



THE ULTIMATE ENGINE MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

FOR PROFESSIONAL WELDERS

KEEP YOUR WELDER RUNNING. KEEP YOUR BUSINESS MOVING.

On a remote jobsite or in the shop, your engine-driven welder is a huge part of your livelihood. Downtime isn't just an inconvenience — it's lost time and lost revenue.

Neglecting scheduled maintenance is the #1 cause of preventable engine failure. This guide provides a simple, actionable checklist to protect your equipment. Vanguard® engines are designed for the dusty, demanding environments you work in, with features that make these checks simple and intuitive, so you can focus on the job at hand.

ENGINEERED FOR UPTIME

Vanguard engines are designed for intuitive serviceability because we know your equipment is your livelihood — if you're not welding, you're not earning. That's why we included purposeful features to make maintenance clear and efficient:



> Easy-Access Touchpoints

Look for the bright yellow caps, dipsticks and filters. These color-coded touchpoints guide you to the most critical service items.

> Smarter Oil Changes

Our engines feature a dipstick for easy level checks and oil fill holes on the valve covers to minimize spillage.

SAFETY FIRST BEFORE YOU BEGIN ANY MAINTENANCE

Always follow these steps before performing service to prevent injury or equipment damage.



COOL DOWN

Allow the engine to cool down completely.



DISCONNECT

Disconnect the battery.



SECURE

Ensure that the equipment is secure and will not move.

THE WELDER'S MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

THE 5-MINUTE DAILY CHECK (OR EVERY 8 HOURS)



Check Engine Oil Level

The most critical check. More important than having clean oil is having the proper amount of oil. Pull the dipstick, wipe, re-insert, and check. Add if low.



Check Air Cleaner

In dusty welding environments, this is vital. Ensure that the air cleaner cover is properly installed and not damaged. Even small debris can ruin an engine.



Clean Critical Areas

Visually inspect and clean the area around the muffler and engine controls.



Clear Debris

Use an air hose to blow out any dust, grass or debris from the enclosure and the cooling fins on the blower housing. Obstructed fins lead to overheating.

A note on dusty sites: For welders, jobsites are almost always dusty. Our owner's manual advises cleaning the air filter and cooling components more often in these conditions. We recommend making it part of your daily visual check.

WEEKLY WALK-AROUND (OR AS NEEDED)



Inspect Fuel System

Visually inspect the fuel filter and fuel lines for any leaks or damage.



Check for Damage

Look for any loose parts, damaged covers or potential issues that need to be addressed before they might turn into failures.

SERVICE INTERVALS & STORAGE PREP

Always refer to your owner's manual for the most precise schedule for your specific engine model.



For Storage (Over 30 Days):

Add a quality fuel stabilizer. Standard gasoline, especially ethanol blends, can go bad in as little as 30 days.



Every 100 Hours:

- Replace spark plugs
- Change engine oil
- Replace oil filter (if equipped)
- Service air filter¹
- Clean pre-cleaner (if equipped)¹
- Service exhaust system



Every 250 Hours:

- Check valve clearance. Adjust if necessary.



Every 400 Hours or Annually:

- Replace air filter
- Replace fuel filter
- Service cooling system¹
- Clean oil cooler fins¹

¹In dusty conditions or when airborne debris is present, clean more often.

STOCK YOUR TRUCK: THE WELDER'S TOOLKIT

Be prepared for field maintenance by keeping a Vanguard Maintenance Kit in your truck. These all-in-one kits are the easiest way to make sure you have the genuine parts you need, right when you need them. They typically include:



Vanguard Genuine Oil



Air Cleaner



Fuel Filter



Spark Plug



YOU'RE NEVER FAR FROM SUPPORT

An engine is only as good as the network behind it. Vanguard is backed by the most extensive small engine dealer network in North America.



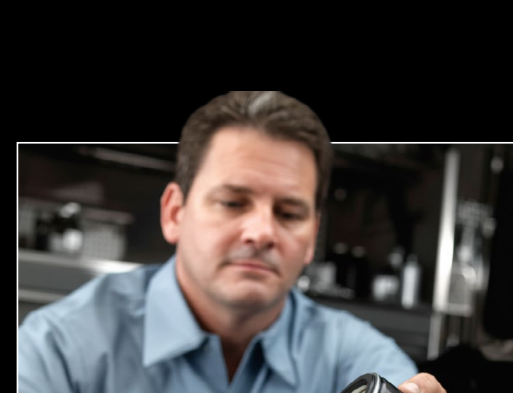
Find Genuine Parts

Genuine Vanguard oil, filters and maintenance kits are available at Vanguard dealers across the country.



Scan for Support

Scan the QR code on your engine's model label with your phone. It instantly pulls up your engine's information, operator's manual and parts lists.



Get Expert Service

Our extensive service and service network provides the expert support you need to get back to work fast.



CLICK HERE to access operator's manuals, find your dealer and order parts online.