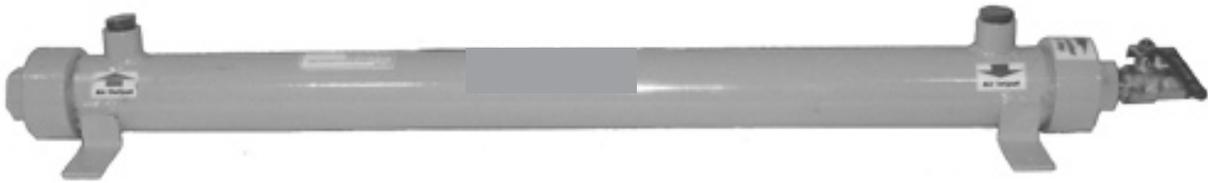


CENTRALPNEUMATIC®

DESICCANT AIR DRYER

Model 97686

SET UP AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



Visit our website at: <http://www.harborfreight.com>



**Read this material before using this product.
Failure to do so can result in serious injury.
SAVE THIS MANUAL.**

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For technical questions or replacement parts, please call 1-800-444-3353.

SAVE THIS MANUAL

Keep this manual for the safety warnings and precautions, assembly, operating, inspection, maintenance and cleaning procedures. Write the product's serial number in the back of the manual near the assembly diagram (or month and year of purchase if product has no number). Keep this manual and the receipt in a safe and dry place for future reference.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

In this manual, on the labeling, and all other information provided with this product:



This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

DANGER

DANGER indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

WARNING

WARNING indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION

CAUTION, used with the safety alert symbol, indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE

NOTICE is used to address practices not related to personal injury.

CAUTION

CAUTION, without the safety alert symbol, is used to address practices not related to personal injury.

General Safety Rules



WARNING! Read all instructions. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in serious injury. The term "tool" in all of the warnings listed below refers to your Air Dryer.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Work area safety**
 - a. Keep work area clean and well lit. *Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents.*
 - b. Do not operate tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases or dust. *Pneumatic tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.*
 - c. Keep children and bystanders away while operating this tool. *Distractions can cause you to lose control.*
3. **Personal safety**
 - a. Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating this tool. Do not use this tool while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication. *A moment of inattention while operating this tool may result in serious personal injury.*
 - b. Use safety equipment. Always wear ANSI-approved safety impact goggles and a dust mask or respirator. *Safety equipment such as non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.*
 - c. Avoid accidental starting. Ensure the Ball Valve (6) is in the off-position before connecting to an air supply. *Connecting*

this tool with the Air Valve on invites accidents.

- d. Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. *This enables better control of the tool in unexpected situations.*
- e. Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep your hair, clothing and gloves away from moving parts. *Loose clothes, jewelry or long hair can be caught in moving parts.*

4. **Tool use and care**

- a. Do not force the tool. Use the correct tool for your application. *The correct tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.*
- b. Do not use the tool if the Ball Valve (6) does not turn it on and off. *Any tool that cannot be controlled with its Ball Valve is dangerous and must be repaired.*
- c. Disconnect the air hose from the tool and release any remaining air pressure before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing the tool. *Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the tool accidentally.*
- d. Do not allow people unfamiliar with the tool or these instructions to operate this tool. *Tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.*
- e. Maintain this tool. Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts and any other condition that may affect the tool's operation. If damaged, have the tool repaired before use. *Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained tools.*
- f. Use the tool and its accessories in accordance with these instructions and in the manner intended for this particular type of tool, taking into account the working conditions and the work to

be performed. *Use of this tool for operations different from those intended could result in a hazardous situation.*

5. **Service**

- a. Have the tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts. *This will ensure the safety of the tool is maintained.*

Specific Safety Rules

1. Maintain labels and nameplates on the Desiccant Air Dryer. These carry important safety information. If unreadable or missing, contact Harbor Freight Tools for a replacement.
2. Compressed air only. Use clean, dry, regulated, compressed air at a maximum of **175 PSI. Do not exceed 175 PSI.**
3. Mount the Air Dryer on a solid, level wall surface capable of supporting the weight of the Dryer and all other additional tools and accessories.
4. Do not use for breathing air.
5. Mount at least 25 feet away from an air compressor to prevent air being discharged with very high temperature.
6. Before replacing pellets, make sure to turn off the air supply source and bleed the Air Dryer of any remaining compressed air.
7. Do not leave the Air Dryer unattended with its compressed air supply on. Turn off the compressed air supply and bleed the Air Dryer of any remaining compressed air before leaving.
8. To prevent contamination of your air lines and air tools an air filter **MUST** be mounted on the outlet between the Air Dryer and air lines and tools. Additional air filters, such as on the inlet line, may

increase the usable life of the desiccant, but are not required.

9. This product is not a toy. Keep it out of reach of children.
10. The warnings, precautions, and instructions discussed in this instruction manual cannot cover all possible conditions and situations that may occur. It must be understood by the operator that common sense and caution are factors which cannot be built into this product, but must be supplied by the operator.



SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

SPECIFICATIONS

Maximum Air Pressure	175 PSI
Flow Capacity	17 CFM
Maximum Input Air Temperature	100° Fahrenheit
Air Connection Size	1/2"-14 NPT
Mounting Holes	1/4" Diameter (Qty. 4)
Replacement Silica Desiccant	Order Sku 97924 (2.2 lb.)
Weight	17.6 lb.

UNPACKING

When unpacking, check to make sure that the item is intact and undamaged. If any parts are missing or broken, please call Harbor Freight Tools at the number shown on the cover of this manual as soon as possible.

Note: For additional information regarding the parts listed in the following pages, refer to the Assembly Diagram near the end of this manual.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS



Read the **ENTIRE IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION** section at the beginning of this manual including all text under subheadings therein before set up or use of this product.

WARNING

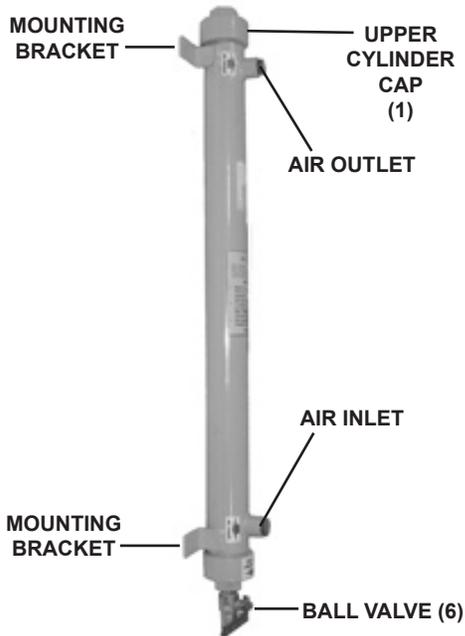
TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY

FROM ACCIDENTAL OPERATION:

Turn off the compressed air supply source, and release any compressed air from the tool before performing any set up and operating procedures.

1. Prior to use, the Desiccant Air Dryer must be firmly mounted to a solid, level wall surface capable of supporting the weight of the Dryer and all other additional tools and accessories.
2. **IMPORTANT:** Mount the Air Dryer vertically with the Ball Valve (6) downwards and as far as possible (**at least 25 feet**) from the air supply to allow cooling of the air. The temperature of the air should not exceed 100° Fahrenheit at the inlet of the Air Dryer. (**See Figure A.**)

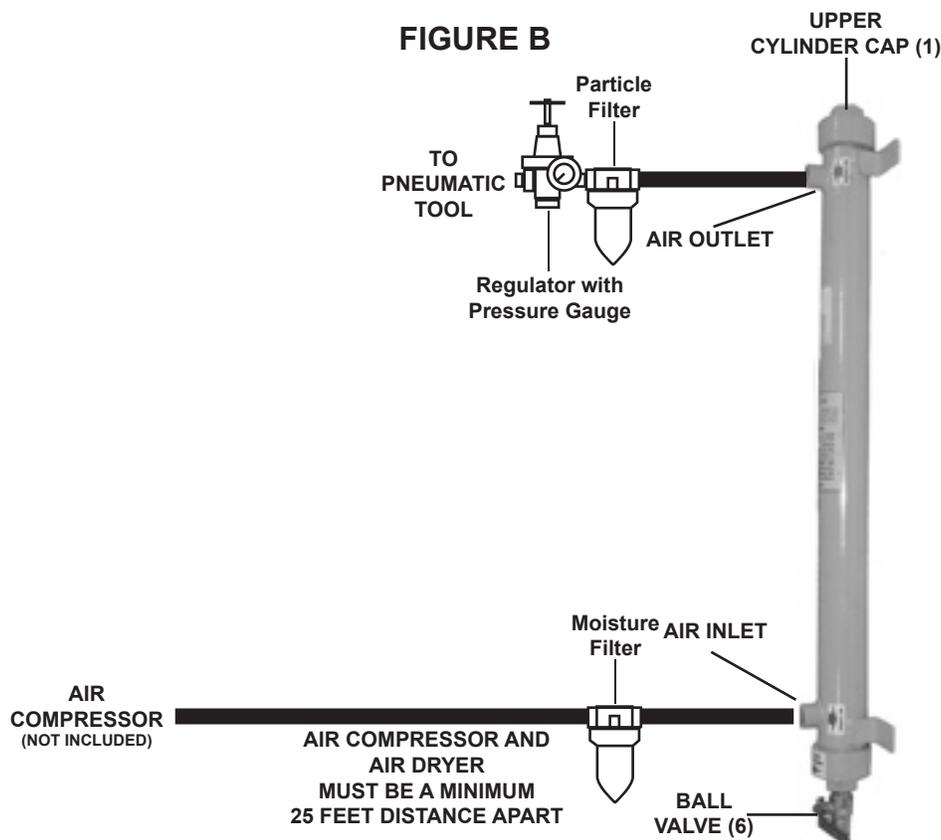
FIGURE A



3. The Air Dryer features four 1/4" diameter mounting holes in its mounting brackets. To mount the Air Dryer, use four 1/4" diameter screws (not included).
(See Figure A.)

4. A moisture filter may be installed on the inlet line between the air compressor and the dryer to extend the usable life of the desiccant, but it is not required.
5. Remove the protective plastic Plug (7) from the unit's Air Outlet. Wrap about 3" of pipe thread sealer tape (not included) around the male threads of the air output hose and firmly screw it into the Air Outlet.
IMPORTANT: This air hose **MUST** have an in-line air filter to prevent particles from damaging any air tools.
(See Figure B.)
6. Remove the protective plastic Plug (7) from the unit's Air Inlet. Wrap about 3" of pipe thread sealer tape (not included) around the male threads of the air compressor's air hose. Then firmly screw the air hose into the Air Inlet.
(See Figure B.)

FIGURE B



6. Check to make sure the air compressor is **OFF** and the Ball Valve (6) of the Air Dryer is in its **CLOSED** position.
 7. Unscrew and remove the Upper Cylinder Cap (1). Then unscrew and remove the Lower Cylinder Cap (5) with its Ball Valve (6) still attached. The *two* Pellets Retaining Plugs (3) will then drop from the bottom of the Air Dryer unit. Use care not to allow the Pellets Retaining Plugs to drop to the floor and become damaged.
 8. Wrap about ten inches of pipe thread sealer tape (not included) around the input end threads of the Cylinder (4). Make sure that Air Seal (2) is undamaged and is located inside the cap. Then firmly screw the Input End Cap (5) back onto the bottom of the Cylinder.
 9. Insert one Pellets Retaining Plug (3) into the top of the Cylinder (4), and allow it to drop to the bottom of the Cylinder.
 10. From the top of the Cylinder (4), pour in the desiccant silica pellets. Fill the Cylinder to its top with the pellets.
 11. Insert the remaining Pellets Retaining Plug (3) into the top of the Cylinder (4).
 12. Wrap about ten inches of pipe thread sealer tape (not included) around the output end of the Cylinder. Then firmly screw the Upper Cylinder Cap (1) back onto the Cylinder (4).
 13. **The Desiccant Air Dryer is now ready for use.**
2. Turn on the air compressor, and set its regulator at **no more than 175 PSI. Do not exceed 175 PSI.**
 3. When finished using the pneumatic tool, turn off the air compressor. Squeeze the trigger on the tool to release any remaining air pressure from the Air Dryer and the tool. Then disconnect the pneumatic tool from its air hose.
 4. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure to drain all water from the Air Dryer **daily**. Hold a bucket under the ball valve and turn the Ball Valve (6) to its **OPEN** position. Once all water is expelled from the unit, close the Ball Valve. **(See Assy. Diagram.)**

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Check to make sure the Ball Valve (6) of the Air Dryer is in its **CLOSED** position. **(See Assy. Diagram.)**

MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING



Procedures not specifically explained in this manual must be performed only by a qualified technician.

TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY FROM ACCIDENTAL OPERATION:

Turn off the compressed air supply source and turn the Ball Valve (6) to its OPEN position before performing any inspection, maintenance, or cleaning procedures.

1. **BEFORE EACH USE**, inspect the general condition of the Air Dryer. Check for loose air hose connections and any other condition that may affect the proper operation of the unit. Do not use the Air Dryer if the unit is damaged in any way.
2. **DAILY**, drain the Air Dryer of water. To do so, turn the Ball Valve (6) to its **OPEN** position. Once all water is drained, close the Ball Valve.
3. **EVERY SIX MONTHS OR DEPENDING ON EXTENT OF USE**, replace the desiccant silica pellets.
4. **TO CLEAN**, use a damp cloth and mild detergent. Do not use solvents.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Solution
Water is being forwarded to the pneumatic tool.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Open the Ball Valve to drain excess water from the Air Dryer. Then close the Ball Valve.2. Replace the desiccant silica pellets.
The PSI to the pneumatic tool slowly drops when in use.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Open the Ball Valve to drain excess water from the Air Dryer. Then close the Ball Valve.2. Replace the desiccant silica pellets.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY

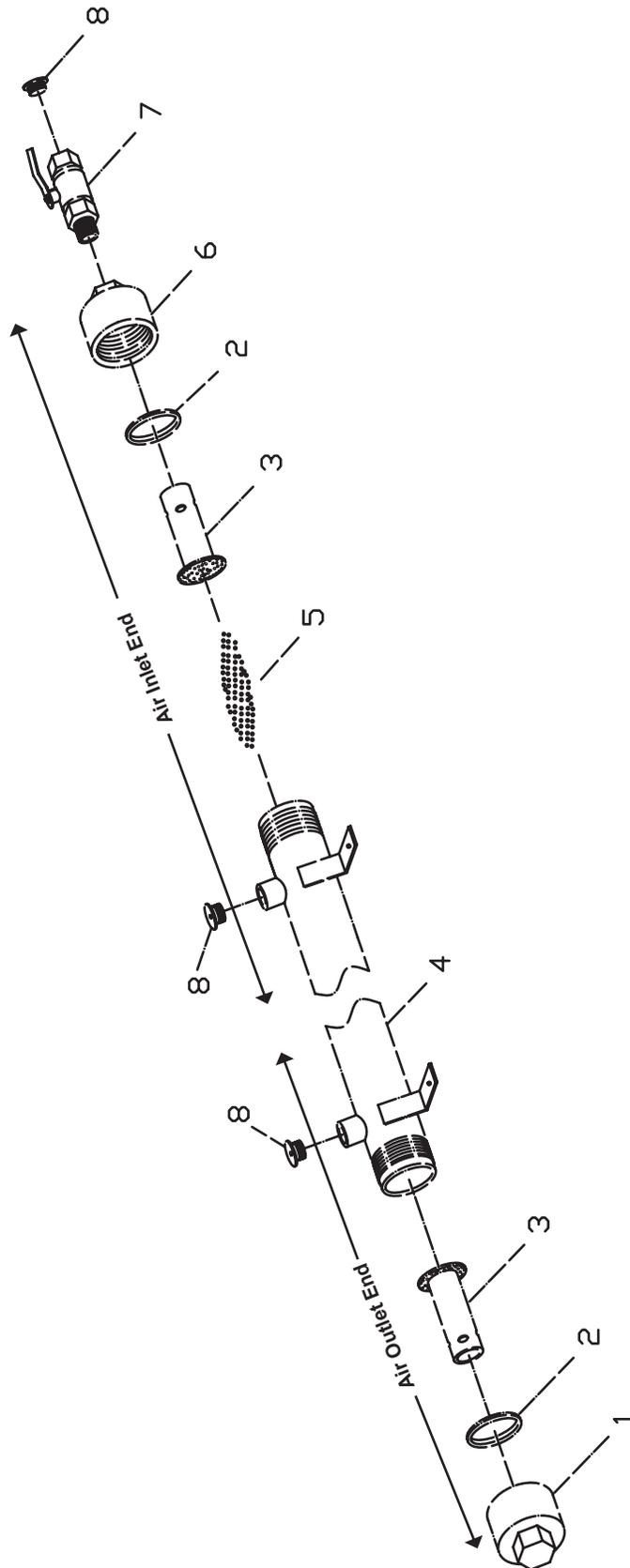
THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR HAS PROVIDED THE PARTS LIST AND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM IN THIS MANUAL AS A REFERENCE TOOL ONLY. NEITHER THE MANUFACTURER OR DISTRIBUTOR MAKES ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND TO THE BUYER THAT HE OR SHE IS QUALIFIED TO MAKE ANY REPAIRS TO THE PRODUCT, OR THAT HE OR SHE IS QUALIFIED TO REPLACE ANY PARTS OF THE PRODUCT. IN FACT, THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR EXPRESSLY STATES THAT ALL REPAIRS AND PARTS REPLACEMENTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY CERTIFIED AND LICENSED TECHNICIANS, AND NOT BY THE BUYER. THE BUYER ASSUMES ALL RISK AND LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER REPAIRS TO THE ORIGINAL PRODUCT OR REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO, OR ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO.

Record Product's Serial Number Here: _____

Note: If product has no serial number, record month and year of purchase instead.

Note: Some parts are listed and shown for illustration purposes only, and are not available individually as replacement parts.

PARTS LIST & ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM



Part #	Description	Qty.	Part #	Description	Qty.
1	Upper Cylinder Cap	1	5	Desiccants (2.2lb)	1
2	Air Seal	2	6	Lower Cylinder Cap	1
3	Dryer Pellets Retaining Plug	2	7	Ball Valve Assembly	1
4	Cylinder	1	8	Plug	3

LIMITED 90 DAY WARRANTY

Harbor Freight Tools Co. makes every effort to assure that its products meet high quality and durability standards, and warrants to the original purchaser that this product is free from defects in materials and workmanship for the period of 90 days from the date of purchase. This warranty does not apply to damage due directly or indirectly, to misuse, abuse, negligence or accidents, repairs or alterations outside our facilities, criminal activity, improper installation, normal wear and tear, or to lack of maintenance. We shall in no event be liable for death, injuries to persons or property, or for incidental, contingent, special or consequential damages arising from the use of our product. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation of exclusion may not apply to you. THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS.

To take advantage of this warranty, the product or part must be returned to us with transportation charges prepaid. Proof of purchase date and an explanation of the complaint must accompany the merchandise. If our inspection verifies the defect, we will either repair or replace the product at our election or we may elect to refund the purchase price if we cannot readily and quickly provide you with a replacement. We will return repaired products at our expense, but if we determine there is no defect, or that the defect resulted from causes not within the scope of our warranty, then you must bear the cost of returning the product.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

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