

## Pentair 263026

# Pentair 263026 3-Way Diverter Valve Instruction Manual

Model: 263026

## INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the Pentair 263026 3-Way Diverter Valve. This valve is designed for use in pool and spa systems to control water flow direction. Please read these instructions thoroughly before proceeding with installation or operation.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

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- Always disconnect power to pumps and heaters before working on plumbing systems.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety glasses and gloves, during installation.
- Ensure all plumbing connections are secure and watertight to prevent leaks.
- Use only approved CPVC solvent cement and primer for connections.
- Keep children away from the installation area.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

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The Pentair 263026 is a 3-way diverter valve constructed from CPVC, designed for durability and chemical resistance in pool and spa environments. It features a handle for easy flow direction control and 2.5-inch slip (solvent weld) connections for plumbing.



Image: Pentair 263026 3-Way Diverter Valve, showing its black body, three ports, and top-mounted handle for flow control.

## INSTALLATION

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Proper installation is crucial for the valve's performance and longevity. Follow these steps carefully:

1. **Plan Placement:** Determine the optimal location for the valve in your plumbing system to achieve the desired flow diversion. Ensure sufficient space for operation and maintenance.
2. **Prepare Pipes:** Cut the existing CPVC pipes to the correct length, ensuring clean, square cuts. Deburr the inside and chamfer the outside edges of the pipes.
3. **Dry Fit:** Temporarily assemble the valve and pipes without cement to confirm proper alignment and fit. Mark the pipes and valve ports for correct orientation.
4. **Apply Primer:** Apply a liberal coat of CPVC primer to the outside of the pipe ends and the inside of the valve's slip ports. Allow the primer to soften the plastic for a few seconds.
5. **Apply Solvent Cement:** Apply an even, generous coat of CPVC solvent cement to the primed pipe ends and the primed valve ports.
6. **Assemble:** Immediately insert the pipe into the valve port with a quarter-turn twist until it bottoms out. Hold the connection firmly for at least 30 seconds to allow the cement to set.
7. **Cure Time:** Allow the solvent-welded connections to cure for the recommended time as specified by the cement manufacturer before pressurizing the system. This typically ranges from 2 to 24 hours depending on temperature and pipe size.
8. **Test for Leaks:** After the cure time, slowly pressurize the system and carefully inspect all connections for any signs of leaks.

## OPERATION

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The Pentair 263026 diverter valve allows you to direct water flow between two outlets from a single inlet, or vice-versa. The handle on top of the valve controls the internal diverter mechanism.

- **Diverting Flow:** Rotate the handle to align the indicator with the desired port or ports. The valve typically has markings or detents to indicate the flow path.
- **Full Flow:** Position the handle to fully open the path to one outlet while closing the other.
- **Partial Flow/Mixing:** Some positions may allow for partial flow to both outlets, or a complete shut-off of one path. Refer to the markings on the valve for specific flow configurations.
- **Smooth Operation:** Always turn the handle smoothly. Do not force the handle if it feels stiff.

## MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and extends the life of your diverter valve.

- **Periodic Inspection:** Visually inspect the valve and surrounding plumbing for any signs of leaks, cracks, or damage.
- **O-Ring Lubrication:** If the handle becomes stiff, the internal O-rings may require lubrication. Turn off the pump, relieve system pressure, and carefully remove the top cap to access the O-rings. Use a silicone-based lubricant specifically designed for pool and spa equipment.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the exterior of the valve clean from debris and chemical residue.
- **Winterization:** In cold climates, ensure the valve is drained and protected from freezing temperatures to prevent damage.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Valve leaks at connections	Improper solvent weld, cracked pipe/fitting	Re-do solvent weld connection, replace damaged components.
Valve leaks from handle/top cap	Worn or dry O-rings, loose cap	Lubricate or replace O-rings, tighten top cap.
Handle is stiff or hard to turn	Dry O-rings, debris inside valve	Lubricate O-rings. If debris is suspected, disassemble and clean the valve.
Poor water flow/diversion	Incorrect handle position, internal obstruction	Adjust handle position. Inspect valve for obstructions if problem persists.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	263026
Brand	Pentair
Material	Fiberglass (CPVC Exterior Finish)
Number of Ports	3
Inlet Connection Size	2.5 Inches
Inlet Connection Type	Solvent Weld (Slip)

Feature	Detail
Outlet Connection Size	2.5 Inches
Outlet Connection Type	Solvent Weld (Slip)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	1.58 x 1.25 x 1.25 inches
Item Weight	2.3 pounds
Exterior Finish	CPVC
UPC	788379644284

## WARRANTY

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Pentair products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty information regarding your Pentair 263026 3-Way Diverter Valve, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Pentair website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

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If you have any questions, require technical assistance, or need to order replacement parts for your Pentair 263026 diverter valve, please contact Pentair customer support. Contact information can typically be found on the official Pentair website or on your product packaging.