



OXYGEN EQUIPMENT: PORTABLE CYLINDER

If your oxygen is being supplied from a cylinder or tank, be sure to have it secured so it cannot be knocked over. A stand has been provided for this purpose. If you keep extra cylinders on hand, be certain that they are stored lying down when they are not in a stand or cart. It is important to secure empty cylinders as well as full ones. All cylinders must be kept away from radiators, heat ducts, stoves, or any other sources of heat. "NO SMOKING" signs should be prominently displayed in all areas where oxygen is being used or stored. **Review the other safety precautions in the general information on oxygen therapy that was provided with these instructions.**

ATTACHING THE REGULATOR TO A SMALL CYLINDER

Portable oxygen cylinders usually require a washer between the regulator and the post valve of the cylinder to prevent leaking. If your cylinder does **not** require this washer, skip to step #3 below.

1. Remove the plastic wrapper from the post valve of the full cylinder and save the washer inside.
2. Place the new washer on the largest peg located inside the yoke of the regulator. If the previous washer is still in place, remove it before installing the new washer.
3. Attach the regulator by slipping the regulator yoke down over the post valve of the cylinder and aligning the pegs inside the regulator yoke with the holes in the post valve of the cylinder.
4. Tighten the "T" handle firmly. If the "T" bolt is not secure or if the regulator washer is not in place, the cylinder will make a loud hissing sound when the valve is turned on, indicating oxygen is escaping. **There is no danger.** Turn the cylinder valve "OFF" and check positioning of the regulator on the cylinder. Be sure it is aligned properly. Be sure a washer is in place, and re-tighten the "T" handle firmly.

TURNING ON OXYGEN

1. Make sure that the flow adjustment knob is turned completely "OFF", finger tight only - do not force.
2. Using the small-cylinder wrench, key or the small handle on the top of some cylinders, **slowly** turn the cylinder valve "ON", one full turn. When this valve is opened, the pressure gauge will indicate the amount of oxygen in the tank. A full tank will register approximately 2,000 pounds, a half tank 1,000 pounds, etc.
3. Turn the flow adjustment knob "ON", until the flow meter gauge registers the flow rate prescribed by your doctor. Your doctor prescribed a flow rate of _____ liters per minute.
4. Attach the tubing from your cannula to the nipple adapter on the regulator outlet.

- Put on the cannula and adjust for comfort. See "Facts About Your Nasal Cannula" in the general information on oxygen therapy that was provided with these instructions.

TURNING OFF OXYGEN

- Using the small-cylinder wrench or handle, turn the cylinder valve completely "OFF." The pressure gauge and flow meter will slowly drop to zero as oxygen flows from the regulator.
- When both gauges register zero, turn the flow adjustment knob "**OFF**," finger tight only - do not force.

REMOVING THE REGULATOR

- Turn "OFF" the oxygen as described.
- Loosen the "T" bolt enough to permit the pegs in the regulator yoke to be disengaged from the holes in the post valve of the cylinder. Lift off the regulator.

CHANGING CYLINDERS AND ORDERING MORE OXYGEN

It is important to check the pressure gauge regularly to avoid running out of oxygen. Although our representative will do everything possible to assist you, he or she cannot monitor your oxygen supply as closely as you can. This responsibility must be assumed by you, a family member or a caregiver. The following charts will assist you in determining when to order more oxygen.

"E" TANK					
FLOW IN LITERS PER MINUTE					
	1	2	3	4	5
Pressure Gauge Reading	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
2,000 psi	8.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.4
1,500 psi	6.0	3.0	2.2	1.5	1.0
1,000 psi	4.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	.7
500 psi	2.0	1.25	0.75	0.5	0.25

"D" TANK

FLOW IN LITERS PER MINUTE

	1	2	3	4	5
Pressure Gauge Reading	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
2,000 psi	5.0	2.5	1.8	1.2	1.0
1,500 psi	4.0	2.0	1.25	1.0	0.75
1,000 psi	2.5	1.25	0.9	0.6	0.50
500 psi	1.25	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.25

CAUTION: The accuracy of flow meters decreases rapidly with gas pressures less than 200 pounds per square inch. **It is important that you change tanks before the pressure drops below 200 psi.**

The pressure should be watched carefully below 500 psi.

Important: *The cylinder valve must be turned "ON" in order to read the cylinder pressure.*

Always keep enough oxygen on hand to last overnight and during weekends and holidays. If you need help in deciding how long your tank will last, please call our office.

The oxygen equipment provided to you is transported, handled and installed by professionals with experience in oxygen therapy. Feel free to ask them any questions about your oxygen therapy and/or equipment.

PORTABLE "E", "D", AND "C" TANKS

