

**POWERSMITH**  
**PAVC101 ASH**  
**VACUUM**



## PowerSmith PAVC101 ASH VACUUM Operator's Manual

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# **POWERSMITH**<sup>TM</sup>

PowerSmith PAVC101 ASH VACUUM



## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL WARNINGS, CAUTIONS AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USING THIS EQUIPMENT. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious personal injury.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

### CAUTION:

- Do not vacuum hot ashes, coals, burning embers or other hot objects such as cigarettes.
- Vacuum up only cool materials not exceeding 140° F (60° C); doing otherwise is a fire risk.
- Empty all ash from the canister and clean the ash from filter before using to vacuum up other types of material.
- NEVER vacuum liquids with this product. Use this machine to vacuum dry material only.
- To reduce the risk of hearing damage, wear hearing protection when using for extended periods or in noisy work area.

### **WARNING:** TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, ELECTRIC SHOCK OR PERSONAL INJURY

- Keep children away from this vacuum. Do not allow vacuum to be used as a toy.
- Do not run this vacuum unattended at any time.
- Keep hair, loose clothing and all parts of the body away from openings and moving parts.

- Always wear safety goggles (complying with ANSI Z87.1 (or in Canada CSAZ94.3) when operating the vacuum. Operation of a vacuum can result in foreign objects being blown into your eyes, which may cause eye injury.
- Do not use in wet environments or when exposed to rain. Store unit indoors or in other dry locations.
- Do not touch or handle the plug, cord, or vacuum with wet hands.
- Do not vacuum up or operate the vacuum near flammable liquids, gases, toxic or explosive vapors given off by gasoline or other fuels, paint thinner, oil-based paint, lighter fluids, hydrogen, natural gas, etc or explosive dusts like coal dust, magnesium dust, grain dust or gun powder Sparks from arcing motor brushes inside the motor can ignite flammable vapors or dust.
- Do not vacuum toxic, carcinogenic, combustible or other hazardous materials (e.g. asbestos, arsenic, barium, lead, pesticides, insecticides,) or other health-endangering materials.
- Do not vacuum anything that is burning or smoking, e.g. embers, cigarettes, matches, pellets, etc.
- Do not abuse the cord. Never carry or pull the vacuum by the cord, use as a handle or pull the cord to disconnect from the power outlet. To unplug from the power outlet, grasp the plug, not the cord.
- Keep cord from heated surfaces, oil and sharp edges. Do not close doors on the cord or pull around corners with sharp edges.
- Cords can become trip hazards. Do not leave the cord lying on the floor.
- Pick up the cord when you have completed the cleaning work.
- Do not leave the vacuum plugged in when unattended or not in use. Unplug from the power source when not in use and before servicing.
- Do not drive or run over the cord.
- Do not use a damaged cord, plug, or other parts or if the vacuum is not functioning as it should, has been dropped, damaged, left outdoors, or dropped in water, return it to a service center.
- Do not use the Ash Vacuum with a torn filter or without the filter installed.
- Turn the machine off before unplugging.
- unplug the product from the power source before changing or cleaning the filter to reduce the risk of injury from accidental starting.
- Do not place, drop, or insert any object into ventilation openings. Do not operate the vacuum with any ventilation openings blocked; keep free of dust, lint, hair, or anything else that may reduce airflow.
- Do not store the vacuum immediately after ash removal or other use in a confined area or enclosed space. Allow the motor to cool and remove ash from the canister before storage.
- When used as a blower
  - Direct air discharge only at the work area.
  - Keep children away when blowing.
  - Do not direct air at bystanders.
  - Do not use the blower for any job except blowing dirt and debris.
  - Do not use blower as a sprayer.
  - Wear safety eyewear.
  - For dusty operations, wear a dust mask.

## **FIRE HAZARD WARNING**

- The Ash Vacuum is intended for vacuuming cold or warm ashes only. Using the vacuum as a shop vacuum or for general household use could increase the risk of fire by depositing combustible material into the canister

before vacuuming ashes.

- Use caution when vacuuming materials that appear to have cooled, but may still be hot inside. Airflow created during vacuuming may cause hot ash to ignite again. As you vacuum, constantly check the nozzle, hose, canister, filter, and motor for excessive temperatures. If you notice an increase in temperature, turn off the vacuum immediately. Unplug the vacuum and remove the vacuumed material from the canister and filter bag. Allow the vacuum and the material to be vacuumed to cool before continuing to vacuum.

## EXTENSION CORDS

Double-insulated equipment can use either a two or three-wire extension cord. As the distance from the power supply outlet increases, you must use a heavier gauge extension cord. Using extension cords with inadequately sized wire causes a serious voltage drop, resulting in loss of power and possible tool damage. Refer to the table shown below to determine the required minimum wire size.

### Guidelines for Using Extension Cords

- If you are using an extension cord outdoors, be sure it is marked with the suffix x “W-A” (“W” in Canada) to indicate that it is acceptable for outdoor use.
- Be sure your extension cord is properly wired and in good electrical condition. Always replace a damaged extension cord or have it repaired by a qualified person before using it.
- Protect your extension cords from sharp objects, excessive heat, and damp areas.

<b>Recommended Minimum Wire Gauge for Extension Cords (120 Volt)</b>						
<b>Nameplate Amperes  (At Full Load)</b>	<b>Extension Cord Length</b>					
	<b>25 Feet</b>	<b>50 Feet</b>	<b>75 Feet</b>	<b>100 Feet</b>	<b>150 Feet</b>	<b>200 Feet</b>
<b>0–2.0</b>	18	18	18	18	16	16
<b>2.1–3.4</b>	18	18	18	16	14	14
<b>3.5–5.0</b>	18	18	16	14	12	12
<b>5.1–7.0</b>	18	16	14	12	12	10
<b>7.1–12.0</b>	18	14	12	10	8	8
<b>12.1–16.0</b>	14	12	10	10	8	6
<b>16.1–20.0</b>	12	10	8	8	6	6

## DOUBLE-INSULATED INSTRUCTIONS

**WARNING:** In a double-insulated vacuum, two systems of insulation are provided instead of grounding. No means of grounding is provided on a double-insulated appliance, nor should a means for grounding be added. Servicing a double-insulated Vacuum requires extreme care and knowledge of the system, and should be done only by

qualified service personnel. Replacement parts for a double-insulated Vacuum must be identical to the parts they replace. Your double-insulated Vacuum is marked with the words "DOUBLE INSULATED" and the symbol (square within a square) may also be marked on the appliance.

### **POLARIZED PLUG**

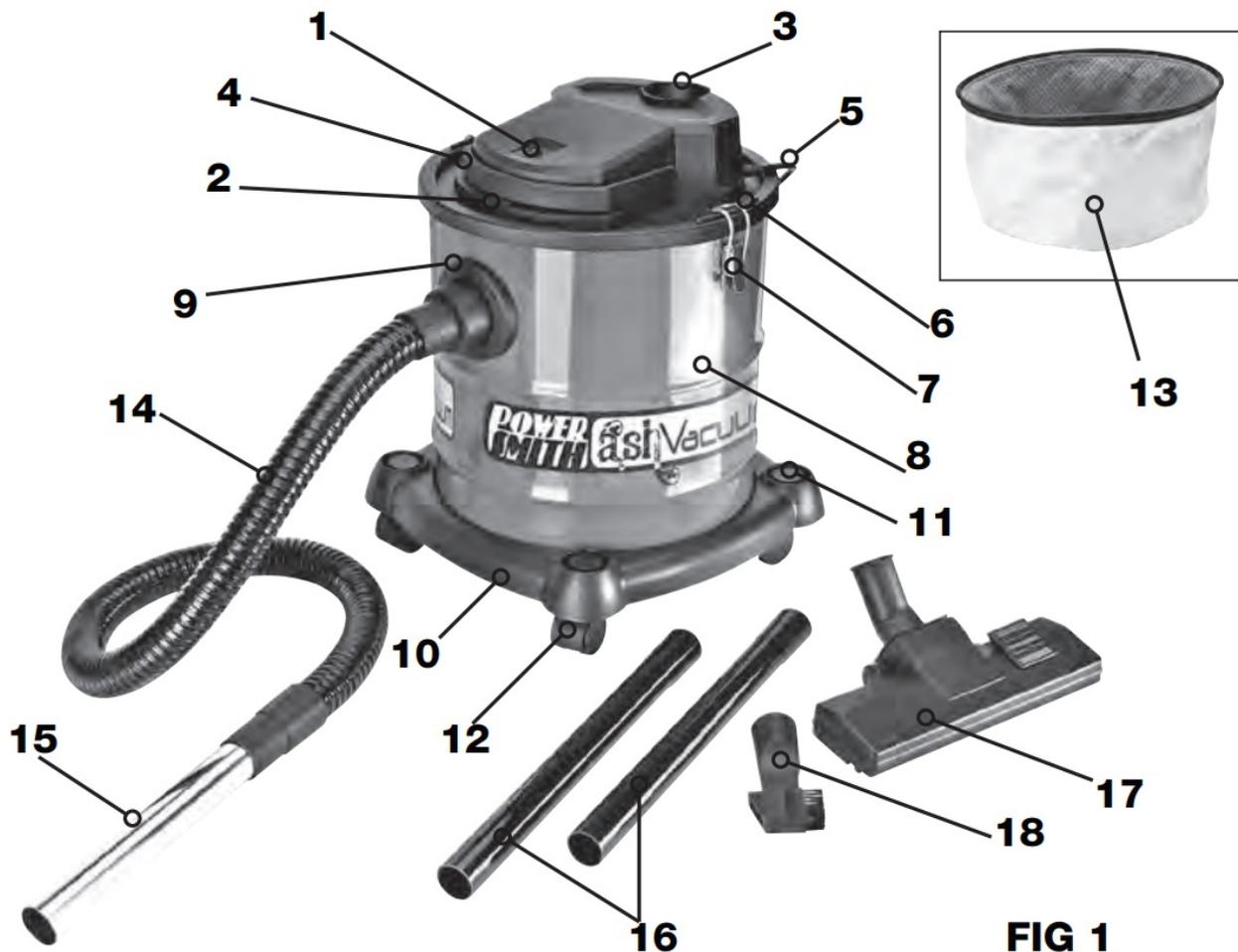
Double-insulated products are equipped with a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install a polarized outlet. Do not change the plug in any way. Double insulation eliminates the need for the three-wire grounded power cord and grounded power supply system.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

- **Model #:** \_\_\_\_\_ PAVC101
- **Rated Voltage:** \_\_\_\_\_ 120V AC, 60Hz
- **Rated Input Power:** \_\_\_\_\_ 10 Amp
- **Canister Capacity:** \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Gallons
- **Power Cord Length:** \_\_\_\_\_ 6 Foot
- **Noise Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ 79 dB
- **Net Weight:** \_\_\_\_\_ 9 lb.

### **KNOWING YOUR ASH VACUUM**



1. Power Switch
2. Full Indicator

3. Exhaust Port
4. Carrying Handle
5. Power Cord
6. Clamp Landing
7. Clamp
8. Ash Canister
9. Vacuum Port
10. Base
11. Storage Ring
12. Caster
13. Filter
14. Hose
15. Metal Nozzle
16. Extension Tubes
17. Carpet/Floor Attachment
18. Crevice Tool

## **UNPACKING AND CONTENT**

**IMPORTANT!** Due to modern mass production techniques, it is unlikely the tool is faulty or that a part is missing. If you find anything wrong, do not operate the tool until the parts have been replaced or the fault has been rectified. Failure to do so could result in serious personal injury.

## **CONTENTS IN PACKAGE**

### **Description QTY**

- Motor Housing 1
- Metal Canister, Base attached 1
- Filter 1
- Flexible Hose, Metal lined 1
- Metal Nozzle 1
- Crevice Tool 1
- Floor/Carpet Tool 1
- Plastic Extension Tubes 2
- Casters 4
- Operator's Manual 1

## **ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS**

**WARNING:** For your safety, never connect the plug to the power source outlet until all assembly steps are complete and you have read and understood the safety and operation instructions. Do not operate the vacuum with any parts damaged or missing.

## **INSTALLING THE CASTERS**

1. With the motor housing removed and the vacuum canister empty, turn the canister over (upside down) so the black base is now on top. Be sure the canister is not resting on the clamps. See Figure 2
2. Locate the small diameter hole in a corner of the base and insert the caster stem into the hole. Using firm and steady pressure, press the caster downward until it will go no further. See Figure 2
3. Repeat Step 2, installing a caster in each of the remaining 3 corners of the vacuum base.
4. Turn the canister over so that the canister and base are now resting on the four installed casters. The unit should rest evenly on the 4 casters; if not, one or more casters is not completely inserted.

## **INSTALLING THE FILTER, MOTOR AND HOSE**

1. The filter bag used in your ash vacuum utilizes a special two-part construction giving it 2 (two) distinct surfaces. The outer surface of the filter is smooth with a silver-like shiny appearance, while the inner surface has a gray woven fabric look.
2. Lower the filter bag into the metal canister with the shiny silver surface facing outward and the rubber gasket at the top. See Figure 3.
3. Lower the filter until the rubber gasket rests evenly on the lip of the metal canister.
4. If necessary, adjust the rubber gasket so it completely covers the canister lip without any gaps.
5. Insert the motor housing into the canister so it rests on top of the rubber gasket with the on/off switch and the FULL indicator above the canister vacuum port.

**IMPORTANT!** Be sure each clamp end is aligned over a clamp landing on the motor housing as shown in Figure 4.

6. Secure the motor housing in place by locking down the clamps.
7. Align the raised boss on the large hose end with the gap at the top of the canister vacuum port. Push the hose end inward and rotate clockwise to lock in place. See Figure 5.
8. Insert the metal intake nozzle into the other end of the hose. Turning the nozzle clockwise while pushing it into the hose end will help to securely seat the metal nozzle.

## **ACCESSORY STORAGE**

1. Slide the narrow end of an extension tube into the Floor/Carpet Brush. Now slide the open extension tube end over one of the rings located above the casters to store as shown in Figure 7.
2. Slide the other accessories over the remaining rings for storage.
3. If storage space permits or in between usage, you can leave the hose attached to the vacuum port and slide the metal nozzle over a ring for convenience.



**FIG 2**



**FIG 3**



**FIG 4**



**FIG 5**



**FIG 6**



**FIG 7**

## OPERATION

Although the Ash Vacuum has special features for vacuuming warm & cool ashes from fireplaces, stoves, and BBQs, it may also be used for dry vacuuming as a shop/garage vacuum, a household vacuum, or as a blower. In the Operation section are special instructions for various ash vacuum uses.

**WARNING:** Be sure to read, understand, and apply all safety instructions and warnings. Safety is a combination of common sense, staying alert, and knowing how your Ash Vacuum works.

**WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or explosion, do not operate this vacuum in areas with flammable gases, vapors or explosive dust in the air. Flammable gases or vapors include but are not limited to lighter fluid, solvent-type cleaners, oilbase paints, gasoline, alcohol or aerosol sprays. Explosive dusts include but are not limited to coal, magnesium, aluminum, grain or gunpowder. Do not vacuum explosive dust, flammable or combustible liquids or hot ashes. To reduce the risk of health hazards from vapors or dust, do not vacuum toxic materials.

## ON/OFF SWITCH

After plugging the power cord into an outlet, the unit is turned on by pushing the switch from position “O” to position “I”. The symbols used on the toggle switch are international “On & Off” symbols. “O” is the symbol for “OFF” and “I” is the symbol for “ON”.

**O = OFF I = ON**

**NOTE:** Static shocks are common in dry areas or when the relative humidity of the air is low. Vacuuming fine debris with your Ash Vacuum can cause a static charge on the hose or on the vacuum. The best remedy to reduce the frequency of static shocks in your home when using this vacuum is to add moisture to the air with a humidifier.

## ASH VACUUM USE

1. Before connecting the power cord to a power source, check that the vacuum is properly assembled with the metal nozzle installed.

**CAUTION:** NEVER use the ash vacuum without the metal nozzle in place.

2. Ensure the On/Off switch is in the “O” (OFF) position.

3. Place the Ash Vacuum near the fireplace or stove you are cleaning and make sure the ash inside is cool.

4. Insert the power cord plug into an outlet near your work area and push the switch to the “I” (ON) position.

5. Using the metal nozzle only, begin vacuuming the ash.

6. As you vacuum, constantly check the nozzle, hose, canister, filter, and motor for excessive temperatures. If you notice an increase in temperature, turn off the vacuum immediately. Unplug the vacuum and remove the vacuumed material from the canister and filter bag. Allow the vacuum and the material to be vacuumed to cool before continuing to vacuum.

**IMPORTANT!** The FULL indicator area will gradually become RED as the canister fills with ash. Check it regularly to see if the vacuum canister is full.

7. Continue to run the vacuum for about 30 seconds after cleaning is complete to be sure any material remaining in the hose is safely deposited into the canister. Move the vacuum switch to the OFF position, then unplug from the outlet.

8. Allow the vacuum to cool, then remove ash from the canister and clean the filter as explained in the manual’s “MAINTENANCE” instructions before storing the vacuum.

## Usage Hints

- Do not shove or bury the nozzle in the ash; doing so will cause the nozzle & hose to more easily clog with debris.
- Rest the nozzle tip on the firebrick at roughly a 45° angle to minimize larger pieces from clogging the nozzle & hose.
- Move the nozzle on the firebrick in a circular or back & forth motion. This will help scrape off ash stuck to the firebrick and allow ash to be removed quickly through the nozzle & hose without clogging.
- Move larger chunks of debris to the side to break apart between the metal nozzle and firebrick as necessary.

## DRY SHOP VACUUM USE

**CAUTION:** Empty all ash from the canister and clean ash from the filter before using it to vacuum up other types of material. Not doing so could increase the risk of fire by depositing combustible material into the canister.

1. Before connecting the power cord to a power source, check that the canister & filter have been cleaned of ash

and the vacuum is properly assembled with the metal nozzle in place.

2. Ensure the On/Off switch is in the "O" (OFF) position.
3. Insert the power cord plug into an outlet near the area to be vacuumed, then push the switch to the "I" (ON) position.
4. Occasionally check the FULL indicator during use.
5. Run the vacuum for about 30 seconds after cleaning is complete to be sure any material remaining in the hose is safely deposited into the canister. Move the vacuum switch to the OFF position, then unplug from the outlet.
6. Clean the canister and filter as explained in the manual's "MAINTENANCE" instructions before storing the vacuum.

## **BLOWER USE**

### **WARNING:**

- Always wear safety eyewear complying with ANSI Z87.1 (or in Canada, CSA Z94.3) before using as a blower.
- To reduce the risk of injury to bystanders, keep them clear of blowing debris.
- Wear a dust mask if blowing creates dust that might be inhaled.
- To reduce the risks of hearing damage wear hearing protectors when using the vacuum/blower for extended hours or when using in a noisy area.

1. Before connecting the power cord to a power source, check that the canister & filter have been cleaned of ash and the vacuum is properly assembled.
2. Ensure the On/Off switch is in the "O" (OFF) position.
3. Locate the exhaust port. Install the large hose end and rotate it clockwise to lock in place. Figure 6  
**NOTE:** When using Ash Vacuum as a blower, the hose can be used with or without the metal nozzle or extension tube(s) installed
4. Insert the power cord plug into an outlet near the area to be vacuumed, then push the switch to the "I" (ON) position.

## **FLOOR/CARPET TOOL USE**

The Floor Carpet Tool can only be used when attached to an extension tube. With a vacuum set up for dry vacuuming

1. Connect the extension tubes; then, attach the floor/carpet tool to the narrow extension tube end.
2. Slide the wide end of the extension tube into the hose.
3. Located on the left side of the floor/carpet tool is the brush position lever. Figure 7
  - Push down the lever's front edge to retract the brush for vacuuming floors.
  - Push down the lever's back edge to lower the brush for vacuuming carpets.

## **CREVICE TOOL**

Use the Crevice Tool to vacuum material from narrow areas more effectively than the nozzle alone. The narrow tip of the crevice tool also increases suction, which aids in vacuuming material in deeper cracks & tight areas.

1. Attach the crevice tool the narrow end of an extension tube to access hard-to-reach areas.
2. Rotate the tools tip as the arrow indicates to position the brush end for use.

## MAINTENANCE

**WARNING:** Always disconnect the plug from the power outlet before performing all maintenance procedures and when removing the motor housing.

**IMPORTANT!** All cleaning and maintenance procedures should not be done indoors in or near living areas.

### CLEANING THE CANISTER AND FILTER

1. Unplug the vacuum from the power outlet.
2. Remove the hose from the vacuum port by rotating the hose coupling counterclockwise.
3. Unclamp the motor housing and remove it from the top of the canister.

#### Filter Cleaning

1. To minimize airborne dust, tap the inside of the filter bag with your fingertips to knock collected dust into the canister.
2. Remove the filter bag from the canister and remove the remaining dust by tapping the filter's interior or lightly brushing off the outside of the bag.
3. **NOTE:** If necessary, the filter may be hand washed with cool water & mild detergent, then gently hand wring to remove excess water and set aside to air dry. Be sure the filter is dry before use.  
DO NOT machine wash/dry the filter!
4. **NOTE:** Do not use compressed air to clean the filter.

#### Canister Cleaning

1. Dump the cold ash from the canister into an appropriate disposable container such as a plastic or paper trash bag.
2. To remove ash clinging to the canister interior, lightly wipe off the dust with paper towels or a cloth rag. If necessary, a slightly moist towel or rag may be used to wipe off the canister's interior & exterior.
3. Do not wash the canister with water, a cleaning agent, or other liquid. Inspect the filter for tears or holes; if any are found, replace the filter before reassembly of the Ash Vacuum.

**IMPORTANT!** Do not use the vacuum with a damaged filter or without a properly installed filter; doing so will result in dust blowing out the vents & exhaust port.

Following canister & filter cleaning, and then filter inspection and filter replacement, if necessary, reassemble the Ash Vacuum before storage.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

**WARNING:** Always disconnect the plug from the power outlet before troubleshooting.

SYMPTOMS	POSSIBLE CAUSES	REMEDY
Vacuum does not operate	No power to motor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Plug into a power outlet</li> <li>– Check power supply for blown breakers/fuses – replace if needed.</li> <li>– Call the customer service helpline.</li> </ul>
Dust escaping	1. Filter not installed	1. Install the filter
	2. Holes or torn filter	2. Replace the filter
	3. Filter gasket not laying flush on canister top edge	3. Check and reinstall the filter.
	4. Motor housing not seated or secured	4. Reinstall motor housing. Or, lock down both clamps.
Metal nozzle, hose or canister become HOT	Ash is too warm or hot	Allow ash to cool before vacuuming *
Reduced or no suction	1. Clogged nozzle, hose or vacuum port	1. Check for blockage & remove
	2. Canister full	2. Empty canister
	3. Filter clogged with fine dust	3. Clean filter or replace with a new filter.
Nozzle clogs easily	Vacuuming too much ash at once	Read & use manual's "Usage Hint" section.

\*Do not wear gloves to vacuum ash that is warmer than normal or hot.

## ACCESSORIES

Only use original or manufacturer-approved accessories and spare parts.

**NOTE:** PowerSmith™ Ash Vacuum can only use PowerSmith™ specially designed Ash Vacuum Filter PAAC301.

## TWO-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

This product is warranted free from defects in material and workmanship for 2 (2) years after the date of purchase. This limited warranty does not cover normal wear and tear or damage from neglect or accident. The original purchaser is covered by this warranty and it is not transferable. Before returning your tool to the store location of purchase, please call the Toll-Free Help Line for possible solutions.

ACCESSORIES INCLUDED IN THIS KIT ARE NOT COVERED BY THE 2-YEAR WARRANTY.

### TOLL-FREE HELPLINE

For questions about this or any other PowerSmith™ product, **Please call Toll-Free: [888-552-8665](tel:888-552-8665).**

**Or visit our website: [www.richpowerinc.com](http://www.richpowerinc.com)**

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## FAQs

What is the model of the ash vacuum discussed?

The model of the ash vacuum discussed is the PowerSmith PAVC101.

What type of debris is the PowerSmith PAVC101 designed to vacuum?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 is specifically designed to vacuum ash from fireplaces, stoves, and grills.

What is the power source for the PowerSmith PAVC101?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 is powered by electricity through a corded power source.

What is the capacity of the canister in the PowerSmith PAVC101?

The canister of the PowerSmith PAVC101 has a capacity of approximately 3.2 gallons.

How does the PowerSmith PAVC101 handle hot ash?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 is equipped with a heat-resistant metal canister, allowing it to safely handle warm or cool ash.

What safety features are included with the PowerSmith PAVC101?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 includes a safety filter to prevent ash and debris from escaping and causing dust or potential harm.

What is the length of the hose on the PowerSmith PAVC101?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 features a flexible hose that is typically around 4 feet long, providing ample reach for cleaning.

How is the PowerSmith PAVC101 maintained?

To maintain the PowerSmith PAVC101, regularly clean the filter and empty the canister as needed. Ensure the hose and attachments are free from clogs.

Is the PowerSmith PAVC101 suitable for both indoor and outdoor use?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 is designed primarily for indoor use, but it can also be used in covered outdoor areas where ash needs to be cleaned.

Can the PowerSmith PAVC101 be used for picking up other types of debris?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 is specifically designed for ash and may not be as effective for other types of debris like wet materials or large objects.

What is the weight of the PowerSmith PAVC101?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 weighs approximately 9 pounds, making it relatively easy to move and maneuver.

How does the PowerSmith PAVC101 compare to other ash vacuums in terms of filtration?

The PowerSmith PAVC101 features a high-efficiency filter designed to capture fine ash particles, similar to other high-quality ash vacuums.

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## Reference Link

[PowerSmith PAVC101 ASH VACUUM Operator's Manual-Device. report](#)

## References

- [User Manual](#)

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