

LET'S PRESERVE TOGETHER

PRESTO®

Test Kitchen

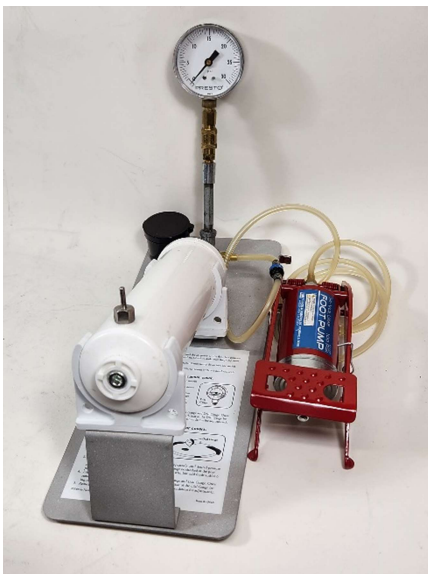
PROVIDING GUIDANCE IN
HOME FOOD PRESERVATION

Boiling Water Bath Canning
Pressure Canning
Vacuum Sealing
Dehydrating

ISSUE NO. 1 - APRIL, 2024

Presto® Canner Gauge Testing Unit

The Presto® Testing Unit #81288 is a unique and simple device for checking canner dial gauges for accuracy. Presto offers this device to University Cooperative Extension Offices only – it is not available to consumers for personal use. The unit is comprised of a Master Gauge, canister, foot pump and parts for proper function.



The Master Gauge is a delicate instrument which must be handled with care. It is packaged in protective foam inside a specific box. We recommend that this gauge, as well as the entire unit, be kept in its original packaging when not in use. Remember – this unit is designed to check a consumer's canner gauge for accuracy which assures safe processing. If the testing unit is not well cared for, there is no assurance of accurate readings. Presto will service/check the Complete Testing Unit/Master Gauge at no cost. To ensure the Master Gauge is always in proper working order, the Master Gauge should be checked at least annually to assure the gauge is reading proper pressure (NOTE: when sending the unit to Presto, please send in original packaging to assure safe arrival). Please send in for these reasons:

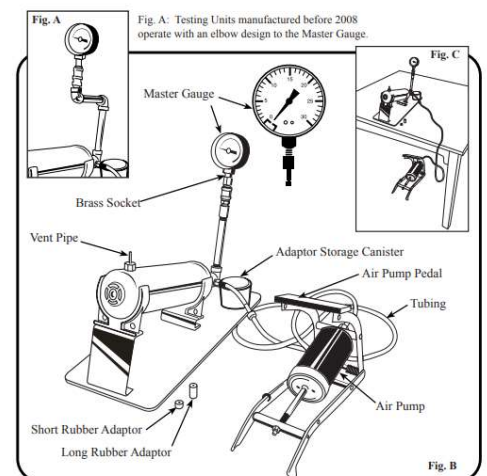
- ◆ Annually, prior to each canning season
- ◆ If any parts are rusty
- ◆ If the gauge has been submerged in water, dropped, or if the gauge glass is broken or has fallen out
- ◆ If the pointer is not in the "0" block
- ◆ If hoses are black
- ◆ If, for any reason, you believe the gauge may not be accurate

NOTE: We only test Presto gauges, do not send in any other brands

These are the parts of the Gauge Testing Unit:

The Presto® Gauge Testing Unit is \$89.99 – an order form can be found here: [PrestoTestingUnit81288.pdf \(gopresto.com\)](#). You can call Shelly at 715-839-2257 or email her at contact1@gopresto.com if you have questions about your order or the return of a unit you sent in for annual check/repair.

When purchasing the #81288 Presto® Gauge Testing Unit, Presto maintains this equipment. Extension offices are responsible for sending it in annually for inspection and necessary repairs but Presto will incur this expense along with return shipping. NOTE: the gauge testing unit and the master gauge should be kept in the original packaging to assure they are not damaged. Use this packaging when sending the unit in for repair/testing. Units that come in damaged, will need to be replaced at the cost of the Extension office.

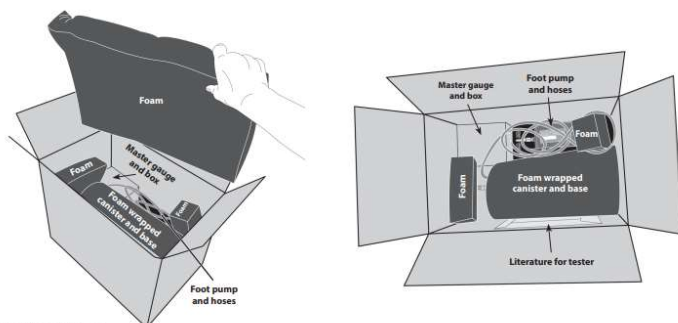


INAUGURAL EDITION

This publication was developed to help create a connection between Presto, Cooperative Extension Offices, and our consumers. We are hopeful this will be a helpful tool, providing educational and useful information to help us all better assist consumers in safe food preservation. We welcome feedback from you on this publication and its content, as well as suggestions on content/questions for future newsletters. There will be a Q & A section included with each issue. Please submit questions to Barb Milkert with the Presto Test Kitchen via phone at 715-839-2029 or email at bmilkert@gopresto.com. We encourage you to pass this along to colleagues, they can sign up to receive as well – see info in below box.

Sending Gauge and/or Tester to Presto

If just the gauge needs to be checked, the gauge can be shipped separately. If you would like the tester itself checked, please send the entire gauge testing unit. Send the unit in the original packaging (including foam) to assure its safe arrival, gauge should be packed in the original box with foam. Please include the Presto form providing information on who the unit is from, as well as specific info on problems/needed repairs.



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QUESTION: Can an older canner gauge (tilted) be tested with the Presto® gauge tester?

ANSWER: No. Tilted Gauges are obsolete and can no longer be tested using Presto's current Gauge Testing equipment. The gauge should be replaced.

QUESTION: If the glass on the canner dial gauge is broken/cracked, can the gauge be tested?

ANSWER: No. If any portion of the gauge has been damaged, it should not be tested as the integrity of the gauge may be compromised. Remember – this is a critical component of safe canning.

QUESTION: What if consumer gauge reads incorrectly?

ANSWER: If dial gauge reads up to 2 psi higher than test unit master gauge, you must add the difference to the required amount of pressure so food is not under-processed (example, consumer gauge reads 13, master gauge reads 11 – need to process at 13 on the gauge). If dial gauge reads up to 2 psi lower than test unit master gauge, you may subtract the difference from the required amount of pressure (example, consumer gauge reads 9 psi, master gauge reads 11 psi – may process at 9 psi on the gauge). However, this is not a requirement as food will not be under-processed. Always provide consumer with testing results in writing. Dial Gauges that are off more than 2 psi (higher or lower) MUST be replaced.

QUESTION: Can other brand gauges be tested with the Presto® Gauge Testing equipment?

ANSWER: No. The Presto® Gauge Testing equipment is designed to be used for Presto® canners only. Do not test other brand canners, no assurance of accuracy.

How to Contact Presto and Valuable Resources

PRESTO TEST KITCHEN – BARB MILKERT
715-839-2029 or bmilkert@gopresto.com

PRESTO CUSTOMER SERVICE
800-877-0441 or contact@gopresto.com

FACS RESOURCES: www.gopresto.com/content/support/facs-resources (includes previous issues of this newsletter as well as a link to sign up to receive this newsletter)

DIAL GAUGE TESTING – SHELLY
800-877-0441 or contact1@gopresto.com

WEBSITE: www.gopresto.com
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/groups/prestodigitalcanner