



GUIDE FOR CLEANING AIRXCHANGE WHEELS

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OVERVIEW

Airxchange's segmented wheel design originated over 35 years ago when building owners and service contractors asked for a better way to clean or replace their aging energy recovery wheels. Our welded stainless-steel wheel design with removeable energy transfer segments was developed to address these maintenance concerns and remains the signature value added feature of most Airxchange wheels today.










CLEANING AIRXCHANGE SEGMENTS

We recommend periodic cleaning of the energy transfer segments to maintain optimal performance for the life of the ventilation system. The frequency of cleaning is largely dependent on the quality of air and the application.

For most applications, cleaning should occur at least once every 3-5 years or as needed based on periodic visual inspection. When applied in smoking or other environments with visible airborne contaminants, Airxchange recommends inspection and cleaning once or twice per year for optimal performance.

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

The following tools and supplies are recommended for cleaning Airxchange energy recovery wheels:

-  Access to water
-  Wash Basin - See chart below for size
-  Soft scrub brush
-  Vacuum
-  Flat head screwdriver to disengage segment retaining bars/clips
-  5/32" Hex Driver for removal of inner segments - 92" and larger diameter wheels only
-  Cleaning Solution - Non-Acid Coil Cleaner, such as KMP Acti-Clean AK-1 concentrate or Dish Soap/Detergent, such as Dawn



WASH BASIN SIZING CHART

Wheel Diameter	Total # of Segments Per Wheel	Storage Bin Container Size (L x W x H) and Total Segment Capacity
25-30	4	30 Gallon Storage Bin (30" x 19" x 17") Fits up to 6 segments
36-41	6	
46-52	6	
58-68	8	45 Gallon Storage Bin (36" x 21" x 19") Fits up to four (4) segments
74-86	8	
92-156	8 Inners/8 Outers	45" diameter Kiddie Pool or collapsible/portable dog pools. Fits up to several large segments at a time.

RECOMMENDED CLEANING PROCEDURE

- 1) Access the energy recovery wheel and remove the energy transfer segments. [View segment removal video.](#)
- 2) For non-segmented wheels (25 inches in diameter and smaller) remove entire wheel from the cassette. [View wheel removal video.](#)
- 3) Gently brush the wheel face to remove loose accumulated dirt.
- 4) Wash or soak the segments or small wheels with a non-acid based (evaporator) coil cleaner or alkaline detergent solution. A 5% solution of non-acid based coil cleaner such as KMP Acti-Clean AK-1 concentrate and water has been demonstrated to provide excellent results. **Do not use acid based cleaners, aromatic solvents, temperatures in excess of 170°F or steam; damage to the wheel may result.**
- 5) Soak in the cleaning solution until grease and tar deposits are loosened. An overnight soak may be required to adequately loosen heavy deposits of tar and oil-based contaminants.

Internal heat exchange surfaces may be examined by separating the polymer strips by hand. (Note: some staining of the desiccant may remain and does not effect performance.)

- 6) After soaking, rinse the dirty solution from the wheel until the water runs clear. Allow excess water to drain prior to replacing segments in the wheel or reinstalling the wheel in the cassette. A small amount of water remaining in the wheel will be dried out by the airflow.

Questions or concerns ? Please contact us at contact_us@airxchange.com

