

Your Conserving Device

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You may be supplied a different type of conserving device from the one shown in the picture. Our Patient Service Representatives will advise you of any variation.

I. The basics

An oxygen conserving device removes a large majority of issues that reduce the quality of life when using oxygen therapy. When we breathe, we usually spend about one-third inhaling and two-thirds of our time exhaling. This means that when we run oxygen at the prescribed flow rate continuously; at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of that oxygen is wasted since it cannot be inhaled.

An oxygen conserving device works by 'turning on' the flow when the user is inhaling and 'turning it off' when the user is exhaling. As a result, a substantial amount of oxygen is saved, which dramatically

increases the length of time a cylinder of oxygen will last.

Conservers can increase the lifetime of a cylinder by between 3 to 5 times, depending upon the flow rate.

They also reduce the drying irritation which continuous flow oxygen can have on your airways.



Oxygen Conserving Devices should only be used as prescribed by your clinician or medical adviser.

2. How it works

Switching on your Device

1. Connect your cannula or face mask to the conserver.
2. Attach the spiral tubing with firclie connector to the cylinder firtree outlet.
3. Open the oxygen cylinder valve or if you are intending to use the conserver with a liquid oxygen system, turn the flow control head on.
4. If the unit is being used with an oxygen supply source with adjustable flows, set the flow on the supply source to 4 l/min.
5. Check the contents gauge to ensure sufficient oxygen supply.
6. Switch on the conserver by firmly pushing the **on/off** button on the front of the unit for 2-3 seconds. The device will automatically perform a short operational check.
7. The unit is now ready for use and will operate at the previous setting indicated.





Caution Do not use if the cylinder content gauge is in the red low pressure zone.

Your clinician or medical adviser should prescribe the flow rate and operation best suited to your condition

- The operation of the unit is dependent on the breathing rate of the user.
- Your prescription will detail the conserver setting required and this will be pre-programmed into the device and will show on the display screen.
- As you begin to breathe faster; during periods of activity, the setting indicated on the device will begin to increase, giving you more oxygen in each breath.
- The pre-set oxygen flow rate will be indicated in full blocks and digits on the screen, with the additional amount delivered, indicated as half blocks.

Turning off your conserver

The conserving device can be turned off when treatment is no longer required, by pressing the **on/off** button on the front of the unit for approximately three seconds.

- An audible signal will confirm the unit is switched off.
- The current settings will be stored automatically.
- Remember to close off the valve on the oxygen supply to avoid wasting oxygen.



Changing the batteries

When the battery power is becoming low, the display screen will indicate 'CHANGE BATTERY'.

- Pull open the battery compartment cover at the back of the device.
- Pull out the old batteries using the flexible strip.
- Place the batteries inside the compartment, making sure the battery poles are connected correspondingly to the symbols at the bottom of the compartment.
- Close the battery cover.



Caution: If the battery power is too low, the conserver will not function at all.

3. Do's & Don'ts

How to Maintain your Oxygen Conserving Device

- Clean the device as required with a clean lint free cloth.
- Do not immerse the device, or the spiral hose and cannula in water or any other cleaning solvents.
- Do not expose the device to high temperatures.
- Do not alter the setting on the device. The conserver has been pre-programmed to meet your exact oxygen requirements.

Prior to each use:

- Check the connections to the unit.
- Check the battery does not require replacing.
- Check for physical damage.

If any problem is identified with the unit, contact Vitalair on 0800 136 603.



4. Troubleshooting

Problem: Flashing light in the top right hand corner.

Probable cause: This is normal operation and indicate the internal valves are sensing your breathing cycle.

Solution: None.

Problem: The device alarms after every exhalation.

Probable cause: There is an insufficient supply of oxygen.

Solution: Check:

- Spiral hose connections for leaks or obstructions.

- For adequate oxygen supply.
- For any kinking of the hoses.

Problem: The alarm signals intermittently.

Probable cause: The device cannot detect any breathing.

Solution: Check the cannula for obstructions and replace if necessary.

Please note, if no breathing has been detected for 30 seconds, the conserver will turn off automatically.

Remember to turn off the oxygen supply source.

Problem: 'CHANGE BATTERY' appears on the display screen.

Probable cause: The battery power is becoming low.

Solution: Change the battery at the earliest convenient time, but no later than five hours after the low battery display signal.

In the unlikely event of a conserver failure, please switch to continuous flow oxygen therapy and contact us.



Caution: If the battery power is too low, the conserver will not function at all.