

ALL-AMERICAN PRESSURE COOKER/CANNER

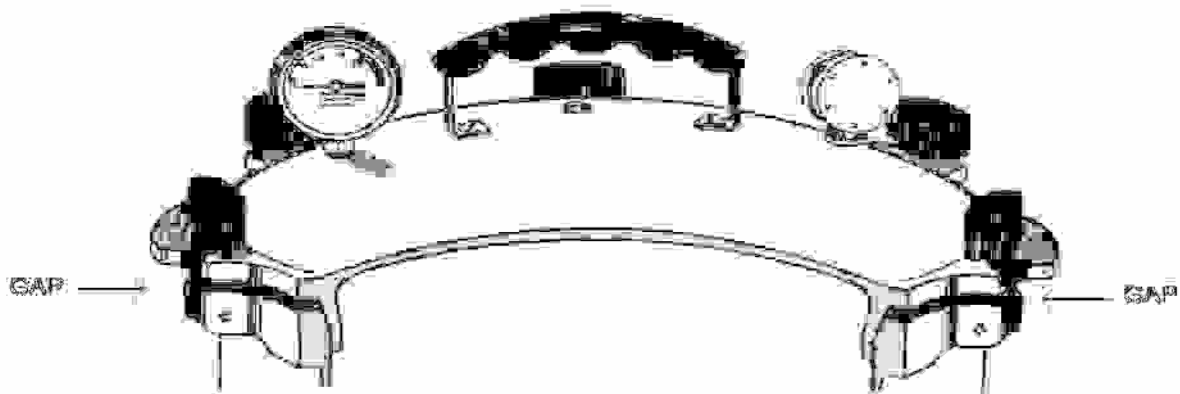
TROUBLE SHOOTING GUIDE

Broken Parts On Brand New Units

All units are carefully inspected and packaged before leaving our factory. Immediately upon receipt of your unit(s), please carefully check the entire unit for broken or damaged parts. If your unit arrives with damaged or broken parts, this indicates that damage occurred in transit. Therefore, a claim must be filed with the delivering carrier immediately. The responsibility for the damage is with the delivering carrier, not with the manufacturer. Do not contact Wisconsin Aluminum Foundry if the goods arrived damaged.

Gap Between Cover And Bottom/Cover Does Not Sit Flat

It is proper and correct that there is a gap between the cover and bottom and does not mean there is problem. The pressure cooker is designed this way. When the cover is properly seated, there is a small gap between the cooker/canner and the cover. To secure the cover, gradually and evenly tighten two opposite wing nuts at the same time, maintaining the same size gap around the entire unit where the cover meets the bottom. See illustration below.



Cover Wobbles Or Rocks on Bottom of Cooker

The metal surfaces where the cover and bottom meet are beveled to produce the exclusive metal-to-metal seal. As a result, the cover will wobble slightly when placed on the bottom before the wing nuts are fully fastened.

Steam Leaking From Cover By Metal-To-Metal Seal

Metal-to-metal seal is dirty

1. Clean and wash metal-to-metal seal on both cover and bottom with hot soapy water.
Clean metal-to-metal seal with fine (0000) grade steel wool or red 3M Scotch Brite pad.
2. Re-lubricate metal-to-metal seal (see instruction manual).
3. Tighten cover to bottom by gradually and evenly tightening two opposite wing nuts at the same time, maintaining the same size gap around the entire unit where the cover meets the bottom. Never tighten just one wing nut at a time.

A new pressure cooker will sometimes leak slightly around the metal-to-metal seal. This will do no harm, and should cease after being used a few times.

Lack of Lubrication

Before using your pressure cooker, lubricate the metal-to-metal seal with petroleum jelly or Vaseline. It is recommended that a thin film be applied every third or fourth use. Apply a thin film of lubricant to the edge inside the cooker where the inside wall begins to bevel out (see instruction book for proper placement). Use enough lubricant to wet the edge, but not enough to actually see it. Place a similar amount of lubricant on the threads of the bakelite wing nuts and also on the metal face around the opening. Wipe away excess lubricant. This will help the wing nuts turn more easily and hold the cover securely to the cooker/canner, preventing steam leaks.

Birr caused by damage to metal-to-metal seal

In the event that you damaged the seal and create a birr, clean the metal-to-metal seal with fine (0000) grade steel wool. Rub steel wool around the beveled edge around the diameter of the pressure cooker. Do not rub up and down.

Steam Leaking From Part No. 72 Steam Gauge

Steam leaking where gauge is inserted in cover (base of gauge/threads)

Remove steam gauge from cover and apply Teflon tape or plumbers tape to the threads and reinsert gauge on cover until snug. Be sure the tape does not cover the hole in the bottom of the gauge. Gauge should be facing the front of cooker.

Steam leaking internally inside gauge (face of gauge)

If condensation is forming inside the face of the gauge, the gauge will need to be replaced.

Steam Leaking From Part No. 69 Vent Pipe

Remove vent pipe from cover and apply Teflon tape or plumbers tape to the threads and reinsert vent pipe on cover until snug. Be sure the tape does not cover the hole in the bottom of the vent pipe.

Cover Is Stuck To Bottom Of Pressure Cooker

When the pressure regulator weight is left on the pressure cooker, a vacuum may form inside the cooker making the cover difficult to remove. To avoid a vacuum, which will cause the cover to be drawn to the bottom very tightly, you must remove the pressure regulator weight from the vent pipe as soon as the pressure gauge indicator reaches zero P.S.I. and then remove the cover. The longer you wait without removing the pressure regulator weight, the more vacuum will form, pulling the cover tighter and tighter to the bottom.

In the event that a vacuum forms, remove pressure regulator weight from vent pipe and then use a large standard screwdriver to pry the top loose. Place the end of the screwdriver *at an angle* between the cover and bottom near a wing nut assembly. Do not go straight in with the screwdriver or you will damage the metal-to-metal seal. Gently pry upward using the screwdriver as a lever. Continue to pry upward at each wing nut assembly area uniformly so that the cover is raised evenly. In most cases, the cover should come off rather quickly.

Another reason that a cover sticks to the bottom is that the metal-to-metal seal has been permitted to build up a coating of foreign material such as dried grease, lubricating oil, etc. Also, no lubrication will cause the cover to stick. Apply lubrication to bottom seal only.

Follow these procedures for next use:

1. Clean and wash metal-to-metal seal on both cover and bottom with hot soapy water. Clean metal-to-metal seal with fine (0000) grade steel wool or red 3M Scotch Brite pad.
2. Re-lubricate metal-to-metal seal (see instruction manual).
3. Tighten cover to bottom by gradually and evenly tightening two opposite wing nuts at the same time, maintaining the same size gap around the entire unit where the cover meets the bottom.

Steam Leaking From Part No. 2040 Overpressure Plug

A small amount of steam or moisture may be visible around the overpressure plug as the pressure is starting to build inside the unit. It is normal for the overpressure plug to leak steam until approximately 5 pounds of pressure as shown on the pressure gauge. If leakage continues beyond that point, the cause may be:

1. The overpressure plug needs replacing if it is worn, cracked or hard. We recommend that you replace the overpressure plug every 12 months, or before if it becomes hard or deformed. Never reuse a blown overpressure plug.
2. Built-up food or grease may be in the opening. We recommend that the opening in the cover where the overpressure plug fits be cleaned with hot soapy water and a small brush at least once every month during periods of use to maintain a clean opening. This cleaning/inspection is in addition, of course, to normal cleaning performed after using the unit.

See instructions in manual on how to remove the overpressure plug.

Discoloration Of Aluminum

Discoloration of aluminum inside the unit is harmless. It can be removed by boiling a solution of one tablespoon of vinegar or two level tablespoons of cream of tartar in one quart of water, or by scrubbing with an aluminum cleaner or soap impregnated steel wool cleaning pad. The cover should be stored separately from the bottom or upside down on the cooker bottom to allow air circulation. Always be sure the cover and bottom are thoroughly dried to protect against pitting and corrosion.

No Steam Released From Part No. 68 Pressure Regulator Weight

Do you have water or liquid in the unit? Your pressure cooker requires 1 ½" of water or the amount called for in the recipe or canning instructions in order to produce steam. It is critical to understand the importance of having water in the cooker when in use. If there is not enough water in the pressure cooker, it could boil dry and ruin the unit.

Is the heat turned up high enough? Turn your heat up higher on your stove. When the pressure regulator weight begins to jiggle and sputter out steam, adjust the heat until it jiggles approximately one to four times each minute. Never turn up the heat to the point that a constant flow of steam is escaping, thereby causing the pressure regulator weight to be constantly in the “up” position. Reduce the heat so that the pressure regulator weight only jiggles and sputters approximately one to four times per minute.

Is Part No. 69 Vent Pipe clogged? Hold the cover up to the light to see if the vent pipe is clear. If you cannot see light through the vent pipe, it may be blocked. Carefully insert the No. 75 Vent Pipe Cleaning Rod (or a piece of wire) into the vent pipe and run it gently in and out to be sure the tube is clear and unobstructed. Rinse with hot water.

Is Part No. 72 Steam Gauge working properly? Please understand that there will not be an exact correlation between the pressure shown on the gauge to the corresponding pressure setting on the pressure regulator weight. Even in the situation where the steam gauge is not registering correctly for any reason, you can be assured that the unit will still operate at the pressure regulator weight setting. The basic reason that our pressure cooker retains the gauge is to provide additional information as to the pressure and temperature within the unit, but you can be assured that the unit is functioning at the pressure regulator weight setting. You may need to replace your steam gauge.

Part No. 72 Steam Gauge Does Not Register

Do you have water or liquid in the unit? Your pressure cooker requires 1 ½” of water or the amount called for in the recipe or canning instructions in order to produce steam. It is critical to understand the importance of having water in the cooker when in use. If there is not enough water in the pressure cooker, it could boil dry and ruin the unit.

ALL-AMERICAN pressure cooker canners are weighted-gauge canners. The pressure gauge is supplied as a reference only for when the unit is pressurized and timing for canning may roughly begin, or when the pressure has dropped to zero and the lid may be safely removed. The accuracy of your steam pressure gauge should be checked annually before the canning season, or several times a year if unit is used often. Your county extension agent or home economist may provide this service. You may need to replace your steam gauge.

If you need further assistance please contact:

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