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PORTER-CABLE PCX18406-5B

Porter-Cable Wet/Dry Vacuum User Manual

Model: PCX18406-5B | Brand: PORTER-CABLE

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Porter-Cable 5 Gallon 4HP Stainless Steel Wet/Dry Vacuum. This versatile and powerful vacuum is designed for both wet and dry cleaning tasks, offering robust performance for your workshop, garage, jobsite, or home. Its 3-in-1 functionality allows for dry suction, wet suction, and blowing, making it an indispensable tool for various cleaning needs. This manual provides detailed instructions for safe operation, assembly, maintenance, and troubleshooting to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your vacuum.



The Porter-Cable 5 Gallon 4HP Stainless Steel Wet/Dry Vacuum, featuring a durable stainless steel tank and portable design.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always read and understand all instructions before using this vacuum cleaner. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.

- Do not leave the appliance when plugged in. Unplug from outlet when not in use and before servicing.
- Do not use outdoors or on wet surfaces.
- Do not allow to be used as a toy. Close attention is necessary when used by or near children.
- Use only as described in this manual. Use only manufacturer's recommended attachments.
- Do not use with damaged cord or plug. If appliance is not working as it should, has been dropped, damaged, left outdoors, or dropped into water, return it to a service center.
- Do not pull or carry by cord, use cord as a handle, close a door on cord, or pull cord around sharp edges or corners. Do not run appliance over cord. Keep cord away from heated surfaces.
- Do not unplug by pulling on cord. To unplug, grasp the plug, not the cord.
- Do not handle plug or appliance with wet hands.
- Do not put any object into openings. Do not use with any opening blocked; keep free of dust, lint, hair, and anything that may reduce air flow.
- Keep hair, loose clothing, fingers, and all parts of body away from openings and moving parts.
- Do not pick up anything that is burning or smoking, such as cigarettes, matches, or hot ashes.
- Do not use to pick up flammable or combustible liquids, such as gasoline, or use in areas where they may be present.
- Do not use without dust bag and/or filters in place.
- Turn off all controls before unplugging.
- Use extra care when cleaning on stairs.

3. INCLUDED COMPONENTS

Your Porter-Cable Wet/Dry Vacuum comes with the following accessories:

WHAT'S INCLUDED

All the accessories are inside of the tank



Overview of all components included with your vacuum cleaner.

- 1x Porter-Cable Wet/Dry Vacuum Unit
- 3x Extension Wands
- 1x Floor Nozzle
- 1x Gulper Nozzle
- 1x Crevice Nozzle
- 1x 5-Foot Hose
- 1x Foam Filter (for wet pickup)
- 1x Reusable Dry Filter and Clamp Ring (for dry pickup)
- 1x Disposable Filter Bag (for fine dry debris)

4. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your vacuum for first use:

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Ensure all listed accessories are present.
2. **Caster Assembly:** Invert the tank. Insert the four swiveling casters into the designated slots on the base of

the vacuum until they click securely into place.

3. **Hose Connection:** Insert the larger end of the 5-foot hose into the intake port on the front of the vacuum tank. Twist clockwise to secure.
4. **Accessory Attachment:** Attach the desired extension wands and nozzles (Floor Nozzle, Gulper Nozzle, or Crevice Nozzle) to the free end of the hose.
5. **Filter Installation:**
 - **For Dry Pickup:** Ensure the reusable dry filter is securely installed over the filter cage, held in place by the clamp ring. For fine dust, you may also install the disposable filter bag over the intake port inside the tank.
 - **For Wet Pickup:** Remove the reusable dry filter and disposable filter bag. Install the foam filter.



The internal filtering system, including the buoy, sponge filtration, filter cloth filtration, and air cyclone filtration.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Your Porter-Cable Wet/Dry Vacuum offers three primary functions:

WET DRY BLOWING 3 IN 1



DRY SUCTION FUNCTION



WET SUCTION FUNCTION



BLOWING



The 3-in-1 functionality: Dry Suction, Wet Suction, and Blowing.

5.1 Dry Vacuuming

- Ensure the reusable dry filter is installed. A disposable filter bag can be used for enhanced filtration of fine dust.
- Plug the power cord into a suitable electrical outlet.
- Press the ON/OFF switch to the 'ON' position.
- Begin vacuuming dry debris.
- When finished, turn the switch to 'OFF' and unplug the unit.

5.2 Wet Vacuuming

- Remove the reusable dry filter and disposable filter bag. Install the foam filter.
- Plug the power cord into a suitable electrical outlet.
- Press the ON/OFF switch to the 'ON' position.
- Begin vacuuming liquids. The internal buoy will rise and shut off suction when the tank is full.
- When finished, turn the switch to 'OFF' and unplug the unit. Empty the tank immediately after wet pickup.

5.3 Blowing Function

- Locate the blowing port on the back of the vacuum.
- Insert the hose into the blowing port and twist to secure.
- Plug the power cord into a suitable electrical outlet.
- Press the ON/OFF switch to the 'ON' position to activate the blowing function.
- When finished, turn the switch to 'OFF' and unplug the unit.



The vacuum in use for dry debris cleanup.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and efficiency of your vacuum.

6.1 Filter Maintenance

- **Reusable Dry Filter:** Tap off excess dust. If heavily soiled, wash with mild soap and water, rinse thoroughly, and allow to air dry completely before reinstallation.
- **Foam Filter:** Rinse with water and mild soap. Squeeze out excess water and allow to air dry completely

before reinstallation.

- **Disposable Filter Bag:** Replace when full or when suction power decreases significantly.

6.2 Tank Cleaning

- After wet pickup, always empty and rinse the tank to prevent mold and odors.
- For dry debris, empty the tank as needed. Wipe the interior with a damp cloth.

6.3 General Care

- Inspect the hose, nozzles, and power cord regularly for any damage. Replace if necessary.
- Store the vacuum in a dry, clean area when not in use.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your vacuum, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Vacuum does not start	No power; Faulty switch; Overheating	Check power outlet and plug; Ensure switch is ON; Allow motor to cool down.
Loss of suction	Full tank; Clogged hose/nozzle; Dirty/incorrect filter	Empty tank; Clear obstruction; Clean/replace filter; Ensure correct filter for task.
Water not picking up (wet mode)	Tank full (buoy activated); Foam filter not installed	Empty tank; Install foam filter correctly.
Unusual noise	Obstruction in motor; Damaged fan	Turn off and unplug. Check for obstructions. If problem persists, contact support.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	PORTER-CABLE
Model Name	Porter Cable wet/dry vacuum 5 gallon 4HP
Item Model Number	PCX18406-5B
Capacity	5 Gallons
Motor Horsepower	4 Horsepower
Wattage	120 watts
Maximum Suction	62.2 Inches
Product Dimensions	12.7"L x 12.6"W x 16.29"H
Item Weight	11.9 pounds
Filter Type	Foam, Reusable Dry, Disposable Bag
Special Feature	A/C Power Cord, 3-in-1 Function (Wet/Dry/Blower)

Feature	Detail
Manufacturer	Alton Industry
UPC	810018920616

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Porter-Cable Wet/Dry Vacuum is backed by a manufacturer's warranty and dedicated support.

9.1 Warranty Information

This product comes with a **3-year limited warranty**. The manufacturer, Alton Industry, provides local service team support in the USA. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

9.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, parts, or warranty inquiries, please contact Porter-Cable customer support. Refer to the contact information provided on the product packaging or the official Porter-Cable website.