# **Pressure Washer Selection**

Pressure washers are used daily for many different purposes. They are integral for building and street maintenance helping to keep surfaces sanitary, clean and prepped. Pressure washers are available in multiple sizes and specifications for use in both commercial and residential applications. This guide will help select the correct pressure washer for your needs.

One of the most important specifications in selecting a pressure washer is determining the correct duty cycle for your application. Depending on the hours of usage and tasks being performed you will fall into one of the following categories:

### **Light Duty**

This includes most residential use and applications that require the unit to operate less than 2-5 hours per week. Light duty pressure washers can be electric, usually 115v, or gas powered. These typically are not high pressure or hot water compatible. Most residential applications will not require these features for home and property maintenance.







## **Medium Duty**

Designed for work loads of up to 10 hours per week. Medium duty pressures washers are capable of longer duty cycles and run times before the unit needs to cool down. These also feature higher pressure than the standard light duty units. Medium duty pressure washers are often used for jobsite prep and clean up as well as for larger homes like farms or ranches. Medium duty pressure washers can be gas powered or 230v electric.

#### Industrial\Professional Grade

Professional grade pressure washers feature higher horsepower and volume (GPM) to provide a higher pressure in order to complete the job. These units have hot water pressure washing options and are rated for 25+ hours of operation per week. Available as gasoline powered or three phase power types. Most commonly used for business applications that require daily maintenance like pools, tennis courts and parking lots. Professional series pressure washers are recommended for industrial cleaning and large scale spray down applications.





#### **Special Considerations**

- \*Over working or repeated short cycling (under working) a pressure washer will diminish the longevity of the unit.
- \*Pressure washers will have start up instructions detailing necessary steps for first time use. Check the user manual to ensure you are starting the unit correctly for the first time.
- \*Typically gas powered pressure washers will not include oil. Before starting the engine ensure oil had been added.

#### **Nozzles and Accessories**

Keep in mind not all pressure washer nozzles and accessories have the same connections. Many brands have proprietary locking mechanisms compatible only with accessories of the same brand. Remember to always keep your user manual handy to reference parts and accessories.



Nozzle color indicates the spray pattern angle for all manufacturers.



Information sources include M-I-T-M, Generac, Karcher, W.W. Grainger

If you are still having difficulty choosing a Pressure Washer, please contact us at askzoro@zoro.com or 855-289-9676

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