

FOUNTAIN FAQ

Q. What kind of power supply do I need?

A. The pumps run on regular 115V house current.

Q. How much electricity does the pump use?

A. Our pumps are high efficiency pumps. Depending on the size of the pump they use from 9 watts to 50 watts. That's less than your average incandescent light bulb.

Q. Can I run the pump 24 hours a day?

A. Yes, the pumps are designed for continuous use and actually last longer when left on, but caution must be taken to never let the pump run out of water. A pump that runs dry will burn up in a few hours or less.

Q. Can I use an extension cord?

A. Yes, but we do not recommend it. It is safer to run a power line close enough so that the pump plugs directly into an outlet. Remember that all wiring should be done by a qualified electrician.

Q. I've heard I should use a GFCI. What is it and do I really need one?

A. A Ground Fault Circuit Interrupt (GFCI) is required on all outdoor wiring. It detects if electricity is leaving the circuit (a short in the wiring) and instantly shuts off the power to the fountain. This could save your life.

Q. Do I need a water line to the fountain?

A. No. The fountains continuously circulate the water. Simply use a water hose to top off the fountain as necessary.

Q. Do I have to buy a pump?

A. No. All of our fountain sets come complete with the proper sized pump.

Q. Can I leave my fountain out in winter?

A. Yes, but it needs to be winterized. Standing water in the bowls can cause serious damage. See our care and maintenance page for more information.

Q. Is there a way to stop algae growth in the water?

A. Yes, we carry a select line of simple treatments to prevent algae and keep your water clear, that are safe for people and pets.

Q. Can I put a fountain on a wooden deck?

A. Yes, but there are a couple of important issues to address. First, the fountain is made of concrete and is heavy. Make sure your deck is built to support the extra weight. Second, there will always be some splash from the fountain that may cause the wood to be damp constantly. The wood should therefore be treated to counter any moisture.

Q. Can I place the fountain on dirt?

A. We do not recommend installing your fountain directly on dirt. The soil can settle under the small footprint of the base causing your fountain to tip or even fall over. Also, moisture in the soil will constantly wick up into the concrete base, which could shorten the useful life of the finish. We recommend placing a stepping stone under the fountain; this will help distribute the weight of the fountain by creating a larger footprint to help prevent settling. The stepping stone does not have a finish that can be damaged by soil moisture.