How to Operate Your Champion Portable Generator

Congratulations on your purchase of a Champion portable generator! You have joined millions of satisfied customer who have discovered the quality and serviceability of Champion Power Equipment!

If this is your first portable generator, follow these easy steps for safe, efficient operation of your Champion portable generator:

Add Fuel

1. Use clean, fresh, regular unleaded fuel with a minimum octane rating of 85 and an ethanol content of less than 10% by volume.
2. ***DO NOT mix oil with fuel.***
3. Clean the area around the fuel cap.
4. Remove the fuel cap.
5. Slowly add fuel to the tank. *DO NOT overfill*. Allow approximately ¼ inch of space for fuel expansion.
6. Screw on the fuel cap and wipe away any spilled fuel.

Grounding

Your generator must be properly connected to an appropriate ground to help prevent electric shock.
The generator system ground connects the frame to the ground terminals on the power panel.

- The generator (stator winding) is isolated from the frame and from the AC receptacle ground pin.
- Electrical devices that require a grounded receptacle pin connection may not function properly.

Generator Location

Please consult your local authority. In some areas, generators must be registered with the local utility.
Generators used at construction sites may be subject to additional rules and regulations.

1. This generator must have at least five feet of clearance from combustible material.
2. Leave at least three feet of clearance on all sides of the generator to allow for adequate cooling, maintenance and servicing.
3. Place the generator in a well-ventilated area. *DO NOT place the generator near vents or intakes where exhaust fumes could be drawn into occupied or confined spaces.*
4. Carefully consider wind and air currents when positioning generator.

Surge Protection

Electronic devices, including computers and many programmable appliances use components that are designed to operate within a narrow voltage range and may be affected by momentary voltage fluctuations. While there is no way to prevent voltage fluctuations, you can take steps to protect sensitive electronic equipment.

1. Install UL1449, CSA-listed, plug-in surge suppressors on the outlets feeding your sensitive equipment.
Surge suppressors come in single- or multi-outlet styles. They're designed to protect against virtually all short-duration voltage fluctuations.

2. Consider the purchase of an inverter generator. An inverter generator uses "sine wave technology" to convert DC power into AC power. This allows the inverter to run cleaner, make it an excellent choice for operating sensitive electronics.

Starting the Engine

1. Make certain the generator is on a flat, level surface.
2. Disconnect all electrical loads from the generator.
   Never start or stop the generator with electrical devices plugged in or turned on.
3. Turn the Fuel Valve to the “ON” position.
4. Flip the ignition switch to the “ON” position.
5. Move the choke lever to the “CHOKE” position.
6. Pull the starter cord slowly until resistance is felt and then pull rapidly
7. *Do not over-choke.* As soon as engine starts, move the choke lever to the “RUN” position.

Connecting Electrical Loads

1. Let the engine stabilize and warm up for a few minutes after starting
2. Plug in and turn on the desired 120 Volt AC single phase, 60 Hz electrical loads.
   - DO NOT connect 3-phase loads to the generator.
   - DO NOT connect 50 Hz loads to the generator.

Stopping the Engine

1. Turn off and unplug all electrical loads. *Never start or stop the generator with electrical devices plugged in or turned on.*
2. Let the generator run at no-load for several minutes to stabilize internal temperatures of the engine and generator.
3. Turn the Fuel Valve to the “OFF” position.
4. Let the engine run until fuel starvation has stopped the engine. This usually takes a few minutes.
5. Press the ignition switch to the “OFF” position.
   Important: *Always ensure that the Fuel Valve and the Engine Switch are in the “OFF” position when the engine is not in use.*

Do Not Overload Generator

Capacity

Follow these simple steps to calculate the running and starting watts necessary for your purposes.

1. Select the electrical devices you plan on running at the same time.
2. Total the running watts of these items. This is the amount of power you need to keep your items running.
3. Identify the highest starting wattage of all devices identified in step 1. Add this number to the number calculated in step 2. Surge wattage is the extra burst of power needed to start some electric driven equipment. Following the steps listed under “Power Management” will guarantee that only one device will be starting at a time.

Power Management

Use the following formula to convert voltage and amperage to watts: **Volts x Amps = Watts**
To prolong the life of your generator and attached devices, follow these steps to add electrical load:

1. Start the generator with no electrical load attached
2. Allow the engine to run for several minutes to stabilize.
3. Plug in and turn on the first item. It is best to attach the item with the largest load first.
4. Allow the engine to stabilize.
5. Plug in and turn on the next item.
6. Allow the engine to stabilize.
7. Repeat steps 5-6 for each additional item.