

# Do You Need a Hot Water Machine?

by Aaladin Industries, [www.Aaladin.com](http://www.Aaladin.com)

Spring is around the corner, and with it, the time for a myriad of cleaning projects. No matter what industry you're in, your equipment is the motor that drives your profits. All varieties of industrial cleaning are demanding -- you must be able to produce results in a variety of situations. We know that's complicated and we've listened to you and your peers to create pressure washers geared to your personal needs.

The first thing to do is assess those needs. What specific surfaces will you be cleaning? Is your current equipment capable and efficient? Have you thought about different solutions that could save time and money? While pondering these questions, consider how a hot water pressure washer could address your situation.

## Do You Need HOT Water?

Cold water pressure washers are in every big box store, and you're probably wondering why you need to get a hot water machine. There are a number of reasons why this could be the solution for you:

**1. Environmental.** Cold water pressure washers often require harsh chemicals in order to clean effectively. Hot water cleans so much

better than for many applications, nothing else is needed. For particularly stubborn cleaning, an environmentally-friendly soap can be used. Hot water is a good choice.

**2. Oil.** It's in the air because of vehicles driving down your street. It sticks to everything. Dirt sticks to it. If your hands were dirty and greasy, would you try to clean them with cold water? You use hot soapy water for a reason -- it works. The majority of your cleaning probably involves cutting oil and grease, so hot water just makes sense.



Once you have decided that a hot water pressure washer is a good idea, the next step is to narrow down which specific type you need. This can be a challenge due to so many options available. Let's take a look at some of them:

Will it need to move? Will the pressure washer be permanently installed in a wash bay or building? If the answer is yes, you will need to look at a stationary washer. When looking at stationary washers, be sure to ask about venting/stacking costs (there are high efficiency units available that will vent through CPVC as opposed to expensive traditional stacking).

Will it need to be mobile (mounted on a trailer or moved around a job site on skids)? If your washer will be trailer- or skid-mounted, look at a self-contained unit capable of running without an external power source.

Do you need to move your washer by hand? Will your work require your washer to be in many different places? If so, you will want a portable pressure washer.

One of the most important things to consider when choosing a portable washer is safety. Let's face it -- when you add water to any surface (especially with soap), it makes it slick. Choosing a pressure washer with swivel wheels helps diminish the possibility of falls with heavy equipment. Most pressure washers with fixed wheels require the operator to lift one set of wheels to make a turn, increasing the probability of slipping and falling.

Make sure the portable unit has flat free tires as well. Flat tires tend to take the portability out of a portable unit and cause expensive downtime.

Don't forget to also be aware of power and fuel access where you will be using the portable unit.

### **How much power do you need?**

Pressure washer "power" is gauged in two ways - PSI (pounds of pressure per square inch) and GPM (gallons of water released per minute). Both are important, but paying close

attention to GPM is a critical thing.

Paying attention to flow (GPM) is an important factor when deciding on the right pressure washer for your application. The higher the GPM, the larger the droplets are that are making contact to the surface of what you are cleaning.

Think about it like this -- if you were to throw a handful of sand against a window or a handful of rocks, which would have the greater effect? The larger the droplets of water that are making contact with the surface the better and more efficiently they clean. Combine a high PSI machine with a high flow rate and you get a machine with quite a punch!

### **What kind of fuel will you want to use?**

Pumps and burners are driven by different fuel sources. Which you pick depends on your specific application.

Pumps are commonly either driven by electric motors or gas/diesel engines. Which of these you choose commonly depends on whether or not the machine is stationary, mobile or portable, and if there is an electrical power source available.

Burners are fired with vaporized liquefied petroleum (LP), natural gas (NG), or diesel oil. Each fuel source has its own advantages and disadvantages. If you are stationary or have the capability to plumb for LP or NG, they are the most cost effective and clean burning. If portability is the biggest factor, diesel oil is the way to go. Completely electric models for clean environments are available as well.

### **How much will you be running the unit?**

No matter how much you will be running your washer, something else you should consider is a model that is higher efficiency than others. Purchasing a pressure washer that utilizes the most advanced high efficiency technology will save money over traditional models (on average between 35 to 38 percent). Obviously, the more hours you run the machine per year, the more money you will save and therefore put towards increasing your

bottom line.

Another advantage to a higher efficiency unit is the reduced carbon footprint, allowing you to feel good about “keeping it green” and making it easier to comply with local and state code.

When operating a pressure washer, also consider a unit that includes a clutch drive feature. When the gun is not engaged, there will be no wear to the pump, allowing it to perform longer under the toughest conditions. This effectively extends the life of your washer, resulting in less downtime and increased profits.

**Some other things to consider:**

Fueling a machine frequently takes time and energy away from the work at hand. Choosing a high efficiency machine will save the obvious fuel costs. Keep in mind it will also require less frequent fueling, saving labor costs and getting the job done quicker and more efficiently.

Finally, when shopping, look for the value

in the pressure washer you are buying. Is it made from the highest quality components? Is it built here in the US by skilled craftsmen? Has the manufacturer paid close attention to detail in every aspect? Is there a knowledgeable service support system available? Make sure you can answer yes to all of these questions before signing on the dotted line.

*AaLadin Cleaning Systems offers pressure washers to fit any situation. We do this because we understand you aren't the same as every other contractor out there. You have created a place in your market that demands specific solutions. We pride ourselves on being the innovator of numerous pressure washer features.*

*We are also proud to be the ONLY pressure washer manufacturer to offer a High Efficiency Line of equipment. Our Eco-Green Line is available in several different models to fit your needs. Please go to [www.aaladin.com](http://www.aaladin.com) or visit your local AaLadin distributor to learn how our products can save you time and money.*



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