## Shimpo VL-Whisper

# Shimpo VL-Whisper Potters Wheel Instruction Manual

Model: VL-Whisper

### Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, setup, and maintenance of your Shimpo VL-Whisper Potters Wheel. Please read these instructions thoroughly before using the product to ensure proper function and longevity. The VL-Whisper is designed for smooth, quiet, and powerful performance, suitable for various pottery applications.




**Image:** The Shimpo VL-Whisper Potters Wheel, featuring its main body, wheelhead, remote foot pedal, and two-piece splashpan.

## Setup

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Inspect for any damage during transit. Retain packaging for future transport or storage.
2. **Placement:** Position the potters wheel on a stable, level surface. Ensure adequate space around the wheel for comfortable operation and movement.
3. **Splashpan Installation:** The VL-Whisper comes with a two-piece splashpan. Assemble the two halves around the wheelhead and secure them according to the design. This helps contain clay and water during use.
4. **Foot Pedal Connection:** Connect the remote foot pedal to the designated port on the wheel's control unit. Ensure the connection is secure.
5. **Power Connection:** Plug the power cord into a standard AC 115V, 60 Hz electrical outlet. Ensure the power switch on the wheel is in the "OFF" position before plugging in.
6. **Adjustable Height:** The wheel's legs are designed for adjustable height. Adjust to a comfortable working height using the provided mechanisms.

## Operating Instructions

The Shimpo VL-Whisper Potters Wheel is designed for intuitive operation.

- **Power On/Off:** Locate the main power switch on the control unit. Flip it to the "ON" position to power the wheel. Flip to "OFF" when not in use.

- **Speed Control:** The remote foot pedal controls the wheelhead speed. Pressing the pedal increases the speed, while releasing it decreases the speed. The wheelhead speed ranges from 0 to 250 rpm.
- **Wheelhead Direction:** A switch on the control unit allows you to select the wheelhead direction: clockwise or counter-clockwise. This accommodates both left-handed and right-handed users. Change direction only when the wheelhead is stationary.
- **Centering Capacity:** The VL-Whisper is capable of centering up to 100 lbs of clay, providing ample power for large projects.
- **Banding Wheel Functionality:** When the wheel is powered off or the foot pedal is fully released (0 RPM), the wheelhead turns freely, allowing it to be used as a banding wheel for decorating or trimming.

## Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your potters wheel.

- **Cleaning the Splashpan:** After each use, remove the two-piece splashpan and clean it thoroughly to prevent clay buildup. Rinse with water and wipe dry.
- **Wheelhead Cleaning:** Clean any clay residue from the 14-inch light alloy wheelhead. Ensure the bat pin holes are clear.
- **Motor Maintenance:** The brushless DC motor is designed for smooth, quiet, powerful operation with **no maintenance** required. Avoid attempting to lubricate or disassemble the motor.
- **General Cleaning:** Wipe down the exterior surfaces of the wheel with a damp cloth to remove dust and clay splatter. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Cord Inspection:** Periodically inspect the power cord and foot pedal cable for any signs of damage or wear. If damage is found, discontinue use and contact customer support.

## Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Shimpo VL-Whisper, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps.

- **Wheel Does Not Power On:**
  - Ensure the power cord is securely plugged into a live electrical outlet.
  - Check that the main power switch on the wheel is in the "ON" position.
  - Verify that the electrical outlet is functioning by testing it with another appliance.
  - Check the built-in breaker; if tripped, reset it.
- **Wheelhead Not Spinning:**
  - Confirm the foot pedal is pressed down.
  - Ensure the foot pedal cable is securely connected.
  - Check if the motor is protected from overload by the built-in breaker.
- **Inconsistent Speed Control:**
  - Ensure the foot pedal is clean and free from debris that might impede its movement.
  - Verify the foot pedal cable connection.
  - The electronic controller is designed to maintain speed under load; if issues persist, contact support.
- **Unusual Noise or Vibration:**
  - Ensure the wheel is placed on a stable, level surface.
  - Check for any loose components or foreign objects near the wheelhead or motor area.
  - If the noise persists, discontinue use and contact customer support.

For issues not covered here, please contact Shimpo customer support.

## Specifications

| Feature | Detail |
|---|---|
| **Model** | VL-Whisper |
| **Motor** | 1/2 HP, 400 W, AC 115V, 60 Hz, Direct Drive DC Brushless Motor |
| **Speed Control** | Remote Foot Pedal, Electronic Controller |
| **Wheelhead Speed** | 0 ~ 250 rpm |
| **Wheelhead Direction** | Clockwise/Counter-Clockwise (Reversible) |
| **Centering Capacity** | 100 lbs (45 kg) |
| **Wheelhead** | 14 inch (35.5 cm) light alloy casting, drilled for bat pins |
| **Dimensions (L x W x H)** | 23 1/8 x 27 1/2 x 22 3/4 inches (approx. 58.7 x 69.8 x 57.8 cm) |
| **Shipping Weight** | 135 lbs (61.2 kg) |
| **Key Features** | Brushless DC Motor (no maintenance), Electronic Controller, Broad Speed Range, Built-In Breaker, Adjustable Height, Two-Piece Splashpan |

## Warranty Information

The Shimpo VL-Whisper Potters Wheel comes with a **5 Year Warranty**. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and ensures the product meets its specified performance standards under normal use. For detailed terms and conditions, or to make a warranty claim, please refer to the official Shimpo warranty documentation or contact Shimpo customer support.

## Customer Support

For technical assistance, parts, or service inquiries, please contact Shimpo customer support. You can find contact information on the official Shimpo website or through your authorized dealer.


## Ask a question about this manual

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

**Name**

Anonymous

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**Question**

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

**Details**

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question