

# The Vacuum Cleaner

PREPARED BY

HARRIET BRIGHAM ELSIE SHORT CORINNE STINSON EULA NEWMAN CHARLOTTE TOMPKINS WANDA BARKLEY

Extension Specialists in Home Management
THE TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE SYSTEM

A vacuum cleaner is an effective cleaning tool which has long time use. Styles and models change but choices should be made on basic factors of convenient, effective dirt removal from the fabrics, furnishings and finishes to be cleaned.

#### How It Works

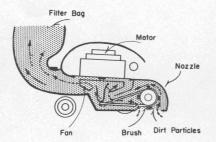
Vacuum cleaners remove dirt rather than rearranging it. The principal parts of the vacuum cleaner are: motor, fan, nozzle and a filter bag or dirt collector. The motor drives the fan which creates suction to draw dust and dirt through the nozzle into the dirt collector. Electrical cleaners are classified according to cleaning action: straight suction, suction plus brushing, suction plus brushing plus vibration.

### What Cleaner to Buy

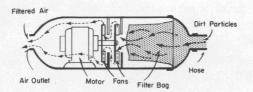
The upright vacuum cleaner should be considered if carpets and rugs are the main cleaning problem. The upright vacuum cleaner is usually the type with a motor-driven brush or with a motor-driven brush and agitator.

Upright cleaners do a thorough job of removing embedded grit and dirt from rugs and carpets. Brushes and vibration loosen embedded grit and dirt. Loosened dirt particles, surface dust and litter are

carried by air suction into the filter bag.



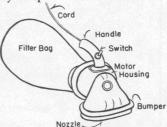
Cleaning attachments for the upright cleaner may cost extra and may not be as convenient as the tank type for cleaning walls and furnishings. Cleaning is done by suction through a hose, extension tubes, nozzles and stationary brushes.



The tank-type cleaner may excel in cleaning walls, draperies, up-holstery, books, lamps and other furnishings. Cleaning is done by straight suction. Cleaning of rugs and carpets may be slower than with the upright cleaner.

The tank-type cleaner is made in many shapes—the horizontal or

vertical cylinder, the vertical, box-like or global canister and others. It has an enclosed dust and dirt collector. Attachments generally consist of a rug and floor nozzle, soft bristled dusting brush, a fabric tool and a crevice tool, in addition to the hose and extension tubes.



The small, light-weight, portable vacuum cleaner is designed as auxiliary equipment for quick cleaning. It may be the straight suction or the motor-driven brush type. It supplements the larger cleaner for light cleaning jobs.

#### Care and Operation

Grasp the plug to connect or disconnect the cord at the outlet. Avoid running the cleaner over the cord while using it because the insulation on the fine wires may be broken. Turn off the motor switch before disconnecting the plug from the outlet.

Push or pull the cleaner at a relaxed speed of about 1 foot per second.

Empty the filter bag after each use. Filtered air must escape quickly for good suction. If the filter bag is not of the disposable type, turn bag inside out occasionally and remove dust with a stiff brush. Replace filters as needed.

Use a pair of scissors to clip hair, string, threads and ravellings from bristles of rotary brushes. Keep brushes clean. Adjust or replace as needed.

Pick up metal objects, pins and bobby pins before running the cleaner. They could chip or dent the fan blades which would cause loss of suction.

Check the tension of the belt on an upright cleaner often, and replace the belt if worn.

See that connections are tight in flexible and rigid tubings to maintain good suction for cleaning.

## Look for These Easy-to-use Features

- Cleaner moves easily on wheels, casters, gliders, dollie or by other means.
- Handle stays in different positions for use and storage.
- Handle is easy to grasp.
- Finger or foot-control switch is easy to operate.
- Bumper guards are on the cleaner and attachments for furniture protection.
- Amount of suction can be controlled.
- · Upright cleaner has a head light.
- · Attachments are securely and easily connected.
- Handy tool rack is a part of the vacuum cleaner or is a type which may be conveniently carried from room to room.
- · Hose and wands lock securely.
- The hose is double-stretch plastic.
- Cord is long enough that large areas may be cleaned without changing the connection. Cord rewinds automatically.
- Flattened motor housing of upright cleaner allows for cleaning under furniture.
- Dust bags are disposable.
- Cleaner and attachments are easily stored.
- Learn how to operate your vacuum cleaner and make full use of it. Read and file the instructions for use and care.
- Learn how to care for the cleaner; good care means longer life and greater satisfaction.
- Read and file the guarantee for ready reference.

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, The Texas A. & M. College System and United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8, 1914, as amended, and June 30, 1914.