



Keeping equipment and facilities clean helps with maintenance, performance, and aesthetics. Despite the benefits, pressure washers can cause serious injury if not operated correctly.

Before using a pressure washer, learn how to properly operate it.

## Before Operating

- Read the manufacturer's operating manual prior to use.
- Know how to use and maintain the power washer.
- Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning by only starting and running a gas-powered unit outside and ensuring proper ventilation during operation.
- **Wear appropriate personal protective equipment:**
  - Safety glasses or goggles or a face shield (with safety glasses or goggles).
  - Enclosed footwear with good traction (preferably waterproof).
  - Hearing protection (gas-powered units).

- Protective clothing (long pants, waterproof top and bottom)
- Gloves with good dexterity.

## Power Washing Safety Tips

- Maintain a minimum 6-ft. distance when spraying water around power lines, electrical masts, or outlets.
- **Engage the safety lock on the trigger** when you are not washing and turn off when changing nozzle tips.
- Before uncoupling hoses, stop the machine, turn the water off and squeeze the spray wand trigger to release all water pressure in the system.
- Remain aware of your surroundings for any changes that may turn hazardous.
- **Do not hold the spray tip closer than 12-inches to a surface.**
- Do not point the pressure washer at people, animals or put any body part in front of the nozzle. The pressurized water stream could penetrate your skin and cause serious injury.
- Do not use pressure washers while working from ladders or elevated surfaces.