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FAFCO 10126

FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel: Above Ground Pool Heater Instruction Manual

Model: 10126

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel is designed to efficiently heat above-ground swimming pools, extending your swimming season and ensuring comfortable water temperatures. This unit utilizes solar energy, offering a cost-effective and renewable heating solution. Manufactured in the USA, the Baby Bear features a connected tube design for optimal heating efficiency and extra-large manifolds to maximize water flow through your pump and filter system. It includes a 3-year warranty and is built from UV-stabilized polyolefin material for durability in direct sunlight.

Key Features:

- **Effective Solar Heating:** Harnesses solar energy to warm above-ground pools.
- **Made in the USA:** Produced by FAFCO, a leading solar pool heating manufacturer.
- **Top-Tier Quality:** Constructed from UV-stabilized polyolefin for lasting performance.
- **Universal Design:** Compatible with most above-ground pools, pumps, and filters.
- **Integrated Manual Control Valve:** Allows easy temperature regulation.



Figure 1: FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel setup next to an above-ground pool.

2. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel is designed for easy DIY installation. For detailed visual guidance, refer to the "How To" videos available on the official FAFCO website.

Placement Guidelines:

- **Orientation:** For best performance, panels should face south.
- **Tilt:** Tilt the panel between 10 to 30 degrees for optimum solar heat. Pre-assembled legs are included for ideal tilt. The panel can also be positioned flat on the ground if necessary.
- **Sunlight Exposure:** Ensure the panel has unobstructed sunlight exposure.
- **Operating Hours:** The system should operate between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on sunny days for maximum efficiency.

Connecting to Your Pool:

The Baby Bear comes with hose attachments for direct connection to your pool's pump and filter system. Ensure all connections are secure to prevent leaks.

Installation Overview Video:

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Video 1: An overview of the FAFCO Papa Bear Universal Solar Pool Heater, demonstrating its components and how it connects to a pool system. This video illustrates the general setup process for FAFCO solar pool heaters.

Ground Rack Installation Guide:

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Video 2: A detailed guide on how to build ground racks and install solar pool heater panels. This video provides step-by-step instructions for creating a stable mounting structure for your solar panels.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel operates by circulating pool water through its heated tubes. The integrated manual bypass valve provides control over the water flow, allowing you to manage the pool's temperature.

Temperature Control:

- The manual bypass valve can be used to shut off the system when the pool reaches the desired temperature.
- Adjust the valve to direct water through the solar panel for heating or bypass it when sufficient heat is achieved or not desired.

Solar Heating System Diagram:

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Video 3: An animated diagram illustrating how a solar pool heating system works, showing water flow from the pool, through the solar panels, and back to the pool.

4. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and longevity of your FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel. Keep the panel surface clean and free from debris to maximize sun exposure. Periodically inspect hoses and connections for any signs of wear or leaks. In colder climates, proper winterization is crucial to prevent damage from freezing.

Winterization Guide:

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Video 4: A guide on how to winterize universal replacement solar pool heater panels. This video demonstrates the steps to prepare your solar heating system for cold weather to prevent damage.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If your FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel is not performing as expected, consider the following common issues:

- **Insufficient Heating:** Check panel orientation and tilt. Ensure there is no obstruction blocking sunlight. Verify the system is operating during peak sun hours (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.).
- **Water Flow Issues:** Inspect hoses and connections for kinks or blockages. Ensure your pool pump is functioning correctly and providing adequate flow.
- **Leaks:** Examine all connections and the panel surface for any visible leaks. Tighten hose clamps as needed.

For persistent issues, consult the detailed troubleshooting section on the FAFCO website or contact customer support.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Manufacturer	FAFCO
Model Number	10126
ASIN	B09P54JDZX
Panel Dimensions	30 in. x 48 in. (single collector)
Material	UV-stabilized polyolefin
Pool Type Compatibility	Above-ground pools (up to 8,000 gallons)

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The FAFCO Baby Bear Solar Panel comes with a **3-year warranty**, ensuring peace of mind regarding its quality and performance. For any questions, technical assistance, or warranty claims, please visit the official FAFCO website or contact their customer support directly.

For additional resources and support, you may also visit the [FAFCO Store on Amazon](#).