

Maintenance Tips for your Automatic Home Backup Generator

You invested in an automatic home backup generator, and now you're never without power. But just like a car, air-cooled backup generators need to be properly maintained to perform as intended. With power outages taking place daily throughout the country and wind and fire season just around the corner, we have provided a few maintenance tips to keep your generator operating properly and at optimal efficiency.

For optimal efficiency when using your air-cooled generator, follow these tips:

Environment

- Verify that the generator is not placed in direct path of irrigation systems, downspouts, or positioned underneath an eave without a gutter
- Verify the generator has proper clearance of 18" from the back and 36" on each side of the generator (including plants, fences and other materials).
- Verify the unit mounting surface is in good condition (free from cracks, stable, level, etc.).
- Check the area surrounding the unit for evidence of excess water (standing water, eroded landscape, water marks on enclosure, etc.).

Enclosure

- Verify all foreign material is removed from inside and outside the enclosure.
- Verify the intake and exhaust louvers on the sides of the generator are clean and free of debris.

Control Panel

- Verify the control panel fuse has not opened.

Battery

- Verify the battery terminals are clean and tight.

Fuel System

- Check the integrity of the fuel system components (fuel plenum, regulator assembly, external assembly, external fuel lines, etc.)
- Check all fuel system fittings to ensure they are tight and not leaking.
- Verify the fuel system is clear of debris and corrosion. *

Engine System

- Verify that the engine oil level is sufficient.
- Inspect the air filter and determine if replacement is needed.

** When exposed over time to high moisture due to improper installation, lack of proper maintenance and subject to harsh environmental conditions, the fuel system can corrode and leak fuel when the generator is attempting to start, posing a potential unit fire.*