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## Melnor 20280

# Melnor 20280 Oscillating Sprinkler with Watering Gauge Instruction Manual

Model: 20280

### PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Melnor 20280 Oscillating Sprinkler with Watering Gauge is designed to provide even and gentle watering for your lawn and garden. It features 16 precision nozzles and can cover an area of up to 3,100 sq. ft. The built-in watering gauge assists in monitoring water flow to prevent overwatering, and the adjustable spray range allows for precise watering of specific areas.

### Key Features:

- Waters up to a 3,100 sq. ft. area.
- 16 precision nozzles ensure even water distribution.
- Adjustable spray range for targeted watering.
- Integrated watering gauge to monitor water application.



Image: The Melnor 20280 Oscillating Sprinkler, showcasing its design and integrated watering gauge.

## SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Unpack the Sprinkler:** Carefully remove the sprinkler from its packaging. Inspect for any damage.
2. **Position the Sprinkler:** Place the sprinkler on a flat, stable surface in the area you wish to water. Ensure the base is secure to prevent tipping during operation.
3. **Connect to Water Source:** Attach a standard garden hose to the sprinkler's inlet connection. Hand-tighten the connection to prevent leaks. Do not overtighten.
4. **Adjust Spray Range (Initial):** Before turning on the water, familiarize yourself with the spray range adjustment levers. These are typically located on the sides of the sprinkler head. Adjust them to define the desired watering area.



Image: An oscillating sprinkler demonstrating its adjustable range mechanism for defining the watering area.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Turn on Water:** Slowly turn on the water supply from your faucet. Observe the sprinkler's operation.
2. **Fine-tune Spray Range:** While the water is running, adjust the spray range levers as needed to cover your desired area precisely. This prevents watering sidewalks or driveways.
3. **Monitor Watering Gauge:** The built-in watering gauge helps you determine the amount of water applied. Use this to ensure your plants receive adequate moisture without overwatering. Consult local guidelines for recommended watering depths for your specific plants and soil type.
4. **Adjust Water Pressure:** If the spray is too weak or too strong, adjust the water pressure at your faucet. The sprinkler is designed for optimal performance within typical household water pressures.
5. **Turn off Water:** When watering is complete, turn off the water supply at the faucet.



Image: Close-up of the sprinkler's adjustment levers, used to control the spray range.



Image: The integrated watering gauge on the sprinkler, indicating water application levels.

## MAINTENANCE

- **Clean Nozzles:** Periodically check the nozzles for clogs from debris or mineral deposits. Use a small pin or a soft brush to clear any obstructions.
- **Inspect Hose Connection:** Ensure the hose connection remains tight and free of leaks. Replace worn washers if necessary.
- **Winter Storage:** Before the first frost, disconnect the sprinkler from the hose and drain all water from it.

Store the sprinkler in a dry, protected area where temperatures remain above freezing to prevent damage from ice expansion.

- **General Cleaning:** Wipe down the sprinkler body with a damp cloth to remove dirt and grime. Avoid using harsh chemicals.



Image: A diagram illustrating key components of an oscillating sprinkler, useful for maintenance identification.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
<b>Uneven Watering / Poor Coverage</b>	Clogged nozzles; Low water pressure; Incorrect spray range adjustment.	Clean nozzles; Increase water pressure at faucet; Adjust spray range levers.
<b>Sprinkler Not Oscillating</b>	Low water pressure; Internal mechanism obstruction; Debris in the oscillation motor.	Ensure adequate water pressure; Check for visible obstructions; Contact customer support if problem persists.
<b>Leaks at Hose Connection</b>	Loose connection; Worn rubber washer.	Tighten hose connection; Replace the rubber washer in the hose coupling.
<b>Watering Gauge Not Functioning</b>	Debris obstructing sensor; Mechanical failure.	Inspect for and remove any debris; If still not working, contact customer support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Brand:** Melnor

**Model Number:** 20280

**Coverage Area:** Up to 3,100 sq. ft.

**Nozzles:** 16 Precision Nozzles

**Material:** Metal, Plastic

**Color:** Green

**Item Dimensions (L x W x H):** 6.18 x 14.96 x 3.5 inches

**Included Components:** Oscillator Lawn and Garden Sprinkler

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Melnor 20280 Oscillating Sprinkler is backed by a **Melnor 7 Year Limited Warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For warranty claims, technical assistance, or additional information, please refer to the official Melnor website or contact Melnor customer service directly. *Melnor stands behind its products.*

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

**WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including styrene, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov). For outdoor use only.