

Troubleshooting guide for common faults of air compressor



The following provides a general list of common air compressor problems and some quick repair methods that may help solve the problem. Some products are mentioned below. Remember to check your user manual to ensure that you have purchased the correct parts.

Problem	Cause	Solution
Compressor will not operate.	1. No electrical power.	Turn on power. Push the reset button.
	2. Low oil level.	Check oil level. Replace your oil if necessary
	3. Pressure switch not making contact.	See pressure switch adjustment.
	4. Pressure in the tank is below the cut-in pressure.	See pressure switch adjustment. Replace pressure switch to one that has a lower cut-in PSI
Excessive noise in operation.	1. Loose pulley, flywheel,	Tighten any loose ends.

Problem	Cause	Solution
Knock - same cycle as R.P.M.	belt, belt guard, cooler, clamps or accessories.	
	2. Lack of oil in crankcase.	Check for possible damage to bearings Replenish the oil level.
	3. Piston hitting the valve plate.	Remove the compressor cylinder head and inspect for foreign matter on top of the piston. Add a new gasket and reassemble the head.
	4. Compressor floor mounting loose.	Tighten the bolts on the air compressor. It may also be a good idea to replace your vibration pads
	5. Defective crankcase.	Repair or replace.
	6. Excessive crank end play.	Adjust and shim properly.
Knock occurs while compressor is loading.	1. Main bearings.	Replace bearings.
	2. Connecting rod bearings.	Replace rod.
	3. Loose flywheel.	Tighten.
Knock occurs while compressor is loading.	1. Connecting rod bearings.	Replace rod.
	2. Wrist pins, wrist pin bearings.	Replace piston assembly.
	3. Loose connecting rod nut.	Tighten.
Milky oil in oil reservoir.	1. Water entering oil reservoir due to compressor operating in high humidity environment.	a. Pipe air intake to less humid air source. b. Service unit (change oil

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		, clean or replace air cleaner element, more often, at least every 45 days or 500 operating hours for oil changes. c. Drain tank daily.
Excessive oil consumption.	1. Restricted air intake. 2. Oil leaks. 3. Worn piston rings. 4. Wrong oil viscosity. 5. Compressor tilted too much. 6. Scored cylinder.	Clean or replace air filter. Tighten bolts or replace gasket. Replace rings. Drain oil, refill with oil of proper viscosity. Level compressor. Vibration pads may help with this Replace cylinder.
Oil in discharge air.	1. Compressor air intake restricted. 2. Worn piston rings. 3. Excessive oil in compressor. 4. Wrong oil viscosity. 5. Piston rings installed upside down.	Clean or replace your air filters. Replace rings. Drain down to full mark on sight gauge. Check viscosity. Replace crankshaft.
Compressor vibrates.	1. Mounting bolts loose. 2. Compressor not properly mounted. 3. Pulley and flywheel misaligned. 4. Belts loose. 5. Bent crankshaft.	Tighten. Level compressor so that all feet touch the floor before tightening down. Realign. Tighten belts. Replace crankshaft.
Air blowing out of inlet.	1. Broken first stage inlet valve.	Replace valve plate assembly.
Insufficient	1. Leaks or	Check for leaks or restriction in hose or piping. Repair.

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