

Frequently Asked Questions

Can the Voltair run air tools?

The Voltair is capable of running a variety of air tools, such as impact wrenches and air ratchets. A ½” impact wrench is a good match for this compressor while ¾” and 1” impacts can be used on a limited basis with an optional storage tank.

How does the Voltair compare with gasoline powered air compressors?

We like to compare the Voltair to a 5.5 hp gasoline air compressor with the added benefit of an additional 25-30 psi. Most gasoline compressors pump up to 125 psi, whereas the Voltair is set to shutoff at 150 psi. Other benefits include the smaller size and its ability to run in rainy or cold weather.

Does the Voltair have an air tank?

The Voltair is not shipped with an air tank, for the simple reason of not having the right size tank for your situation. We have designed a compact unit to be mounted in the bed of a pickup and the air tank can be mounted out of the way. Mounting under the vehicle or under a toolbox with only an air hose connecting the tank to the Voltair are both common.

Is the Voltair automatic?

Yes. The Voltair is run by a pressure switch. As long as the Voltair is hooked up to a battery and the switch is on, the compressor is active. When the pressure drops below 125 psi the compressor will kick on and pump the air storage tank to 150 psi and then shutoff.

Is the motor similar to a starter motor?

No. A starter motor is an open wound motor, meaning that if you were to energize a starter without a load, it would spin at several thousand rpm. The motor used in the Voltair is a permanent magnet motor with brushes. If you were to energize the Voltair, it would run at a consistent 1800 rpm. A starter motor is designed to run for short amounts of time, whereas the motor in the Voltair can run for longer periods of time. Typically, a starter motor or series wound motor will use up to 15% more energy to create the same amount of horse power as a permanent magnet motor.

Does the Voltair have a duty-cycle?

Yes. The Voltair has an 80% duty-cycle. This means that on average, the Voltair is capable of running 50 minutes per hour.

Will my alternator on my vehicle keep up with the 80 amp use of the 12-Voltair?

A typical 100 amp alternator will charge around 40 amps when the vehicle is idling. Combined with at least one good battery (120 minutes or more reserve) or 2 batteries (preferred), your vehicle's charging system should be able to keep up.

What kind of oil should be used in the Voltair?

Voltair, Inc. recommends using an ISO-40, non-detergent, synthetic compressor oil. Compressor oil is different than regular motor oil, in that it does not contain any detergents. The synthetic oil will allow you to use the same oil year round.