General Maintenance

Pressure Regulator or 3-piece Adjustable Pressure Regulator: No special maintenance or testing is required on these pressure regulators.

Vent Pipe: (Fig. A) Before each use, be sure the vent pipe is clear. This can be done by holding the cover up to a light source and looking through the vent pipe. If the vent pipe is blocked, clean it with a small brush, pipe cleaner, or wire. Do not use a toothpick to clean the vent pipe because the toothpick may break off and become lodged in the vent pipe.

Air Vent/Cover Lock*: (Fig. B) Remove the air vent/cover lock for occasional cleaning or for replacing the small gasket. Wash all parts in warm, sudsy water. Use a soft cloth or small nylon brush to clean the cover hole. The small gasket needs to be replaced when it becomes cracked or nicked.

*This part is not present on pressure canners that predate 1979.

Sealing Ring and Overpressure Plug: (Fig. C) After each use, remove the sealing ring from the lid and allow it to dry. It is not necessary to wash the sealing ring unless it becomes dirty. Replace the sealing ring every two to three years or when the canner is not able to build or maintain pressure. It should also be replaced immediately if the ring has shrunk, become hard, deformed, cracked, worn, or pitted. Replace the overpressure plug every time the sealing ring is replaced or sooner if it becomes hard, deformed, cracked, worn, or pitted. The sealing ring and overpressure plug are conveniently packaged together.

Pressure Dial Gauge: (Fig. D) For users of the Presto® Pressure Canner with dial gauge. Prior to the canning season, have the pressure dial gauge checked for accuracy. The dial gauge should also be checked if any of the following conditions exist: cover has been submerged in water or dropped, gauge lens is broken or has fallen out, parts are rusty, pointer is not on “0”, or for any reason you believe the gauge may not be accurate. The gauge can usually be checked at your local county extension office or by sending it to the Presto Customer Service Department.