

## Plews 17-373

# Tru-Flate 17-373 1/4" Female NPT Grip-Tite Air Chuck Instruction Manual

Model: 17-373

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## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite air chuck is a durable brass lock-on chuck designed for general air filling applications. It features a unique design that allows it to securely attach to a valve stem, functioning similarly to a quick connect coupling. This direct air line (closed) chuck type includes a built-in shutoff valve, making it suitable for direct air line connections but not for use with inflator or pressure gauges.

Key features include:

- **Direct Air Line (Closed) Design:** Equipped with a built-in shutoff valve.
- **Lock-on Functionality:** Stays securely on the valve stem once engaged.
- **Durable Construction:** Made from brass for longevity.
- **Pressure Rating:** Maximum pressure rating of 150 pounds per square inch (psi).
- **Connection Type:** 1/4" Female National Pipe Thread Taper (NPT).

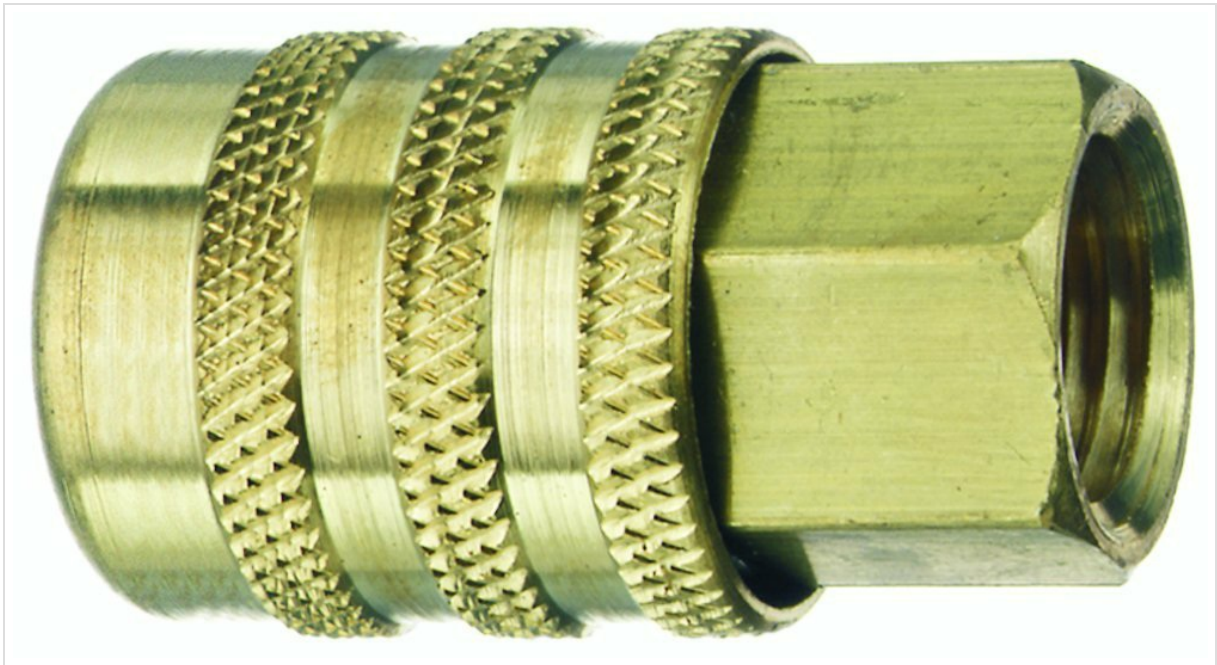


Figure 1: Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite Air Chuck. This image shows the brass construction and the 1/4" Female NPT connection end.



Figure 2: Tru-Flate Air Chuck shown with various air tool fittings, highlighting its compatibility and application.

## 2. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Before using the Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite air chuck, ensure proper connection to your air line system.

### 2.1 Connecting to an Air Hose

1. **Prepare the Air Hose:** Ensure your air hose has a compatible male NPT fitting (typically 1/4" NPT) at the end where the chuck will be attached.
2. **Apply Thread Sealant:** Apply a suitable thread sealant (e.g., PTFE tape or pipe thread compound) to the male NPT threads of your air hose fitting. This helps create an airtight seal and prevents leaks.
3. **Attach the Chuck:** Thread the 1/4" Female NPT end of the Tru-Flate 17-373 air chuck onto the prepared male NPT fitting of your air hose.
4. **Tighten Securely:** Hand-tighten the chuck, then use a wrench to tighten it further by approximately 1 to 2 turns past hand-tight. Do not over-tighten, as this can damage the threads.
5. **Check for Leaks:** Connect the air hose to an air compressor and pressurize the line. Apply a soapy

water solution to the connection point. If bubbles appear, tighten the connection slightly or reapply thread sealant.

### 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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The Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite air chuck is designed for straightforward operation for inflating tires or other items with Schrader valves.

#### 3.1 Attaching to a Valve Stem

1. **Prepare the Valve Stem:** Remove the cap from the tire or item's Schrader valve stem.
2. **Engage the Chuck:** Push the outer sheath of the Grip-Tite chuck back towards the hose connection.
3. **Connect to Valve:** Firmly press the chuck onto the valve stem.
4. **Release Sheath:** Release the outer sheath. The chuck will lock onto the valve stem, creating a secure seal. You should hear air flowing into the tire.

#### 3.2 Detaching from a Valve Stem

1. **Push Sheath:** Push the outer sheath of the Grip-Tite chuck back towards the hose connection.
2. **Remove Chuck:** Pull the chuck straight off the valve stem.
3. **Replace Valve Cap:** Replace the valve stem cap to prevent dirt and moisture ingress.

**Important Note:** This is a direct air line (closed) chuck. It is not designed for use with inflator gauges or pressure gauges. Air will flow only when the chuck is properly engaged with a valve stem.

### 4. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable performance of your Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite air chuck.

- **Cleaning:** Keep the chuck clean and free of dirt, dust, and debris. Wipe it down with a clean cloth after each use.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the chuck for any signs of wear, damage, or corrosion, especially around the sealing surfaces and the locking mechanism.
- **Lubrication:** A small amount of silicone-based lubricant can be applied to the moving parts of the locking mechanism if it becomes stiff. Avoid petroleum-based lubricants as they can degrade rubber seals.
- **Storage:** Store the air chuck in a clean, dry environment when not in use to prevent corrosion and damage.

### 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite air chuck, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Air leaks when connected to valve stem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chuck not fully engaged.</li> <li>• Worn internal seal.</li> <li>• Valve stem is too short or damaged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the chuck is pushed firmly onto the valve stem and the outer sheath is fully released to lock.</li> <li>• Inspect the internal seal for damage. If worn, the chuck may need replacement.</li> <li>• For short valve stems, consider using a valve stem extension. Inspect valve stem for damage.</li> </ul>
Chuck is difficult to attach or detach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of lubrication.</li> <li>• Dirt or debris in mechanism.</li> <li>• Damaged locking mechanism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply a small amount of silicone-based lubricant to the outer sheath and internal mechanism.</li> <li>• Clean the chuck thoroughly to remove any obstructions.</li> <li>• If the mechanism is damaged, replace the chuck.</li> </ul>
Chuck damages valve stem threads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper attachment/detachment technique.</li> <li>• Attempting to twist the chuck onto the valve stem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always push the chuck straight on and pull straight off. Avoid twisting motions.</li> <li>• Ensure the outer sheath is fully engaged/disengaged before connecting/disconnecting.</li> <li>• <i>Note:</i> Some users report issues with aluminum valve stems; exercise caution.</li> </ul>

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed specifications for the Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite Air Chuck:

- **Model Number:** 17-373
- **Brand:** Plews (Tru-Flate)
- **Material:** Brass
- **Color:** Gold
- **Connection Type:** 1/4" Female NPT (FNPT)
- **Thread Size:** 0.25 inches
- **Thread Type:** NPT
- **Maximum Pressure Rating:** 150 psi
- **Item Dimensions (L x W x H):** 4.13 x 3.56 x 0.53 inches
- **Item Weight:** 0.8 ounces
- **Number of Pieces:** 1

## 7. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

Specific warranty information for the Tru-Flate 17-373 Grip-Tite Air Chuck is not provided in this manual. For details regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the product packaging or

contact the manufacturer directly.

## 7.1 Customer Support

For technical assistance, product inquiries, or to report issues, please contact Plews customer support. You may also visit the official Plews or Tru-Flate brand store for additional resources and contact information:

- **Online Store:** [Visit the Tru-Flate Store on Amazon](#)