

Galaxy Fountains

Congratulations on your new Galaxy Fountain! Each one is made entirely by hand, and is a unique work of art. There will be variations in each one of them, and that is part of their charm. With a minimum of care, it should provide you with years and years of enjoyment. Please read this packet before you install the piece.

Tools you Will Need:

Pencil, Level, Screwdriver, Hammer, Pliers

Mounting Hardware:

D-Ring Hangers + Anchors and screws

Hanging the copper reservoir

Smaller fountains hang from a total of four anchored screws, (two in the reservoir, two at the top of the artwork). When you install them, hold the basin in the approximate position where you will want the basin to hang, and mark where the holes will be drilled. Use a level to make sure that the basin is hanging straight. If you have a larger basin, additional instructions will come after this section.

Next, make a small hole in the drywall at each spot that you marked with the drill or a screwdriver. The hole should be just small enough that the blue plastic anchors fit tightly. If you have to tap them in a little, you are doing it just right.

Next line up the basin with the holes and tighten the screws through the appropriate holes in the copper reservoir

Mounting the Artwork

If you examine the back of the fountain (the piece with the art on it), then you will see two “D” rings or hanging brackets high, one on either side.

Get a second pair of hands to help you with this step. Gently lower the artwork in to the basin. The

art work fits an inch or two inside the basin.(This allows a range of between 47” and 49” for the total height of the fountain. Do not rest or hang the artwork so that it touches the bottom of the basin. With one person stabilizing the piece, have the other person make a light pencil mark to determine where anchors will be mounted

With the line marked, set the fountain aside for the moment. Again, taking a level, make sure that the line is level. Then mark the spots where the anchors will be drilled. As you did with the basin, make a small hole in the wall, and tap in the plastic anchor. Then screw in the long silver screws that are supplied. Test the two screws to make sure they are firmly attached to the wall.

Once you are sure that the screws are secure, grab that second pair of hands and together lift the artwork up against the wall and gently slide it down until the “D” rings are hanging securely on the screws. At this point, double check that both the art work and the basin are hanging securely.

Plumbing and Electrics

The hard part is done now. You will see a tube hanging down from the art work with a copper tube slid into it. This slides onto the tube from the fountain pump.

LIGHTS

If you didn't order lights, just skip this section. If you did order lights, there are two configurations:

LED backlighting looks like tiny fireflies or stars from the front. They are very effective mood lighting.

If you ordered the LED backlights, you will see the cord hanging down from the artwork as well. The cord is short. This is done by design so that the cord won't accidentally slip into the water.

Light Hood: The light hood is a copper fascia up at the top of the fountain which houses down-wash light(s).

With the electrics, make sure that they plug in to a GFI (ground-fault interrupter). You can buy one of these at any hardware store for around \$10. This is a safety precaution. Many of our clients even have electricians install recessed outlets behind the fountain. If you plan on doing this, a good rule of thumb is to have it at least 18" up from the bottom of the fountain, and at the center-point of the artwork. Note that this isn't mandatory, but it does hide all of the cords quite well. It is best if the outlet can be controlled from a switch somewhere else in the room.

With all of the plugs plugged in, and the outlet off, get a bucket and *slowly* fill the basin with water. Fill the basin enough so that the pump is under water. It isn't necessary or desirable to fill it all the way to the top.

As a side-note, each pump has either a grill or a tube where the water is pulled in. **The grill should be on the bottom.** This has to be under water. If after a time, you hear a sucking sound from the pump, that means that the water is evaporating, and you need to add some more water.



While your fountain is low maintenance, adding water is something that you will have to do from time to time.

Turning it On

When you turn on the fountain, the water may not flow at first. This is not uncommon. You may have to prime the pump which means that you have to turn the switch on and off four or five times in quick succession to blow out any air in the line.

Adjusting the Flow:

If you have a fountain that is 30" across or narrower, you have our single feed system.

Our standard configuration for fountains 30" or narrower uses a PVC pipe that goes from the side of the fountain to the center.

It appears quite simple at first, but it is the result of over 40 variations to achieve the maximum "sheeting flow" to the water.

Once it's "tuned" it should require little or no maintenance thereafter. We pre-tune them at the studio but in the process of shipping it may need a little adjustment at first.

It's a simple process, and takes longer to explain than to do, but...small adjustments can create major changes in the flow. Take it slowly and conservatively.

After you have installed the fountain as per the instructions on the sheet and filled it up with water, remove the copper visor. Now, plug in the fountain. (It may be helpful to have a second person controlling the on and off.) As soon as you power up the fountain, you will see the water coming out of the PVC elbow at the top of the fountain.

Using a pair of pliers, grasp the elbow and twist it either up towards the sky, or down towards the ground...but just a little at a time.

The higher the tube goes, the more the water will sheet across the whole fountain, but if you go too high... there is a potential for splashing.

Going the opposite way, if you turn the elbow so it is facing more towards the ground, it will be a weaker flow and have less coverage. Again, these are the two extremes. So with the pliers in hand, make small adjustments to the angle of the PVC elbow against the artwork until you find a speed and a flow that you like. When that is finished, put the copper visor back on, and you are done! We include a white restrictor clamp on this fountain, but normally it is not needed with this type of flow.

Feeder Tube Adjustment for Wider Fountains:

The long white feeder tube at the top of the fountain is where all the “action” takes place. There are a number of holes from which the water flows, and this tube is pre-adjusted prior to shipping.

Once you have the fountain installed and filled-up, it's time to test it out. Plug it in, but if it's been jarred in shipping, be prepared to unplug so you can adjust.

The adjusting is simple: With the fountain installed, loosen the screws that hold the feeder tube at the top. Start the fountain and observe which holes are splashing. Using a pliers, gently rotate the feeder tube (usually downwards) until the water stops splashing. The water should hit the surface of the Lexan at a slight angle downwards. Once you have it the way you like it, re-tighten the screws.



Once the water is flowing, inspect it carefully. Beneath the artwork is a white restrictor clamp on the vinyl tube. This controls the rate of flow for the water. In the wide open position, you will get a fast, loud flow, but the trade off is the possibility of an occasional splash. Clicked down, you will get a slower, quieter flow. Most adjustments will be made with only with this adjustment.

Checking the flow

We pretest each fountain before it leaves our studio, but occasionally during shipping things can jostle and need readjustment. If you see dripping from the top of the fountain, this is quite easily fixed. Remove the copper visor and you will see a white tube where the water comes from. If the water is dribbling over the top of the white tube,

gently grasp the tubing with pliers and twist the tube downward until the dribbling stops. Once you have the flow the way you want it, replace the visor.

Trouble Shooting

Some of you might have hard water. Over time you might get white deposits on the fountain. Turn it off and spray CLR on the fountain and gently wipe off with a soft pre-moistened towel.

Splashing: If your fountain is splashing, you may have to re-adjust the volume of water with the white restrictor clamp. Also the amount of water in the reservoir plays a factor. Less water in the reservoir gives greater sound...because the water falls farther before it hits the surface of the water in the reservoir. If necessary, the holes in the tube can be cleared with a pipe cleaner.



Maintaining the copper parts: Each of these fountains is made by hand, not by machine and each one is meant to have an *old world* look. We deliberately buff, distress, and dip each piece in patina chemicals to give it this charm. The best thing you can do for the copper is give it an occasional wipe-down with *Pledge* or some *Old English Dark Walnut Furniture Oil*.

If you have any further questions, please email us at: harveygallery64@gmail.com