other end of the clear plastic line to one side of the reservoir's cap. Attach a long piece of

clear plastic line to the other side of the cap and to the desired hydraulic fitting for bleeding. With the vacuum pump set to vacuum position, open the hydraulic system's bleeder valve and slowly draw fluid into the reservoir. Take care not to draw fluid past the reservoir and into the pump.

TROUBLESHOOTING AUTOMOTIVE VACUUM SYSTEMS

Automotive vacuum systems consist of a vacuum source, lines, hoses, and fittings, and vacuum units or components. This system must be free from leaks. If leaks occur, the air/fuel mixture of the engine may be changed by the additional air entering the engine. This may result in poor engine performance and lead to damage to the engine's internal components over time. Trouble with a vacuum system can most often be determined to be one of the following problems:

1. Leaks—Leaks occur in hoses, connectors, tees, diaphragms, and valves. Most often the leak occurs at the end of the vacuum line where it attaches to a component. The hose becomes hard at the hose end and splits, no longer sealing the connection. Often cutting off a small piece at the hose end will temporarily solve the problem. The hose should eventually be replaced.
2. Blockage—Blockage occurs when vacuum lines are pinched or full of foreign material, when valves are clogged or stuck, or when some other problem occurs that prevents air from flowing. Clearing the line and/or freeing up a stuck valve should solve the problem.
3. Failed component—A visual inspection of vacuum devices can be important to determining their correct operation. It is important to have the manufacturer's service information available to determine whether a component is leaking, has failed, or is functioning properly.

ENGINE MECHANICAL CONDITIONS

Reading the gauge on the vacuum pump can help diagnose a variety of engine conditions. With the pump connected to the appropriate component or vacuum line, read the measured amount of vacuum at the gauge (engine running). Do NOT pump the handle, as this will cause an incorrect reading.

In order to put the vacuum gauge to good use, we must understand how it works and what the reading can tell us. A vacuum gauge measures the difference of pressure in the intake manifold and the actual atmospheric pressure. Vacuum is a pressure that is below atmospheric pressure.