USER MANUAL
WET/DRY VAC

2.5 U.S. GALLON*
9.5 LITER*
SERIES ML
HOUSEHOLD USE

FOR YOUR SAFETY, READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USE. SAVE THIS MANUAL FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.



shop·vac®
THE ONE & ONLY™

*Working capacity may vary based on use.

87401-79

TO BEGIN

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CATALOG / MODEL NUMBERS

Catalog No. 5430095 **Model No.** ML2824-C150

Date of Purchase: _____

For your records, please record your Date of Purchase and store this owner's manual in a safe location for future reference.

CARTON CONTENTS

⚠ WARNING: REVIEW IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE.

Check to make sure you have the following:

1. Vacuum
2. Filter bag
3. Disposable filter bag
4. Utility nozzle
5. Hose
6. Wall hanger
7. Cord wrap
8. Crevice tool
9. Philip's head screw
10. Flathead screw
11. Foam sleeve
12. Tool Holder
13. Retainer



TOOLS REQUIRED



Safety Glasses



Flathead Screwdriver and Phillips Screwdriver

Questions?
Visit **www.shopvac.com** 24 hours a day.

⚠ ATTENTION!

Read all safety rules carefully before attempting to operate. Retain for future reference.

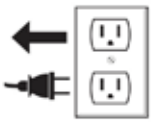
⚠ DANGER!



Never operate this unit when flammable materials or vapors are present because electrical devices produce arcs or sparks that can cause a fire or explosion.

NEVER OPERATE UNATTENDED!

⚠ WARNING!



ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE PLUG FROM THE WALL OUTLET BEFORE REMOVING THE TANK COVER.

⚠ WARNING!



ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION TO PREVENT ROCKS OR DEBRIS FROM BEING BLOWN OR RICOCHETING INTO THE EYES OR FACE WHICH CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

When using an electrical appliance, basic precautions should always be followed, including the following:

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USING THIS APPLIANCE.

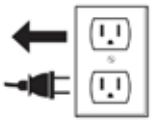
⚠ WARNING!

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, ELECTRIC SHOCK OR INJURY:

1. Do not leave appliance when plugged in. Unplug from outlet when not in use and before servicing.
2. Do not expose to rain – store indoors.
3. Do not allow to be used as a toy. Close attention is necessary when used by or near children.
4. Use only as described in this manual. Use only Manufacturer's recommended attachments.
5. Do not use with damaged cord or plug. If appliance is not working as it should, has been dropped, damaged, left outdoors or dropped into water, contact Shop-Vac for assistance.
6. Do Not: pull or carry by cord, use cord as a handle, close a door on cord or pull cord around sharp edges or corners. Do not run appliance over cord. Keep cord away from heated surfaces.
7. Do not unplug by pulling on cord. To unplug, grasp the plug; not the cord.
8. Do not handle plug or appliance with wet hands.
9. Do not put any object into openings. Do not use with any openings blocked; keep free of dust, lint, hair and anything that may reduce air flow.
10. Keep hair, loose clothing, fingers and all parts of body away from openings and moving parts.
11. Do not pick up anything that is burning or smoking, such as cigarettes, matches or hot ashes.
12. Do not use without dust bag and/or filters in place.
13. Turn off all controls before unplugging.
14. Use extra care when cleaning on stairs.
15. Do not use to pick up flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline or use in areas where they may be present.
16. Do not use your cleaner as a sprayer of flammable liquids such as oil base paints, lacquers, household cleaners, etc.
17. Do not vacuum toxic, carcinogenic, combustible or other hazardous materials such as asbestos, arsenic, barium, beryllium, lead, pesticides or other health endangering materials. Specially designed units are available for these purposes.
18. Do not pick up soot, cement, plaster or drywall dust without cartridge filter and collection filter bag in place. These are very fine particles that may pass through the foam and affect the performance of the motor or be exhausted back into the air. Additional collection filter bags are available.
19. Do not leave the cord lying on the floor once you have finished the cleaning job. It can become a tripping hazard.
20. Use special care when emptying heavily loaded tanks.
21. To avoid spontaneous combustion, empty tank after each use.
22. The operation of a utility vac can result in foreign objects being blown into eyes, which can result in eye damage. Always wear safety goggles when operating vacuum.
23. **STAY ALERT.** Watch what you are doing and use common sense. Do not use vacuum cleaner when you are tired, distracted or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication causing diminished control.
24. **WARNING!** Do **NOT** use this vacuum cleaner to vacuum lead paint debris because this may disperse fine lead particles into the air. This vacuum cleaner is not intended for use under EPA Regulation 40 CFR Part 745 for lead paint material cleanup.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

⚠ WARNING!



DO NOT LEAVE VACUUM UNATTENDED WHEN IT IS PLUGGED IN AND/OR OPERATING. UNPLUG UNIT WHEN NOT IN USE.

DOUBLE INSULATED APPLIANCE

THIS APPLIANCE IS PROVIDED WITH DOUBLE INSULATION. USE ONLY IDENTICAL REPLACEMENT PARTS.

Servicing for Double Insulated Appliances

A double insulated appliance is marked with one or more of the following: the words "Double Insulation" or "Double Insulated" or the Double Insulation symbol. In a double insulated appliance, two systems of insulation are provided instead of grounding. No grounding means is provided on a double insulated appliance, nor should a means for grounding be added to the appliance. Servicing a double insulated appliance requires extreme care and knowledge of the system, and should be done only by qualified service personnel. Replacement parts for a double insulated appliance must be identical to the parts they replace.

POLARIZATION INSTRUCTIONS

To reduce the risk of electric shock, this appliance has a polarized plug (one blade is wider then the other). This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper outlet. Do not change the plug in any way.



EXTENSION CORDS

When using the appliance at a distance where an extension cord becomes necessary, a 2-conductor cord of adequate size must be used for safety, and to prevent loss of power and overheating. Use ***TABLE A*** to determine A.W.G. wire size required. To determine ampere rating of your vacuum, refer to nameplate located on motor housing.

Before using appliance, inspect power cord for loose or exposed wires and damaged insulation. Make any needed repairs or replacements before using your appliance. Use only two-wire outdoor extension cords, which have two-prong non-grounding-type plugs and receptacles which accept the extension cord's plug. When vacuuming liquids, be sure the extension cord connection does not come in contact with the liquid.

NOTE: STATIC SHOCKS ARE COMMON IN DRY AREAS OR WHEN THE RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF THE AIR IS LOW. THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY AND DOES NOT AFFECT THE USE OF THE APPLIANCE. TO REDUCE THE FREQUENCY OF STATIC SHOCKS IN YOUR HOME, THE BEST REMEDY IS TO ADD MOISTURE TO THE AIR WITH A CONSOLE OR INSTALLED HUMIDIFIER.

Volts			Total length of cord in feet			
120V			25	50	100	150
Ampere Rating More Than		Not More Than	AWG			
0	-	6	18	16	16	14
6	-	10	18	16	14	12
10	-	12	18	16	14	12

TABLE A

UNPACKING

Pull lid latches in an outward motion and remove tank cover. Remove any accessories and literature that may have been packed in the vacuum tank.

MOUNTING WALL BRACKET

1. Select mounting location at a wall stud and/or provide asurface which is strong enough to hold the combinedweight of the vacuum with a full tank of debris andaccessories.

⚠ WARNING!

INADEQUATE MOUNTING COULDALLOW THE UNIT TO FALL,CAUSING INJURY AND/OR DAMAGETO THE UNIT



FIGURE 1

2. Secure wall bracket to mounting surface with 2 screwsprovided or other suitable fastener(NOTE: the screwsprovided are adequate ONLY for mounting into wood.Besure to use the proper,suitable fasteners for mountingvacuum to a surface other than wood.)Be sure wallbracket is level ***FIGURE 1***.



FIGURE 2

3. Installvacuum by aligning groove on either side of tank toengage as the vacuum is lowered onto the wallbracket ***FIGURE 2***.

4. To avoid possible injury or damage by dislodging vacuumfrom wall bracket or dropping tank during unlatching,always remove the entire vacuum from wallbracket andset on floor to empty tank or service filter.

5. Before removing vacuum from wall bracket,check to makesure tank cover is secured to tank.To remove vacuumfrom wall bracket,grasp top handle with one hand andtank bottom with other hand.Slide vacuum off of wallbracket by lifting straight up on vacuum.

TOOL HOLDER ASSEMBLY



FIGURE 3

6. Make sure handle is fully inserted into tank cover and secure with screws provided.
FIGURE 3.



FIGURE 4

7. Take tool holder and position it with tabs facing towards casters, in one of the 3 locations provided.
FIGURE 4.



FIGURE 5

8. Press down on tabs untill it snaps into the slot.
FIGURE 5.



FIGURE 6

9. Press the cord-winding fitting into the hole as shown.
FIGURE 6.

UNPACKING AND SET-UP

10. Remove the tank co er by pushing in the side lugs withthumbs and lifting up on the tabs of the tank cover.Remove any accessories,which may have been shipped inthe tank.

11. Before replacing tank cover,refer to Dry Pick Up Operationor Wet Pick Up Operation in this manual to ensure youhave the proper filters intalled for your cleaning operation.

12. Replace tank cover on the tank by aligning tabs with thelugs.Press down firmly on the upper housing until tankcover snaps into place.

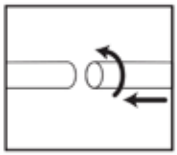


FIGURE 7

13. Insert machine hose end into inlet of tank.Twist slightly totighten the connection
FIGURE 7.

14. Attach one of the cleaning accessories (depending on yourcleaning requirements)on the accessory end of the hose.Twist slightly to tighten the connection ***FIGURE7.***

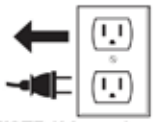
15. Plug the cord into the walloutlet.Your cleaner is ready foruse.
I=ON,O=OFF
NOTE: MANY MORE USEFUL TOOLSARE AVAILABLEAT YOUR LOCAL DEALEROR SHOP-VACWEBSITE.

DRY PICK UP OPERATION

NOTE: Never use the vacuum for dry pick up without a dry use filter installed on the lid cage. Using the vacuum without a filter will cause dust to discharge from blower port and cause damage to motor.

INSTALLING AND CLEANING THE CARTRIDGE FILTER:

⚠ WARNING!



ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE PLUG FROM THE WALL OUTLET BEFORE REMOVING THE TANK COVER.

NOTE: If foam sleeve **(not standard with all models)** is installed on lid cage, remove before installing the cartridge filter.

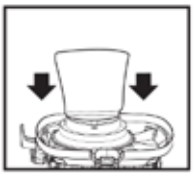


FIGURE 8

16. With the tank cover in an upside down position, slide the cloth filter down over the lid cage, pushing until the filter seals against the cover. ***FIGURE 8.***

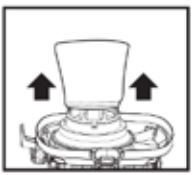


FIGURE 9

17. Slide the cloth filter off the lid cage. ***FIGURE 9.***

18. Check the filter for tears or small holes. If none are found, reinstall the filter. To prevent damage to your vacuum, do not use a filter with a hole or a tear.

FILTER INSTALLATION AND CLEANING

19. The cartridge filter can be used for dry pick up and small quantities of wet pick up. Installation is the same for both. When picking up large quantities of water we recommend using a foam sleeve **(not standard with all models)** instead of the cartridge filter. When picking up fine dust or powders a high efficiency filter bag **(not standard with all models)** must be used with the cartridge filter.

NOTE: If cartridge filter has been used for wet pick up, it must be cleaned and dried before using it for dry pick up.

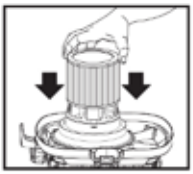


FIGURE 10

20. With the tank cover in an upside down position, slide the cartridge filter down over the lid cage, pushing until the filter seals against the cover. ***FIGURE 10.***



FIGURE 11

21. Place filter retainer into the top of the cartidge filter. ***FIGURE 11.***

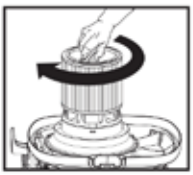


FIGURE 12

22. Hold the tank cover with one hand, turn the handle on the filter retainer clockwise to tighten, locking the filter into place. ***FIGURE 12.***

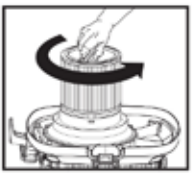
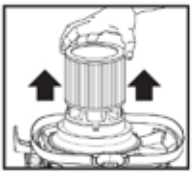


FIGURE 13

23. To remove the filter for cleaning, again hold the tank cover and turn the filter retainer counter-clockwise to loosen and remove. ***FIGURE 13.***



24. Slide the cartridge filter off the lid cage. ***FIGURE 14.***

FIGURE 14



25. To clean cartridge filter shake or brush off excess dirt. ***FIGURE 15.***

FIGURE 15



26. Or rinse (from the inside of the filter) with water. ***FIGURE 16***. Dry completely (approximately 24 hours).

FIGURE 16

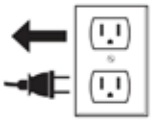
27. Check the filter for tears or small holes. If none are found, reinstall the filter. To prevent damage to your vacuum, do not use a filter with a hole or a tear.

⚠ WARNING!

KEEP FILTERS CLEAN. EFFICIENCY OF THE VACUUM IS LARGELY DEPENDENT ON THE FILTER. A CLOGGED FILTER CAN CAUSE OVERHEATING AND POSSIBLY DAMAGE THE CLEANER. CHECK THE FILTER PERIODICALLY AND REPLACE AS REQUIRED.

INSTALLING THE DISPOSABLE FILTER BAG:

⚠ WARNING!



ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE PLUG FROM THE WALL OUTLET BEFORE REMOVING THE TANK COVER.

28. Use the disposable filter bag in conjunction with the cartridge filter for easy disposal of the debris. The bag is not required for normal dry pick up. When picking up fine dust or powders a high efficiency filter bag **(not standard with all models)** must be used.
NOTE: Use for dry pick up only.

INSTALLING THE DISPOSABLEFILTER BAG

29. Use for dry pick up only

30. With cord disconnected from receptacle,remove tankcover and hose.



31. Slide collar of filter bag into retainer guides untilbottom ofcollar is resting on the retainer guide stops ***FIGURE 17.***

FIGURE 17

32. When secured in place,expand bag and postion aroundthe inside of the tank.

33. Reinstalltank cover and hose.

⚠ WARNING!



FOR FINE DUST POWDERS
When vacuuming fine dust, or powders of any kind (plaster, drywall dust, cold ashes, concrete dust, etc.) a high efficiency drywall filter bag must be used. When vacuuming normal household dust and debris, standard household disposable filter bags may be used.



WET PICK UP OPERATION

34. Your vacuum can be used for wet pick up. Remove ALL dirt and debris found in the tank. Remove all dry use only filters, including the filter bag, from the vacuum.

35. A clean cartridge filter may be used to pick up small quantities of liquid. To use the cartridge filter; follow the cleaning and installation instructions under dry pick up.

36. For vacuuming large quantities of liquid use a foam sleeve **(not standard with all models)**. A foam sleeve may be purchased at your local Shop-Vac® distributor, on the Shop-Vac® website, or by contacting Shop-Vac® customer service. To use the foam sleeve; follow the installation instructions in this section.

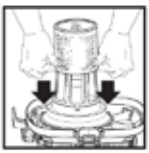
37. Misting in the exhaust air or dripping of liquid around the tank cover may occur if the filter becomes saturated during wet pick up. If this occurs, remove the filter and allow to dry, or replace with another dry filter.

38. Turn the unit off immediately upon completing a wet pick up job or when tank is full and ready to be emptied. When the tank is full, suction will drastically reduce. Refer to "automatic suction shut off" in this manual. Raise the hose to drain any excess liquid into the tank. Follow the "emptying liquid waste" section in this manual.

39. Before storing the vacuum cleaner or using for dry pick up, clean and dry the interior of the tank and the underside of the tank cover. Clean and allow the filters to dry completely.

NOTE: WET PICK UP ACCESSORIES SHOULD BE WASHED PERIODICALLY; ESPECIALLY AFTER PICKING UP WET, STICKY KITCHEN ACCIDENTS. THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH A WARM SOLUTION OF SOAP AND WATER.

FOAM SLEEVE INSTALLATION AND CLEANING:



40. With tank cover in an upside down position, slide foam sleeve down over lid cage pulling until foam sleeve completely covers lid cage. ***FIGURE 18.***

FIGURE 18

41. To clean the foam sleeve, disconnect the plug from the wall outlet. Remove the tank cover and place the cover in an upside-down position. Remove foam sleeve by sliding it up and off the lid cage.

42. Shake excess debris off of the foam sleeve with a rapid up and down movement.

43. Hold foam sleeve under running water for a minute or two, rinsing from the inside of the filter. A water wash is not always required, depending on the condition of the foam sleeve.

44. Check the filter for tears. If any are found, replace with a new filter.

BLOWER FEATURE



FIGURE 19

45. Your vacuum can be used as a powerful blower. To use your unit as a blower, clear hose of any obstructions. Insert machine hose end into blower port on rear of unit. ***FIGURE 19***. Twist slightly to tighten the connection. Caution should be used when using as a blower due to the powerful force of air when using certain attachments.

⚠ WARNING!

ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION TO PREVENT ROCKS OR DEBRIS FROM BEING BLOWN OR RICOCHETING INTO THE EYES OR FACE WHICH CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

EMPTYING LIQUID WASTE FROM THE TANK

46. Your wet/dry vacuum can be emptied of liquid waste by removing the tank cover. To empty, turn unit off and remove plug from the wall receptacle. Remove the tank cover and deposit the liquid waste contents in a suitable drain. After the tank is empty, return the tank cover to its original position. To continue use, plug the cord into the wall receptacle and turn the unit on. Use side carry handles for lifting vac when draining tank into drains that are located above floor level.

AUTOMATIC SUCTION SHUT OFF

47. The vacuum is equipped with an automatic suction shut-off that operates when picking up liquids. As the level of the liquid rises in the tank, an internal float rises until it seats itself against a seal at the intake of the motor, shutting off suction. When this happens, the motor will develop a higher than normal pitch noise and the suction is drastically reduced. If this occurs, turn unit off immediately. Failure to turn unit off after float rises and shuts off suction will result in extensive damage to the motor. To continue use, empty the liquid waste from the tank as outlined in the previous section.

NOTE: IF ACCIDENTALLY TIPPED OVER, THE VACUUM COULD LOSE SUCTION. IF THIS OCCURS, TURN UNIT OFF AND PLACE VAC IN UPRIGHT POSITION. THIS WILL ALLOW THE FLOAT TO RETURN TO ITS NORMAL POSITION, AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OPERATION.

LUBRICATION

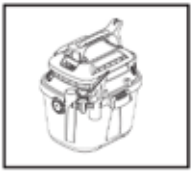
48. No lubrication is necessary as the motor is equipped with lifetime lubricated bearings.

STORAGE



49. Before storing your vacuum cleaner the tank should be emptied and cleaned. The power cord can be wrapped around the top handle on the tank cover. ***FIGURE 20.***

FIGURE 20

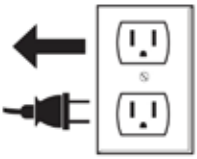


50. Accessories may be stored in the tool holder. ***FIGURE 21.***

The vacuum should be stored indoors.

FIGURE 21

TROUBLESHOOTING



BEFORE DOING ANY WORK ON YOUR VACUUM, TURN THE UNIT OFF AND DISCONNECT THE PLUG FROM THE WALL OUTLET.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
Suction weakens or cleaner runs hot	Clogged filter	Brush dirt from filter. If condition continues, change filter.
	Air leak	Check all fittings for tight fit (nozzles, hose, etc.) Check that tank cover is sealed properly.
	Obstruction in hose or nozzle	Check nozzle, hose, etc. for obstructions, and remove if present.
Misting in the exhaust air	Saturated filter	Replace saturated filter with a dry filter.

FULL LIFETIME WARRANTY

This product has a Full Lifetime Warranty.
For Warranty Policy and Vacuum Registration details go to:

https://www.shopvac.com/warranty

https://shopvac.com/register

Visit **www.shopvac.com** for your vacuum's parts list schematic.

Shop-Vac Customer Service:
www.shopvac.com/support

Contact Shop-Vac® Customer Service if any parts are missing or damaged.

SHOP-VAC
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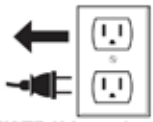
15. Plug the cord into the walloutlet.Your cleaner is ready foruse.
I=ON,O=OFF
NOTE: MANY MORE USEFUL TOOLSARE AVAILABLEAT YOUR LOCAL DEALEROR SHOP-VACWEBSITE.

DRY PICK UP OPERATION

NOTE: Never use the vacuum for dry pick up without a dry use filter installed on the lid cage. Using the vacuum without a filter will cause dust to discharge from blower port and cause damage to motor.

INSTALLING AND CLEANING THE CARTRIDGE FILTER:

⚠ WARNING!



ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE PLUG FROM THE WALL OUTLET BEFORE REMOVING THE TANK COVER.

NOTE: If foam sleeve **(not standard with all models)** is installed on lid cage, remove before installing the cartridge filter.

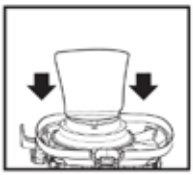


FIGURE 8

16. With the tank cover in an upside down position, slide the cloth filter down over the lid cage, pushing until the filter seals against the cover. ***FIGURE 8.***

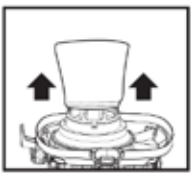


FIGURE 9

17. Slide the cloth filter off the lid cage. ***FIGURE 9.***

18. Check the filter for tears or small holes. If none are found, reinstall the filter. To prevent damage to your vacuum, do not use a filter with a hole or a tear.

FILTER INSTALLATION AND CLEANING

19. The cartridge filter can be used for dry pick up and small quantities of wet pick up. Installation is the same for both. When picking up large quantities of water we recommend using a foam sleeve **(not standard with all models)** instead of the cartridge filter. When picking up fine dust or powders a high efficiency filter bag **(not standard with all models)** must be used with the cartridge filter.

NOTE: If cartridge filter has been used for wet pick up, it must be cleaned and dried before using it for dry pick up.

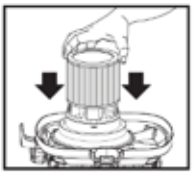


FIGURE 10

20. With the tank cover in an upside down position, slide the cartridge filter down over the lid cage, pushing until the filter seals against the cover. ***FIGURE 10.***



FIGURE 11

21. Place filter retainer into the top of the cartidge filter. ***FIGURE 11.***

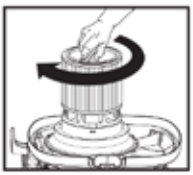


FIGURE 12

22. Hold the tank cover with one hand, turn the handle on the filter retainer clockwise to tighten, locking the filter into place. ***FIGURE 12.***

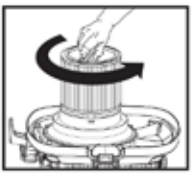


FIGURE 13

23. To remove the filter for cleaning, again hold the tank cover and turn the filter retainer counter-clockwise to loosen and remove. ***FIGURE 13.***