

Tips to keep your pneumatic nailer working day-in and day-out

By Dominique Dion

YOUR PNEUMATIC NAILERS don't require a ton of maintenance, but following these simple tips will prevent damage to your tool and help keep it running reliably. These tips are general descriptions of maintenance recommendations for pneumatic floor installation tools, but be sure to refer to the manufacturer's manual for your specific tool.

1 Install the appropriate free-flowing male plug on the tool, which will release the air pressure from the tool when disconnected.



2 Your air hose should have a minimum of 150 psi (10.6 kg/cm²) working pressure rating and be fitted with a quick-disconnect fitting at the tool.

3 To prevent explosion, never use oxygen, combustible gases or bottled gases to operate your tool.

4 A regulator providing a consistent pressure of 0 to 125 psi (0 to 8.79kg/cm²) must be used to maintain a safe operating pressure for the tool. Using excessive pressure can cause premature wear, as well as catastrophic damage to the tool and personal injury.



5 Dirt and water in the air supply cause premature wear to the tool. Ensure that the air filter is in good working order and that tanks are drained on a regular basis. During periods of high humidity, tanks should be drained more frequently.



6 Use only detergent-free pneumatic tool oil to lubricate your tool. Other products may damage the seals and bumpers.



7 Lubrication requirements are specific to your specific nailer and working conditions. Lubrication requirements from manufacturers may vary from two to four drops of oil every eight hours of use to two to four drops per week.

8 Dry-fire your tool without fasteners after lubrication to exhaust excessive oil and prevent spraying oil on floors, walls and furniture.

This article was paid for by Quebec City, Quebec-based Primatch, where Dominique Dion is vice president of sales and marketing.