

Your Cylinder

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I. The basics

The Standard Portable Cylinder

Vitalair's standard portable cylinder with conserving device delivers all the benefits of oxygen therapy whilst allowing you to continue with your day-to-day activities.

Providing in excess of 12 hours* of oxygen, the cylinder is lightweight, portable and extremely easy to use, meaning that whether you wish to return to work, go to the shops or simply enjoy the garden, the standard portable cylinder is ideal.



Lightweight Cylinder

Vitalair has also developed an innovative lighter-weight cylinder which encourages greater compliance and mobility. Ideal for children or frail patients, this cylinder will last nearly 8 hours (based on a flow rate of 2 l/min with a conserving device).



High Capacity Cylinders

These cylinders are provided for use in case of power failure or malfunction of the concentrator.

They are also used for patients who require high flow rates (up to 15 l/m) for short periods of time.

They are not intended to be used as portable cylinders.

(* based on 2 l/min with conserver)



Integral Regulator Cylinder

BOC cylinders have an integral regulator or headset fitted at manufacture. Our Patient Service Representative will have set up the cylinder for you.

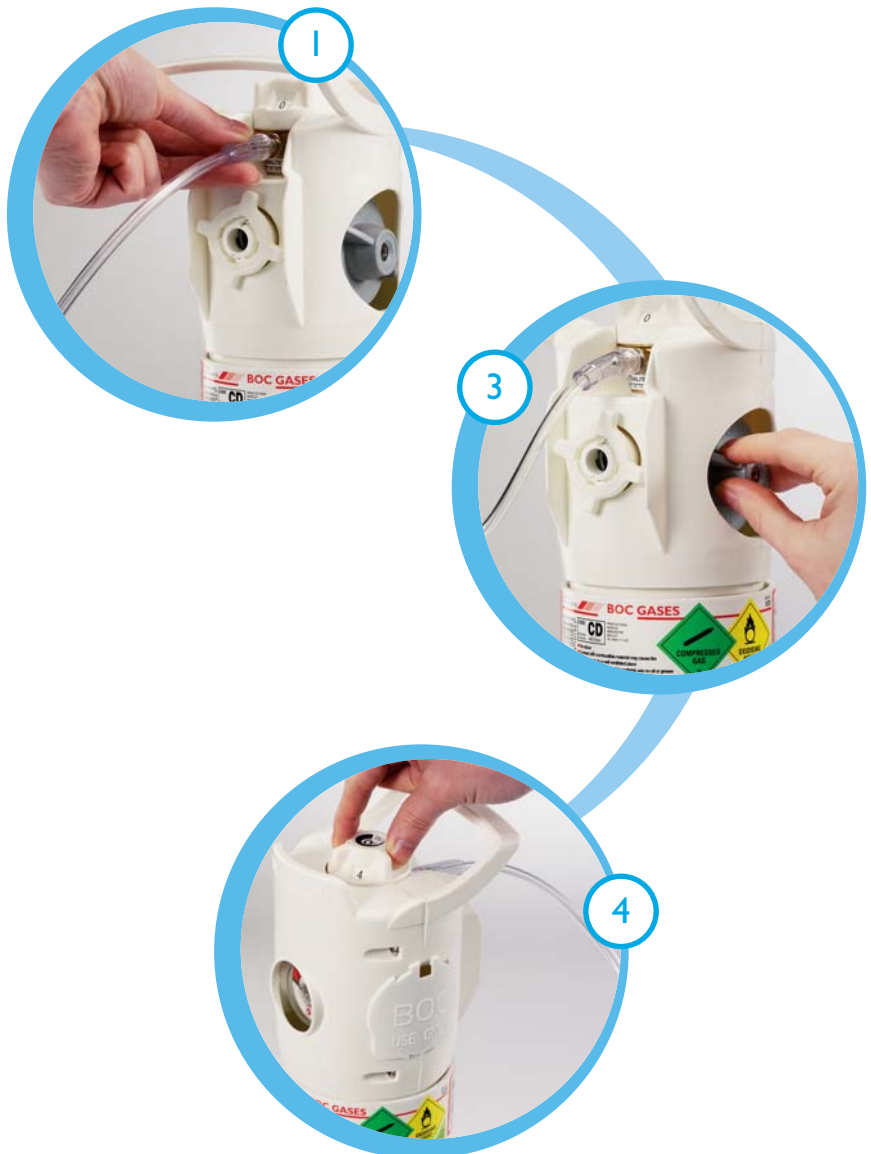


Before Use

Always read the Safety Information Section carefully.

2. How to use

1. Attach the tubing and cannula or mask to the fir tree outlet of the regulator.
2. Ensure the flowmeter is set to '0'.
3. Slowly turn the 'open/ close' handwheel (located on the side of the cylinder) anti-clockwise to fully open.
4. Turn the regulator to the prescribed flow rate, which is indicated on the top control knob.
5. Check for leaks on the tubing connection.
6. Check for flow from equipment.
7. If a flow is not evident, contact us.



After use

1. Turn the 'open/close' handwheel clockwise to close hand-tight.
2. A hissing sound will be heard for a few seconds while residual gas is released.
3. Wait until all the residual gas has stopped flowing and turn the regulator to the '0' position.



How to Change a Cylinder

1. Ensure the 'open/close' handwheel of the empty cylinder is fully closed.
2. Detach the tubing and cannula or mask from the outlet of the regulator.
3. Remove the red plastic protection seal from the 'open/close' handwheel of the full cylinder and if fitted remove the plastic outlet protection cover.
4. Follow the **How to use** procedure detailed earlier.



3. Do's & Don'ts

General

- Follow the advice we have given you about where to safely store and use your cylinders.
- When stored, cylinders must either be laid down or secured upright to prevent them falling over.

Maintenance

- Do not attempt to remove the regulator of an integral regulator cylinder.
- Never use excessive force.
- Never use spanners unless specifically instructed by us.

Cylinder Valves

- Never use excessive force when closing the cylinder valve.
- Keep cylinder valves closed when not in use.
- Empty cylinders must be stored with the valve closed.

Clear label

- Never paint the cylinders. All labels and markings must remain clearly visible.

Contents gauge

- The contents gauge is always live. There is no need to switch the cylinder on and off in order to check the contents level.

Leaks

- If a hissing noise is heard, check for the presence of a leak at the connection between the tubing and the outlet.
- Turn off the regulator and close the cylinder valve. If the reading falls on the contents gauge, this indicates a leak.
- Turn off the cylinder and notify us immediately.

4. Troubleshooting

Problem: No flow.

Probable cause: Regulator control not set properly.

Solution: Set control to prescribed flow.

Probable cause: Kinked, blocked or split tubing.

Solution: Remove obstruction if possible.

If split tubing, contact us.

Probable cause: Empty cylinder.

Solution: Change the cylinder.

Problem: Low flow.

Probable cause: Regulator set incorrectly.

Solution: Set control to prescribed flow.

Probable cause: Leaks from tubing connections.

Solution: Refit tubing.

Probable cause: Kinked, blocked or split tubing.

Solution: Remove obstruction if possible.

If split, contact us.

Problem: Any other problem or if problem persists.

Solution: Contact us immediately.



You can contact the customer service team on
0800 136 603

5. Cylinder Deliveries

The majority of our oxygen patients will receive their cylinder deliveries on a regular pattern. We will do this by calculating how many cylinders you will use based on the information provided by your respiratory nurse or doctor.

This information is stored in our computer system and ensures you receive a planned visit when you need more oxygen. You will find that your deliveries fit into a regular pattern, e.g. every Wednesday or every other week on a Thursday.

The Patient Service Representative (PSR) will let you know if we need to change this pattern.

If your oxygen needs change, for example if your flow rate has been increased then you should contact the Customer Service Team to tell us of this change.

Some patients will only use cylinders very occasionally and therefore we cannot arrange a regular pattern of visits. If you are in this group then please contact us when you need more oxygen. If you are not sure which group you fall into then please ask your local Patient Service Representative or contact the Customer Service Team.



If you are unsure how long your cylinder(s) will last please refer to the Cylinder Usage Chart at the back of this booklet. This information will prove very useful in determining how long each cylinder will last at your prescribed flow rate.

If you need to advise us that you need more oxygen, please remember to call us before 5pm each day so that we have ample time to arrange your next delivery.



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