



VL-Whisper



Potter's Wheel



Instruction Manual



Thank you for your purchase of the VL-Whisper Potter's wheel. This manual is provided for you to enjoy throwing clay safely, describing how to use the VL-Whisper and giving several warnings for safe operation. Please read this manual before you start using the wheel and keep it near the wheel for your reference.

Problem solving



Problem 1: Wheelhead does not turn

Make sure the power cable is plugged in the outlet.
 Make sure the foot pedal switch is connected.
 Make sure the pedal is stamped back in the way before restricting power on.

Make sure the foot pedal is not overloaded.
 Make sure the electric motor is not turned off.

Problem 2: Unusual noise from the wheel

Is the wheel placed on a sticky and flat surface?
 Is the wheelhead overloaded?
 Are all three legs firmly fastened with the wheel?
 Is the wheel placed in the center of the wheelhead?

Is the wheelhead overloaded?
 This wheel has a safety sensor for high temperature.
 Turn the power switch off and on to reset the wheel.
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Problem 3: The wheelhead stopped suddenly

Did you push the wheelhead too fast with the foot pedal?
 Did you run the wheel for long hours with full load of clay?
 Is power switch off?
 Is power cable unplugged?

Turn power switch off and on to reset the wheel.
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Problem 4: Can not change the turning direction

Did the change direction switch and the wheelhead was set correctly?

Change the direction switch after the wheelhead is turned completely.

* Please contact the dealer if you still can not solve the problem.

| Model | Power | Weight | Dimensions |
|---------|-------|--------|---------------|
| VL-1000 | 100W | 10kg | 400x200x150mm |
| VL-1500 | 150W | 15kg | 450x250x150mm |
| VL-2000 | 200W | 20kg | 500x300x150mm |
| VL-2500 | 250W | 25kg | 550x350x150mm |
| VL-3000 | 300W | 30kg | 600x400x150mm |
| VL-3500 | 350W | 35kg | 650x450x150mm |
| VL-4000 | 400W | 40kg | 700x500x150mm |
| VL-4500 | 450W | 45kg | 750x550x150mm |
| VL-5000 | 500W | 50kg | 800x600x150mm |

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VL-White
 Specialized

Problem solving • • •

Symptom

Wheelhead does not turn

Possible cause

- Make sure the power cable is plugged in AC outlet.
- Make sure the foot pedal cable is connected.
- Make sure the pedal is stepped back all the way before switching power on.

Possible cause

- Make sure the AC outlet is not overloaded.
- Make sure the electric breaker is not turned off.

Symptom

Unusual noise from the wheel

Possible cause

- Is the wheel placed on a stable and flat surface ?
- Is the wheelhead overloaded ?
- Are all three legs firmly fastened with bolts ?
- Is clay placed in the center of the wheelhead ?

Action

- ▶ Place the wheel on the flat and solid floor.
- ▶ This wheel has a sensor to detect an overload. Reduce the amount of clay.
- ▶ Tight bolts on each leg using allen wrench.
- ▶ Off center clay placement creates vibration and noise. Replace the clay in the center of the turntable.

Symptom

The wheelhead stopped suddenly

Possible cause

- Did you step the pedal too fast with full load of clay ?
- Did you run the wheel for long hours with full load of clay ?
- Is power cable unplugged ?
- Is power switch off ?

Action

- ▶ This wheel has a safety sensor for over load. Turn power switch off and on to reset the wheel.
- ▶ This wheel has a safety sensor for high temperatures. Turn the power switch off and cool the wheel down for a while.
- ▶ Make sure the power cable is plugged into AC outlet.
- ▶ Turn the power switch on. Contact the dealer if the power shuts down again.

Symptom

Can not change the turning direction

Possible cause

- Did you change direction switch while the wheelhead was still running ?

Action

- ▶ Change the direction switch after the wheelhead is stopped completely.

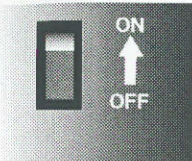
※ Please contact the dealer or Shimpo America if you still can not solve the problem.

VL-Whisper Specifications

| Model | VL-Whisper |
|--------------------------|--|
| Motor | 400 W AC 115 V |
| Wheelhead rotation speed | 60 Hz : 0 ~ 250rpm |
| Drive system | Direct drive motor |
| Speed adjustment | Foot pedal |
| Wheelhead direction | Clockwise and counter clockwise by selector switch |
| Banding wheel function | Free wheelhead at stop position |
| Wheelhead diameter | Aluminum diecast diameter 14inch |
| Dimension | 23 1/8 × 27 1/2 × 22 3/4 max height |
| Weight | 42.5 kg (93 lb.) |

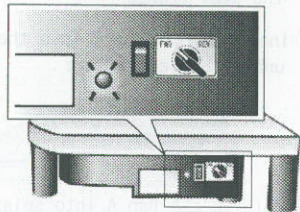
Operation Starting and Stopping

Start



① Turn the power switch on

② The power indicator lights up.

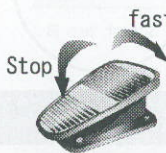


③ Set the turntable direction.



FWD . . . Clock wise

REV . . . Counter clock wise

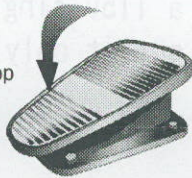


④ Step the pedal forward from the stop position to increase speed. Step backward to reduce speed.

Stop

① Step the pedal all the way back to stop wheelhead.

Stop

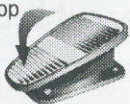


② Turn the power switch off.

Operation Switching Directions

*Never change wheelhead direction while wheelhead is moving.

Stop



① Stop the wheelhead by stepping foot pedal all way back.

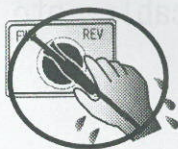
② Change the selector for opposite direction.



Operation Warning



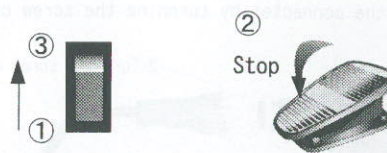
Step the pedal all the way back before turning the power switch off.



Do not operate any switches with wet hand.

Operation Power Switch

The power switch has two functions. One is to turn wheel on and off. The other is a reset function. This wheel has a safety feature for over load. In order to reset, operator must switch off and on again. (Don't forget to step the pedal all the way down before turning switch back on.)



Maintenance



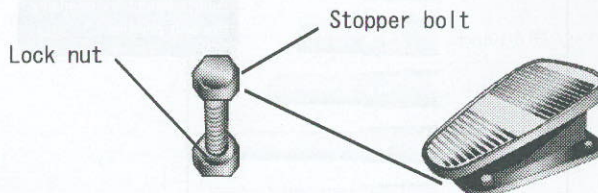
Turn the power switch off and unplug the power cable for cleaning, testing or adjustment. (It is recommended to do the same if the wheel will not be in use for a long period.)



DO NOT POUR WATER ON THE WHEEL TO CLEAN IT. Wipe the wheel down with a damp sponge or cloth. (Splash pan can be saturated if it is removed from the wheel.)

Foot Pedal Replacement

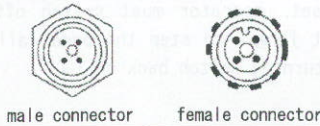
Using the wrench provided, loosen the stopper bolt if the wheelhead does not start after replacing the foot pedal.



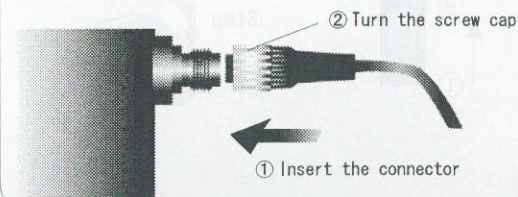
Foot Pedal Installation

** Please unplug power cable before starting

- ① Insert the female connector to the male connector after positioned correctly.



- ② Fasten the connector by turning the screw cap.

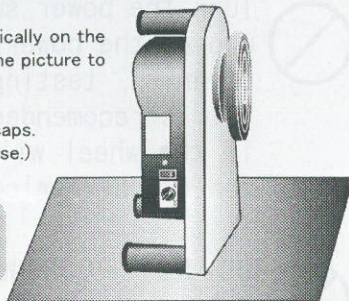


Leg Installation

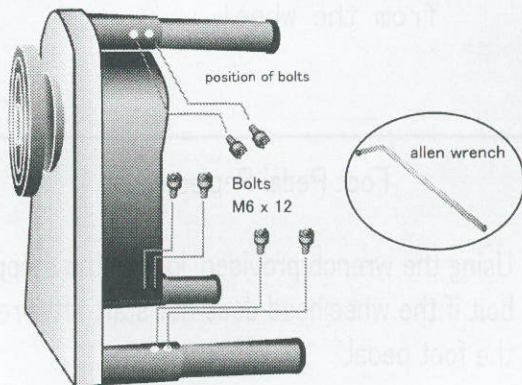
- ① Place the wheel vertically on the carpet as displayed in the picture to the right.

- ② Remove the rubber caps. (keep those for future use.)

Caution: Wheel is not stable standing vertically.



- ③ Insert the leg as the drawing illustrates. Adjust the height evenly on all three legs. Tighten bolts with allen wrench.



■ 5 different height adjustments

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 11 2/5inch | |
| 18 3/10inch | |
| 19 1/2inch | |
| 20 3/5inch | |
| 21 4/5inch | |

Adjust height by changing the bolt position.

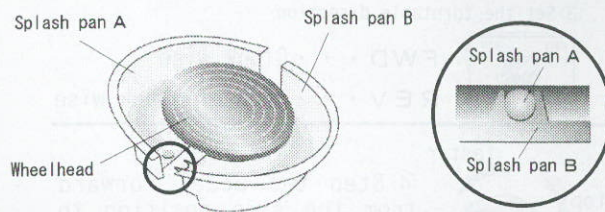
- ④ Place the wheel horizontally after tightening the bolts.

Splash Pan Installation

- ① Insert splash pan A into the groove under the seal fringe.
- ② Insert splash pan B into the groove under the seal fringe.

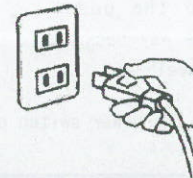


- ③ Join splash pan A into splash B

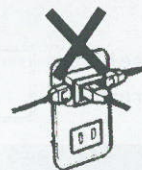


Power connection

- ⊘ Connect the power cable to a 115v single phase AC power outlet only.



- ⊘ Do not connect many power cables to the same outlet.




May cause fire by exceeding outlet capacity.

- ⊘ Make sure the power switch is off when you plug the power cable into the AC outlet.

 Do not move or hold the wheel while power is on.

The wheel cabinet may start turning and your hand may be caught between the wheelhead and the enclosure.

 Be careful of loose fitting clothing and long hair.

May catch in clay or wheelhead causing damage or injury.


 Caution

 Do not lift the wheel by the wheelhead.

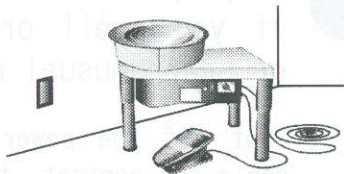
May cause damage or injury.


 Be careful of jewelry and long nails.

Jewelry may catch in equipment and cause damage or injury. Nails may be broken.

 Place the wheel on a flat, horizontal surface.

It may cause a vibration if the placement is not level.




 Do not remove the bolts for installation of the ball mill rack.

Water may reach the circuit board and cause damage to the product.

 Do not remove the bottom cover.

There are electrical parts which need to be protected from hands, water and other materials.

 Do not place a TV, radio, or an antenna too close to the wheel.

It may cause noise and picture distortion.

 **Danger**



Do not use the wheel other than for throwing clay.

This product is designed for the creation of ceramic art.



Do not place any items, other than ceramic materials, on the wheelhead.

Water buckets and tools should be placed on the attached workspace.



Repair and modification by user are prohibited.

May cause electrocution or injury.



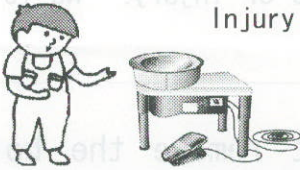
Do not insert hands or objects into openings or moving parts.

May cause electrocution or injury.



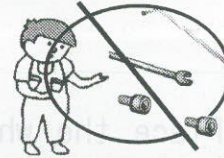
Do not leave children unattended near wheel.

Injury may occur



Keep tools and small parts out of the reach of children.

May cause injury.



This product may be harmful to a person who has a pacemaker. Serious injury or death could occur. Consult a physician before using.



Stop operation of the wheel if you smell or see smoke or hear unusual noises.

Shut off the power, unplug power cable and contact the Shimpo dealer or Shimpo America.

 **Warning**



Handle with extreme care when moving or lifting, wheel weighs

Serious injury can occur if moving or lifting is done improperly.



Do not plug into or unplug from AC outlet with wet hands.



May cause electrocution.



Contents Included

★ Make sure all parts and tools are included.

● Tools :

5 mm Allen Wrench-1Pc



4 X 5 Wrench-1Pc



Bolts for extension legs-6 Pcs



Extension Legs-3 Pcs w/rubber caps

● Parts:

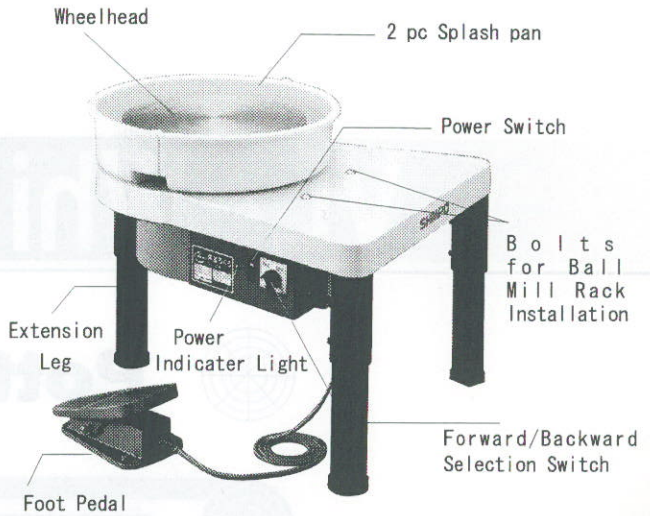


Splash pan-1 pair



Foot Pedal

Parts Description



[Warning] Please start to use the wheel only after you understand the safety information and functions of the equipment.

● This instruction manual provides three grades of warnings as follows. Please follow these instructions carefully.



Danger

Danger marking indicates a possible death, severe injury or fire if the user disregards the warning.



Warning

Warning marking indicates the possibility of a severe injury if the user does not follow the instructions.



Caution

Caution marking indicates the possibility of light injury or damages if user operates the wheel improperly.

Extremely important markings to pay attention to:



Warning. Pay Close Attention



Do Not



Please Follow Instruction

Shimpo will not indemnify any damages or loss caused by improper operation due to the lack of following the instruction manual, natural disaster, fire, or users' abuse or negligence.