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## Lifan LF3800i

# LIFAN 3500W Portable Inverter Generator LF3800i User Manual

Model: LF3800i

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your LIFAN LF3800i 3500W Portable Inverter Generator. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the generator to ensure proper use and to prevent injury or damage. The LF3800i is designed to provide reliable, clean power for various applications, including home backup, RV camping, and outdoor use, featuring a 3000W rated power and 3500W peak power.



Image 1.1: Front view of the LIFAN LF3800i Portable Inverter Generator.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Operating a generator safely is crucial to prevent serious injury or death. Always follow these safety guidelines:

- **Carbon Monoxide Hazard:** Generators produce carbon monoxide (CO), an odorless, colorless, and deadly gas. Operate the generator outdoors only, far away from windows, doors, and vents. Never operate it inside a home, garage, shed, or any partially enclosed space. The LF3800i includes a CO-MINDER carbon monoxide detection system that automatically shuts off the generator if CO levels become unsafe.
- **Electrical Shock Hazard:** Do not operate the generator in wet conditions. Ensure all electrical connections are dry and properly grounded. Never connect the generator directly to your home's electrical system without a transfer switch installed by a qualified electrician.
- **Fire Hazard:** Gasoline is highly flammable. Refuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine off and cooled. Do not smoke or allow open flames near the generator or fuel. Store gasoline in approved containers away from living areas.
- **Hot Surfaces:** The generator's engine and muffler become very hot during operation and remain hot for some

time after shutdown. Avoid touching hot surfaces to prevent burns.

- **Children and Pets:** Keep children and pets away from the generator at all times.

### 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

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Verify that all items are present in the package:

- LIFAN LF3800i Inverter Generator
- Nut driver
- Spark plug wrench
- Owner's Manual

### 4. SETUP

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#### 4.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove the generator from its packaging. Inspect for any damage that may have occurred during shipping. If any damage is found, do not operate the generator and contact customer support.

#### 4.2 Add Engine Oil

The generator does not ship with engine oil. It is essential to add the correct type and amount of oil before the first start-up. Refer to the 'Specifications' section for recommended oil type and capacity. Use the provided funnel for easier filling. Do not overfill.

#### 4.3 Add Fuel

Use fresh, unleaded gasoline with an octane rating of 87 or higher. Fill the fuel tank carefully, avoiding spills. Do not fill the tank completely to allow for fuel expansion. Ensure the fuel cap is securely fastened. When transporting the generator, ensure the fuel vent is closed to prevent leakage.

#### 4.4 Connect Battery (for Electric Start)

For models equipped with electric start, the internal lithium battery may be disconnected for shipping. Locate the battery behind the side panel (opposite the pull starter) and connect the terminals as instructed. The battery is typically secured with a rubber strap.

#### 4.5 Control Panel Overview

Familiarize yourself with the control panel components:



Image 4.1: Detailed view of the LF3800i control panel, highlighting various ports and switches.

- **Multimeter Display:** Shows output voltage, frequency, and runtime.
- **ECO Mode Switch:** Engages or disengages the Eco Mode for fuel efficiency.
- **AC Reset Button:** Resets the AC circuit breaker.
- **Parallel Output Ports:** For connecting two LF3800i units for increased power.
- **AC 120V L5-30R Outlet:** Twist-lock outlet for RVs and high-power devices.
- **AC 120V Duplex Outlets:** Standard household outlets.
- **USB Ports:** For charging small electronic devices.
- **Engine Switch:** Controls engine operation (ON/OFF/START).

## 5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 5.1 Starting the Generator

1. Ensure the generator is on a level surface and away from any obstructions.
2. Check oil and fuel levels.
3. Turn the fuel valve to the 'ON' position.
4. If cold starting, move the choke lever to the 'CHOKE' position.
5. **Manual Start:** Firmly pull the recoil starter handle until the engine starts.
6. **Electric Start:** Turn the engine switch to the 'START' position and hold until the engine starts.
7. **Remote Start:** Use the remote fob to start the generator.
8. Once the engine starts, gradually move the choke lever to the 'RUN' position.

## 5.2 ECO Mode Operation

The ECO Mode switch allows the generator to adjust engine speed based on the load, improving fuel efficiency and reducing noise. Engage ECO Mode for lighter loads. For heavy loads or appliances with high starting current (e.g., air conditioners), it is recommended to disengage ECO Mode to ensure stable power delivery and prevent potential shutdowns due to voltage drops.

## 5.3 Connecting Electrical Devices

Plug your electrical devices into the appropriate outlets. Ensure the total wattage of connected devices does not exceed the generator's rated output (3000W) or peak output (3500W) for short durations. The inverter technology provides clean power (<3% THD), safe for sensitive electronics.

**POWER YOUR ESSENTIAL ANY WHERE**

**PEAK 3500W**  
6.5 Hours Runtime@50% Load

|  |   |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| <br>Laptop (x3)<br>200W<br>49+ Hours      | <br>Coffee Maker<br>1000W<br>9.8 Hours | <br>Microwave Oven<br>1300W<br>7.5 Hours | <br>Electric Drill<br>1080W<br>9 Hours    | <br>Hair Dryer<br>1600W<br>6.1 Hours     | <br>TV (50")<br>200W<br>48.8 Hours         |
| <br>Electric Kettle<br>1500W<br>6.5 Hours | <br>Mini Fridge<br>120W<br>81 Hours    | <br>Air Fryer<br>1500W<br>6.5 Hours      | <br>Electric Heater<br>2200W<br>4.4 Hours | <br>LED Lights (10x)<br>100W<br>97 Hours | <br>Electric Fry Pan<br>1500W<br>6.5 Hours |

**LIFAN** Since 1992  
in the motorcycle & automotive engine fields

Image 5.1: The LF3800i generator providing power for various devices in an outdoor environment.

## 5.4 Parallel Operation

The LF3800i is parallel-ready, allowing you to connect two identical units to double the power output up to 7000W. Use a compatible parallel kit (sold separately) and follow its instructions carefully for safe connection.



Image 5.2: Two LF3800i generators connected via a parallel kit to increase total power output.

### 5.5 Shutting Down the Generator

1. Disconnect all electrical loads from the generator.
2. Allow the generator to run for a few minutes without load to cool down.
3. Turn the engine switch to the 'OFF' position.
4. Turn the fuel valve to the 'OFF' position.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable performance of your generator. Always perform maintenance with the engine off and cooled.

### 6.1 Maintenance Schedule

| Item               | First Month / 20 Hours | Every 3 Months / 50 Hours | Every 6 Months / 100 Hours | Every Year / 300 Hours |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Check Engine Oil   |                        | ✓                         |                            |                        |
| Change Engine Oil  | ✓                      |                           | ✓                          |                        |
| Clean Air Filter   |                        | ✓                         |                            |                        |
| Inspect Spark Plug |                        |                           | ✓                          |                        |
| Clean Fuel Filter  |                        |                           |                            | ✓                      |

### 6.2 Long-Term Storage

For storage longer than 30 days, prepare the generator as follows:

- Drain the fuel tank and carburetor. Run the engine until it stops from lack of fuel.
- Change the engine oil.
- Remove the spark plug and pour a tablespoon of engine oil into the cylinder. Slowly pull the recoil starter a few times to distribute the oil, then reinstall the spark plug.
- Clean the exterior of the generator.
- Store in a clean, dry, well-ventilated area.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your LF3800i generator.

| Problem                           | Possible Cause  | Solution  |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Engine will not start             | No fuel; Low oil level; Spark plug issue; Battery disconnected (electric start) | Add fuel; Add oil; Inspect/replace spark plug; Connect battery terminals    |
| Generator shuts down unexpectedly | Overload; Low oil shutdown; CO-MINDER activation; Fuel issue                    | Reduce load; Check oil level; Move generator to open air; Check fuel supply |
| No power output                   | AC circuit breaker tripped; Overload  | Press AC Reset button; Reduce load  |

| Problem                             | Possible Cause                  | Solution   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Metallic rattling noise in ECO mode | Engine vibration at low RPMs    | This can be normal for some units. If excessive, inspect internal components for loose parts or consult support. |
| Fuel leakage during transport       | Fuel vent open; Overfilled tank | Ensure fuel vent is closed; Do not travel with a full tank.  |

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Model</b>                           | LF3800i                                    |
| <b>Rated Power</b>                     | 3000W                                      |
| <b>Peak Power</b>                      | 3500W                                      |
| <b>Voltage</b>                         | 120V                                       |
| <b>Fuel Type</b>                       | Gasoline                                   |
| <b>Fuel Tank Capacity</b>              | 1.6 Gallons (6 Liters)                     |
| <b>Runtime (50% Load)</b>              | Up to 6.5 hours                            |
| <b>Noise Level (23 ft)</b>             | As low as 58 dB (at 50% load)              |
| <b>Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)</b> | <3%  |
| <b>Item Weight</b>                     | 46.3 lbs (21 kg)                           |
| <b>Product Dimensions (L x W x H)</b>  | 22.05" x 16.14" x 18.11"                   |
| <b>Engine Type</b>                     | Internal Combustion Engine (OHV, 4-Stroke) |
| <b>Ignition System</b>                 | Electric Start                             |
| <b>EPA Compliant</b>                   | Yes  |

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The LIFAN LF3800i Portable Inverter Generator is backed by a 1-year limited warranty. For warranty claims, technical assistance, or to inquire about replacement parts, please contact LIFAN customer support. When contacting support, please have your generator's model number (LF3800i) and proof of purchase readily available.

For the most current contact information, please refer to the official LIFAN website or the documentation included with your product.

