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## Briggs & Stratton 030836

# Briggs & Stratton P4500 PowerSmart Series Inverter Generator Instruction Manual

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of your Briggs & Stratton P4500 PowerSmart Series Inverter Generator. This generator, Model 030836, features a push-button electric start and an adjustable manual choke, making it ideal for RV, campsite, and recreational use. It includes a multi-functional display panel to monitor power usage, fuel level, and run time. For enhanced safety, CO Guard carbon monoxide shutdown technology is integrated, which automatically shuts down the generator if harmful levels of CO are detected in the operating area. The unit offers versatile power options with (4) 120V, 20A outlets, (1) 120V, 30A RV outlet, and (2) USB ports.

## 2. SETUP

Before operating your generator, ensure proper setup to guarantee safety and optimal performance.

### 2.1 Add Engine Oil

The generator is shipped without engine oil. You must add the specified amount of oil before the first start. Locate the oil reservoir cap and fill with approximately 20 ounces of SAE 30 small engine oil. Do not overfill.

### 2.2 Connect Battery

For electric start functionality, connect the battery. Access the battery compartment, typically located behind a removable panel, and securely attach the battery terminals.

### 2.3 Add Fuel

Fill the fuel tank with fresh, unleaded gasoline. The generator has a 5-gallon tank capacity. If using Liquid Propane (LPG), connect the LPG hose to the quick-disconnect fitting on the generator's control panel and to your propane tank.

### 2.4 Grounding

Ensure the generator is properly grounded before operation. Connect a grounding wire to the grounding terminal on the generator and to an appropriate ground source.



Figure 1: Side view of the Briggs & Stratton P4500 generator, showing the general layout and wheels for portability.

### 3. OPERATING

Follow these steps for safe and effective operation of your generator.

#### 3.1 Starting the Generator

1. Ensure the generator is on a level surface and all electrical devices are disconnected.
2. Turn the fuel valve to the 'ON' position.
3. Set the choke to the 'CHOKE' position (typically fully to the right for cold starts).
4. Press the electric start button. If the electric start fails, use the recoil pull start.
5. Once the engine starts, gradually move the choke to the 'RUN' position.
6. Allow the generator to warm up for a few minutes before connecting devices.

### 3.2 ECO Mode

The generator features an ECO mode for improved fuel efficiency and quieter operation under light loads. Engage the ECO mode switch to activate. The generator will automatically adjust engine speed to match the load.

### 3.3 CO Guard Technology

The integrated CO Guard system continuously monitors carbon monoxide levels. If harmful levels are detected, the generator will automatically shut down to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. Ensure the generator is operated in a well-ventilated outdoor area, away from windows and doors.

### 3.4 Connecting Devices

Connect your electrical devices to the appropriate outlets: (4) 120V, 20A outlets, (1) 120V, 30A RV outlet, and (2) USB ports. Do not exceed the generator's rated running wattage of 3700 watts.



Figure 2: Close-up of the P4500 generator's control panel, showing the various outlets, start button, choke, and display.

### 3.5 Shutting Off the Generator

1. Disconnect all electrical devices from the generator.
2. Press and hold the power button until the generator shuts down.
3. Turn the fuel valve to the 'OFF' position.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: A detailed review of the Briggs & Stratton PowerSmart 4500W Inverter Generator, demonstrating setup procedures

including adding oil, connecting the battery, and operating the control panel with eco mode and outlets.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable performance of your generator.

### 4.1 Engine Oil Check and Change

Check the engine oil level before each use. Change the oil after the first 5 hours of operation, and then every 50 hours or annually, whichever comes first. Refer to the operator's manual for specific instructions and oil type recommendations.

### 4.2 Air Filter Maintenance

Inspect the air filter regularly. Clean or replace the air filter as needed, especially when operating in dusty conditions. A dirty air filter can reduce engine performance and fuel efficiency.

### 4.3 Spark Plug Inspection

Inspect the spark plug for wear and proper gap periodically. Replace if necessary to ensure easy starting and efficient combustion.

### 4.4 Fuel System for Storage

For long-term storage, drain the fuel from the tank and carburetor to prevent fuel degradation and carburetor issues. Alternatively, use a fuel stabilizer according to the manufacturer's instructions.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If your generator encounters issues, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Generator will not start:** Check fuel level, oil level, spark plug condition, and ensure the choke is set correctly for starting. Verify the battery is connected and charged for electric start.
- **No power output:** Ensure all circuit breakers are in the 'ON' position. Check for overloaded circuits. Disconnect devices and reset the overload protection if tripped.
- **Engine runs rough:** Check the air filter for cleanliness. Ensure fresh fuel is being used.
- **Automatic shutdown:** If the CO Guard system activates, move the generator to a well-ventilated area and allow it to cool before attempting to restart. Check for low oil levels.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Specification
Brand	Briggs & Stratton
Model Number	030836
Starting Wattage	4500 Watts
Running Wattage	3700 Watts
Fuel Type	Gasoline, Propane (LPG)

Power Source	Gas Powered
Voltage	120 Volts
Engine Type	Inverter
Ignition System	Electric Start
Tank Volume	5 Gallons
Total Power Outlets	7 (4x 120V 20A, 1x 120V 30A RV, 2x USB)
Product Dimensions (LxWxH)	24.5" x 17.6" x 20.3"
Item Weight	111.8 pounds



Figure 3: The Briggs & Stratton P4500 generator with its key dimensions labeled.

## 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or to locate authorized service centers, please refer to the official Briggs & Stratton website or contact their customer service directly. Always use genuine Briggs & Stratton replacement parts for repairs.

