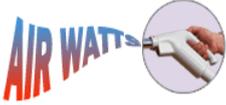


How do I measure suction power?

Maximum Airwatts is recognized by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) as the best, truest and most accurate way to measure the actual cleaning power of a central vacuum system. Period.

More Airwatts = More Power.

Airwatts



The Higher The Air Watts...

The Better The Suction!

Airwatts is a combination of water lift (suction) and CFM (airflow). This is the truest measure of cleaning power. Other misleading terms such as Airflow, CFM's and Waterlift are not a true measurement of power, but rather part of an equation that equals Airwatts.

This is the truest measure of cleaning power.



99% of all central vacuum manufacturers measure the power of their units by Airwatts.

Airflow or CFM

This measures the "volume" of air the motor is capable of moving and works in tandem with "Suction". Airflow can be a bit confusing however, since performance measurements are taken from the motor and do not factor any resistance found in a typical central vacuum system. Filtration, piping, hoses and accessories all restrict and reduce the amount of actual Airflow a system has. While Airflow is important to system performance, Suction or the "pulling of air" maintains the Airflow velocity necessary to sweep dirt and debris away at the hose end where vacuuming takes place. CFM is NOT a true measure of suction, however it is a form of measurement and part of the equation when measuring Air Watts. This is a misleading measurement of suction power. Please note certain companies will lower this number in order to inflate the waterlift. This is done to influence a consumer by making the suction power appear stronger - Wrong!



Waterlift

This measures the suction strength of a central vacuum motor. Essentially, it tells how much "pull" or "lift" power the motor has. This measurement is always taken at its maximum value, the 0" inch orifice (sealed vacuum) where suction is at it's greatest. Since this measurement is taken from the 0" orifice, it is very misleading. This measurement does not take into account piping, hoses or accessories etc., thus giving a false measurement of power. Often referred to as Inches or Waterlift or Vacuum, Suction is vital to overall system performance since it is the "pull power" that maintains Airflow through the complex network of vacuum pipe, hose and accessories. While Airflow is necessary for a vacuum cleaner to work, suction creates the lift and velocity of air which sweeps dirt away.



Waterlift is NOT a true measure of suction, however it is a form of measurement and part of the equation when measuring Air Watts. This is the most misleading measurement of suction power. Please note certain companies will inflate this number to influence a consumer by making the suction power appear stronger - Wrong!

If a company tries to persuade you by telling you the only thing to look for is water lift or CFM's, they need to go back to Central Vacuum 101. While waterlift and CFM's are important, anyone trying to sell you on those is playing with smoke and mirrors.

Don't let anybody tell you anything different.

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More Airwatts = More Power.



Universal Rule Of Thumb:

When buying a central vacuum, remember to double your homes square footage to make sure you get maximum suction power.



How do you find the vacuum that's right for you?
-- Click here to find out. --