

OWNER'S MANUAL

AVS-20 RETRACTABLE NOZZLE VACUUM SEALER

1518 Lancaster Point Way
San Diego, CA 92154
Ph: 619.498.8227
Fax: 619.498.8222
E-mail: info@amerivacs.com

WHAT'S IN THE PACKAGE?



- This Operation Manual.
- (1) Vacuum Sealer.
- (1) E-(unit size) Heating Element, inside the manual sheet protector.
- (1) T-(unit size) Teflon Set, in a roll, placed next to this manual.
- A bag vacuum packaged by this very same vacuum sealer which includes:
 - (1) Power cord.
 - (1) 1/4" OD Air tubing with 1/4"OD to 1/4"NPT male thread fitting.

WHAT THIS MACHINE REQUIRES TO RUN

- Standard 120 Volt A.C. outlet (or 220-240 Volt A.C. outlet if your unit is made for this higher voltage – See serial number tag next to the Power Receptacle of your Sealer to confirm).
- Compressed air set to between 100 and 110 psi.

NOTE: If choosing a portable Air Compressor, choose one with a fifteen (15) gallon tank or bigger. Some compressors are very loud, choose one that will give you best value considering that the bigger the tank, the longer the air supply will last before the motor turns on and, the bigger the compressor, the faster it fills the tank. Please use clean dry air only to keep your sealer's internal components working for years to come. A good air filter is highly recommended.

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LET'S GET YOU FAMILIARIZED

Unpack your new Vacuum Sealer and place it on its new home, with the logo on the left. Place the foot switch on the floor so it is easy to activate with your foot.

Looking at the top of the unit, you will find from left to right:

- Vacuum Gauge.
- Nozzle Enclosure in the middle.
- Heat Timer.
- Cool Timer.
- Main On/Off power switch.
- Pressure Bar at the front of the unit.

Looking at the back side of the unit, you will find:

- Compressed air supply connector – Labeled (AIR).
- Electrical Power receptacle.
- Foot Pedal cable.

If you ordered the Vacuum Regulator and/or Vacuum Filter accessories, you will also find these on the back of the Vacuum Sealer and user instructions on the last page of this manual.

GETTING CONNECTED

But first, let's show you HOW TO USE THE AIR PUSH FITTINGS

- To connect tubing into the push fittings, simply insert the tubing into the fitting and push in with a little force, it will automatically lock into place.
- To remove tubing, make sure there is no pressure (air or gas), then push on the colored plastic ring with one hand (unlocking the hose) and using the other hand, pull the tubing from the fitting at the same time.

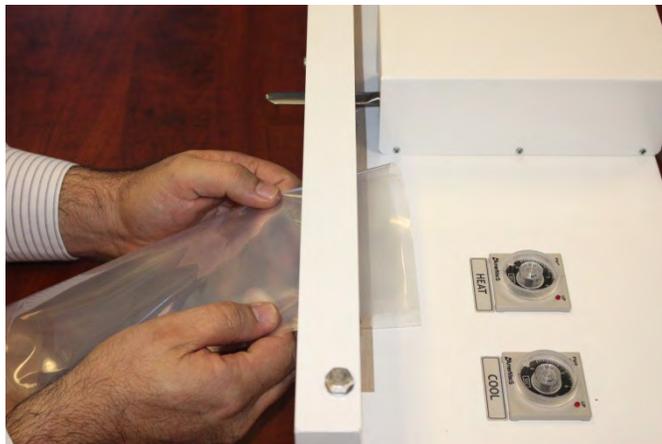


- **POWER:**
Make sure the Main on/off switch is set to the “0” position. Connect your Power Cord to the Power Receptacle on the back of the Vacuum Sealer and to a Standard 120 Volt A.C. outlet (or to a 220-240 Volt A.C. outlet if your unit is made for this higher voltage – See serial number tag next to the Power Receptacle of your Sealer to confirm)
- **AIR:**
Connect the supplied push fitting-1/4” Thread adaptor to your compressed air source. Then use the supplied 1/4” tubing to connect between the fitting on your Vacuum Sealer (labeled “AIR”) and to the compressed air source. Please be careful when adding air pressure to the Vacuum Sealer as the bar will quickly rise. Please use clean dry air only to keep your sealer’s internal components working for years to come. The Vacuum Sealer requires a constant air pressure between 100 to 110 psi.

SETTING THE SEAL PART OF YOUR AMERIVACS RETRACTABLE NOZZLE VACUUM SEALER

1. Turn on your Vacuum Sealer by pressing the main On/Off (I/O) switch.
2. Set Heat Timer to four (4) seconds and Cool Timer to six (6).
3. Take one bag and fold it in half. Place your folded bag between the jaws back enough to extend past the Pressure Bar. Placing it above, below or to one side of the nozzle is ok.

4. Hold bag taut on the sides close to the front of the Pressure bar (to avoid any wrinkles in your seal), and keeping fingers away from the Sealing Jaws, press Foot Switch long enough so that the Pressure Bar closes, then release; The Nozzle will retract, the Pressure Bar will close tighter and the bag will



be heat sealed as indicated by the LED lights on the Heat and Cool Timers then, the Pressure Bar will rise, releasing your bag and the nozzle will slowly extend outward, ready for the next cycle.

5. Remove the bag and inspect the heat seal. The heat source is from the bottom, so the heat will go upward on your bag. The lower two (2) layers of the bag will most likely be sealed, but you want to make sure that the upper two (2) layers are also sealed. This will ensure that if you do seal a wrinkle in your bag (which is essentially four (4) layers of bag material) it will definitely be air tight.

NOTE: Explanation applies to units not equipped with Bi-Active sealing.

6. Raise Heat Timer setting one half (1/2) second if the seal is weak or lower by one half (1/2) second if the seal is good. Test again by repeating from step #3 onward. Adjust Cool Timer so material has time to set before sealing bar opens, usually about 50% higher than the Heat Timer.
NOTE: To avoid overheating and to extend the life of the Heating Element, set the Heat Timer to lowest possible setting that will result in a strong seal.

Before continuing, please read and understand the following steps before doing them, as the process will be very fast.

OPERATING YOUR AMERIVACS RETRACTABLE NOZZLE VACUUM SEALER

Now that your seal parameters are set, let's start vacuum sealing:

7. Keep your Heat and Cool Timer settings just as you determined on the previous steps.

WARNING: Please do not vacuum seal products with liquids only. Small amounts of liquids, powders or other small particles will be sucked by the vacuum nozzle. Make sure your Vacuum Sealer has a Vacuum Filter installed on it (by AmeriVacS), or the product will go directly to the vacuum pump making the vacuum sealer inoperative.

NOTE: Avoid activating sealer without a bag between the sealing jaws. Doing so will make the Retractable Nozzle deteriorate the Rubber seals and Teflon between the jaws.

8. Place your bag with product between the jaws and with the nozzle inside of the bag. Position the bag so the bag open end goes beyond the pressure bar. Position the product so it is close to the nozzle (this will keep the bag from closing the nozzle and obstructing the air flow to it. The product does not have to be at the bottom of the bag)



9. Hold bag taut on the sides close to the front of the Pressure bar (to avoid any wrinkles in your seal), and keeping fingers away from the Sealing Jaws, press **and hold** the Foot Switch. When you see that the package has reached the desired amount of vacuum, release the Foot Switch and the Nozzle will immediately retract. The Pressure Bar will close tighter and the bag will be heat sealed as indicated by the LED's on the Heat and Cool Timers. The Pressure Bar will rise, releasing your bag and the nozzle will slowly extend, ready for the next cycle.

WARRANTY

All AmeriVacS Vacuum Sealers are warranted for two (2) full years from date of delivery against electrical and mechanical defects, excluding normal wear items such as Elements, Element post, Teflon, Pressure Bar pads and Seal Gaskets. The warranty is voided if the machine is damaged due to improper use or unauthorized repairs. Any defective machine under warranty that is returned freight prepaid will, at our option be repaired or replaced by AmeriVacS, at no charge.

BASIC SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND BEFORE SERVICING

REMOVING THE PRESSURE BAR FOR EASIER SERVICING

You can remove the pressure bar for easier servicing by simply removing The Pressure Bar Bolts. Do not use any tools to hold the Pressure Bar Rods as they may be damaged. They can only be held from the flat spots at the top of the rod.

When re-installing, please make sure to:

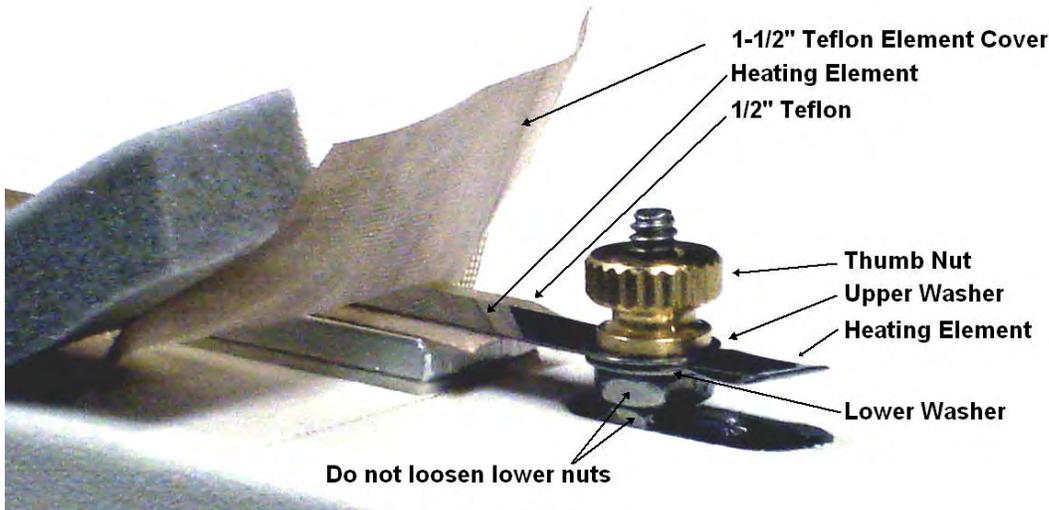
- 1) Remove the air pressure to the Vacuum Sealer.
- 2) Push the Nozzle inside the Nozzle Enclosure.
- 3) Lower the Cylinder rods on each sides
- 4) Re-install the Pressure Bar making sure there is an internal tooth washer between the Pressure Bar and the Cylinder Rod, and another on top against the head of the Bolt.

To order spare parts go to www.AmeriVacS.com and click on "Shop Online" then "Replacement Parts"

THE HEATING ELEMENT (Part No. E- and T-)

Remove the broken Heating Element:

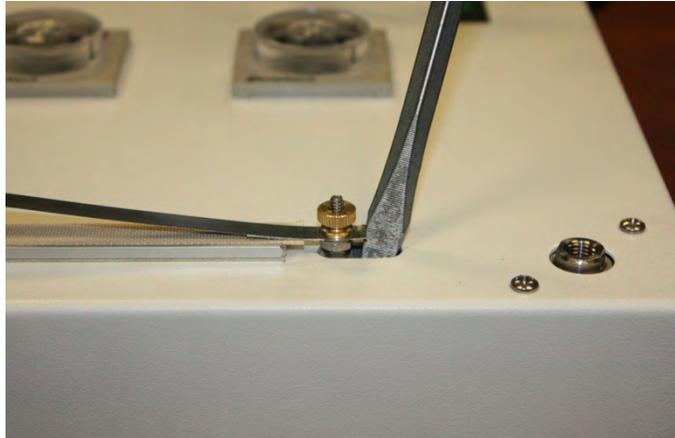
- 1) Remove 1½" Teflon that covers the old Heating Element.
- 2) Remove thumb nuts and washers from both sides. Remove Heating Element.
- 3) Remove ½" Teflon that was under the Heating Element.



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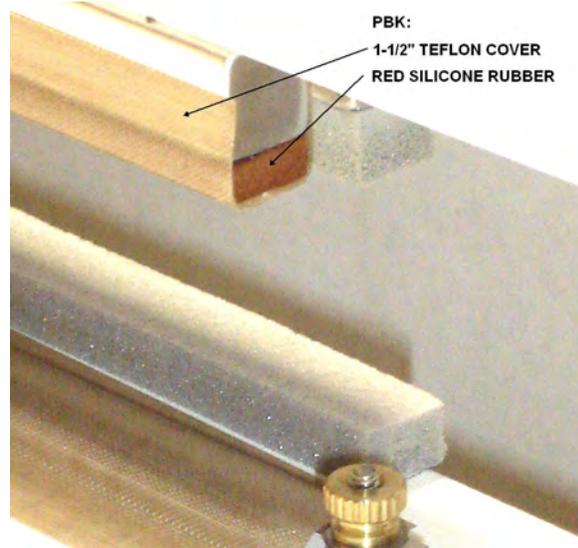
Installing the new element:

- 1) Remove backing on new 1/2" Teflon. Center over the 1/2" wide aluminum flat bar and press to adhere. **NOTE:** Leave an extra 1/2" of Teflon tape extending past each end of the aluminum flat bar to avoid electrical grounding with the Heating Element.
- 2) Place one washer on each post. Install the new Heating Element over the right (spring) side element post first, folded side of element downward. Position the Heating Element on top of the 1/2" flat bar, add another washer and firmly hand tighten the right side with a Thumb nut. Do not use tools.
- 3) Press the (right) element post assembly inward. You can use a large flat screwdriver to hold it in the compressed position (see photo at right).
NOTE: If you have a 30" or larger sealer, repeat above steps for the left side post.
- 4) Install the Heating Element over the left hand post, add a washer and firmly tighten the finger nut **BEFORE** releasing assembly on the right hand side (or both sides if 30" or larger sealer). **AGAIN: KEEP THE ELEMENT WITHOUT TENSION FOR THIS STEP - THE LAST STEP IS LETTING THE SPRING SIDE(S) LOOSE. NOT DOING SO WILL RESULT IN A SHORT LIFE ELEMENT BREAKING ON THE LEFT SIDE POST .**
- 5) Remove both backings from 1 1/2" Teflon Cover. Center Teflon so that the non-adhesive middle part covers the Heating Element. Smooth out on each side so adhesive sets on the chassis.



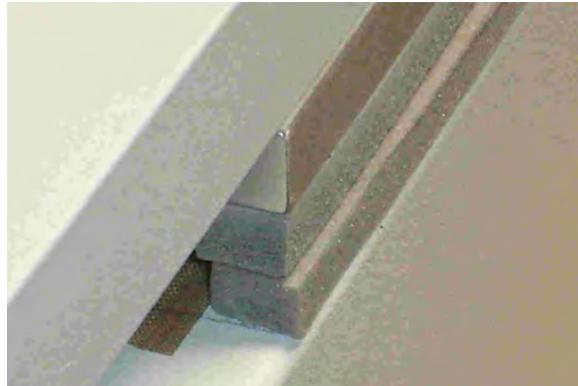
THE PRESSURE PAD (Part No. PBK-)

- 1) Remove the Teflon cover and Red Rubber strip and any adhesive left on the Aluminum Bar.
- 2) Remove backing from rubber and press onto the Pressure Bar without stretching.
- 3) Remove backing from 1½" Teflon cover. Center Teflon on the rubber, smooth out to each edge, and then fold over each side.



THE GRAY OR BLACK RUBBER (Part No: GR-)

- 1) Remove old gray or black rubber from machine body and Pressure Bar and any leftover adhesive
- 2) Remove backing from the one of the new foam rubbers (both rubbers provided are the same) and press onto the Pressure Bar without stretching
- 3) Remove backing from the remaining foam rubber strip, **line up with the front edge of the machine body** (not directly below the upper rubber) and then press into place without stretching. **Do not align with upper foam Rubber.**



TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
Bag is not sealed in the middle	Red Rubber might be indented providing less seal pressure.	Replace Red Rubber and Teflon (Pressure Bar Kit)
	Low air pressure	Make sure air pressure is set to 100 to 110 psi, free air flow of 6CFM is needed
Bag is not being vacuumed	Low air pressure	Make sure air pressure is set to 100 to 110 psi, free air flow of 6CFM is needed
	Bag is closing around the tip of the nozzle	Keep product as close to the tip of the nozzle as possible
Bag loses its vacuum after time	Bag material might be porous	Use a bag made for vacuum. Do not use channel bags
	Bag might have been punctured by sharp corner	Use thicker bag or lower vacuum level (An optional Vacuum Regulator might be needed)
Element sparks or breaks on the left side	Element is being held by the post only and not tightly between and by the washers	Follow yellow-bold instructions on step #4 of "Installing new element" section of the Basic Service Instructions
Machine does not turn on	Blown fuse	Replace fuse – located on the power receptacle, pry open fuse drawer with small flat screwdriver. Fuse Drawer has spare included

