



**VENT-A-HOOD COMPANY, Ltd.**

1000 NORTH GREENVILLE P.O. BOX 830426 RICHARDSON, TEXAS 75083-0426 972-235-5201

## CLEANING YOUR BLOWER WHEEL

Your squirrel-cage blower pressurizes all the air that passes through it and squeezes the vaporized grease back into liquid form. Naturally, some of this liquid grease sticks to the blades of the blower. You can see the grease and dust particles on your blower wheel, but this is your assurance that the same kind of collection is NOT building up inside your vent pipe.

The amount and type of cooking you do determines how often you need to clean your blower wheel. A certain amount of residue will not hurt the action of the blower, but it should be cleaned before a really heavy deposit has accumulated.

1. Be sure the motor(s) is turned off before proceeding. Remove the shield and unsnap and remove the front of the blower housing.
2. Take a pencil and make a mark around the shaft at the front of the hub of the blower wheel so that you will be able to tell where the hub goes when you're putting it back on the shaft.
3. Use a 1/8" allen wrench (see drawing #1) to loosen the set screw in the hub of the blower wheel. this screw is recessed in a hole in the side (not the end) of the shaft (see drawing #2). When this screw is loosened, the blower wheel will slide easily off the end of the shaft.  
If the hood is more than five years old and this screw has never been loosened, you may have difficulty in getting it loose, or find it impossible. A liquid penetrating oil may help you loosen the set screw, but it might prove more practical to clean the wheel without removing it from the shaft.
4. When you have the blower wheel off, clean it in a hot detergent solution. We do not recommend your using any dangerously explosive solvent. Most of the grease and dirt will be removed by soaking and then rinsing in hot water. You may use a soft brush to scrub the wheel, but be careful not to disturb any metal clips (see drawing #3) attached to it. These clips balance the wheel and must not be moved. The wheel must be handled carefully because it can be damaged beyond repair by twisting, bending or dropping.
5. Slip the wheel back on the shaft so that the hub is lined up with the pencil mark where it was. You will notice that one side of the shaft is flat. The set screw should be against this flat side. tighten the set screw with the allen wrench.
6. Spin the wheel by hand to see that it turns freely. If there is a ticking noise, it is too far down on the shaft and is hitting the motor mount screws on the plate behind it. Loosen the set screw and move the wheel farther on the shaft, but be careful not to get it too far forward or it will hit the blower housing. After you have tightened the set screw, replace the blower housing. Note carefully to see that the wheel does not touch the housing. Turn on the motor and listen to be sure that the wheel is not scraping either the housing or the motor mount screws.

