

PRESSURE TANK PRE-CHARGE



Before installing a pressure tank, the tank's air pressure should be checked. Do not assume that all tanks are pre-charged to suit your installation, as standards vary across tank types and manufacturers. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to properly adjust pre-charge below the pump cut-in pressure. ***Failure to properly adjust the air pressure may result in poor system performance and reduced life of the system's components.***

Checking Pre-charge Before Installation

It is easiest for the installer to check the pre-charge of the tank prior to plumbing the tank into the system. Checking the pre-charge before installation also allows the installer to adjust for different pressure system settings and to adjust for the customer's drawdown requirement.

Why is it Important to have the Correct Pre-charge?

There are a number of reasons why it is important to have the correct pre-charge, including:

- To prevent interruption of water flow caused by a pre-charge that is too high;
- To prevent excessive cycling, which can lead to premature failure of the pressure switch, pump or tank;
- To improve customer satisfaction, as it relates to drawdown capacity or system water pressure; and
- To maximize system efficiency.

Adjusting the Pre-charge When the Tank is in Service

To check the air charge in a tank that has already been installed in the system:

1. Shut off electric power to the pump
2. Open a faucet near the tank, and
3. Drain completely.
4. Then, follow the instructions for adjusting pre-charge prior to installation, per the manufacturer's instructions.

For More Information on Pressure Tank Pre-charge

See our *Water Systems Handbook*, and contact your licensed well contractor, the tank manufacturer, or the wellcare® Hotline.



Information to help maintain and protect your water well system:

wellcare® is a program of the [Water Systems Council \(WSC\)](#). WSC is the only national organization solely focused on protecting the health and water supply of an estimated 23 million households nationwide who depend on private wells (according to the U.S. EPA).

This publication is one of more than 100 wellcare® information sheets available FREE at www.watersystemscouncil.org.

Well owners and others with questions about wells and well water can contact the wellcare® Hotline at 1-888-395-1033 or visit www.wellcarehotline.org to fill out a contact form or chat with us live!

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By joining the FREE wellcare® Well Owners Network, you will receive regular information on how to maintain your well and protect your well water.

Contact us at 1-888-395-1033 or visit www.wellcarehotline.org to join!