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Onan 4000 generator owners manual

Camping in a travel trailer is meant to make camping a little more easygoing, and having a generator along with your travel trailer makes things a whole lot easier. When your generator is built into your rig, you don't have to worry about lugging along any extra weight or going outside to start things up. I did some research about which travel trailers have built in generators and which ones do not. So, do travel trailers have built in generators? Many types of campers, such as travel trailers and hybrid trailers, don't come with a built-in generator. That being said, you may be able to find one used that someone has put into their travel trailer, and they do make some very high-end models that have generators built in. Before you buy, get all the information possible about your RV and generator to ensure that your family fun goes uninterrupted by unexpected problems with your RV. Check the following parameters to make sure that your RV generator fits the bill. Otherwise, you will likely feel gipped out of your money. RVs With Built-In Generators In your search for the most convenient RV that provides a built-in, reliable generator, one must consider the many makes and models of the RV world. Generally, motorhomes are your best bet at having the most convenient camping experience and are always carrying a generator. Plus, with this particular type of RV, the whole family can enjoy the ride to their favorite camping destination while enjoying the comforts of home; such as watching TV and turning up the air conditioning. The majority of all new motorhomes are required to have a generator to power A/C and microwaves. Whether you are interested in super Class C motorhomes, Class B motorhomes, or even small motorhomes, these RVs are a safe choice. Other RVs that often include built-in generators are truck campers, toy haulers, and fifth-wheels. Depending on how recent these RVs were made, you can be sure they have a built-in generator for your convenience. Make sure with your local RV dealer that your specific model has one installed before buying. There are many brands and makes of RV's out there, and not all of them include a built-in generator. Some of the most popular campers that include generators are: Wolf Creek 850 by Northwood Mfg; uses a 2.5 KW Onan generator. Starting price: \$30,000 here2018 Forest River Xlr Boost 37TSX13; uses a 5.5 KW Onan Generator. Starting price: \$64,862 here2019 FOREST RIVER SUNSEEKER 3050S; uses a 4.0 KW Onan Microquiet generator. Starting price: \$103,215 here2018 Forest River Xlr Thunderbolt 413AMP; Uses a 5.5 KW Onan CARB EVAP Generator. Starting price:\$112,054 here Although not all campers have a built-in generator and not all RV owners want a built-in generator, it is a nice backup to have. I can't tell you how many times I have been thankful for a generator to turn on my camper lights late at night when I hear some strange scratching noises (by the way, it was a raccoon!). A generator rarely raises the selling price of a camper or RV much higher than what you are willing to pay. Once you find a camper that is within your budget, finding a similar camper with a built-in generator that is also in your budget is going to be a cinch. In fact, finding a similar camper with a built-in generator might actually end up being cheaper than buying an additional generator. Another great question on the mind of many happy campers like you in pursuit of a stellar camper with a built-in generator would be how would we know whether or not this particular generator can take care of all my electronic needs while at camp or on the road? The answer is simple, take a look around the cabin and add up the necessary wattage to power your many appliances and then compare it to the general output level of the generator. The wattage output is displayed on the generator itself and on the box for many occasions. Make sure that the wattage output is higher than the needed output to fit your needs to give yourself some room to add another appliance or two to your list. For example, when looking into the amount of wattage necessary to power your appliances, and overall your RV requires around 3.5 KW of power, it would be a very wise choice to purchase one that produces 4 KW. Don't be frugal when buying a quality generator. A good generator truly pays for itself. You can power phone chargers, blenders, ovens and pretty much anything that plugs into a wall outlet. Buying a quality generator ensures that you are going to have a reliable and long lasting generator for the duration of your ownership of the RV or travel trailer. I would recommend visiting Amazon.com for RV generators or visiting your local RV dealership for their professional advice. Getting advice from an expert is always advisable when looking into buying a generator if your RV or travel trailer doesn't already come with one. They will know the wattage that you need and will find the best fit for your rig. If you're lucky, your local dealership might be able to find you a deal or discount as well. The most common issue buyers run into when they choose to buy a generator that doesn't fit the amount of wattage output necessary to fully power all their household appliances and AC, leaving them without the comforts of their home away from home. How to Pick Your Generator How will you know what the right RV generator is for you? There are more generators to choose from that none can count. Thought all generators perform the same purpose, charging your batteries, powering appliances, etc. not all generator are created equally. It's time to talk about fuel purposes. The obvious choice for buying a generator that comes built-in to the RV is the safest. Propane generators provide the most benefits and are reliable beyond measure. This Eco-friendly alternative, unlike gasoline and diesel, is meant to last longer on the shelves; making storage a breeze. You will practically never have to worry about your propane going bad when not in use. Gasoline has been known to last 6 months in storage, while diesel lasts anywhere from 10-12 months on the shelf, without use. Propane, on the other hand, is meant to last indefinitely. If you plan on leaving your RV at the camping grounds year-round, propane would be the smart choice for your RV. Plus, propane generators are known to be quieter, making your family vacation your time to sit in the peace and quiet. However, if you are looking for a fuel that packs a punch and can satisfy all your power needs gasoline and diesel generators are going to be your best bet. Diesel and gasoline generators tend to be much louder. Between the two, gasoline tends to be more economical for the buyer; with gasoline being completely accessible on practically every block in the U.S.A. If you are looking for a generator with the highest wattage output, look into an RV with a diesel generator. These beasts are meant to pack the biggest punch where needed. Often larger than other generators, diesel generators weigh quite a bit so pay attention to the amount of weight your RV is built to carry. Though often heavier, more expensive, and louder, they will deliver where needed and then some. Here are the top choices for the three fuel categories: Related Questions: Are generators dangerous? Because generators utilize flammable fuel to generate electricity, they present a fire hazard and can be dangerous. Make sure to get professional help in installing it, and keep fire sources at least 20 yards away from the generator. Should I buy a backup generator for my RV? A backup generator is not needed for your RV. Built-in generators are built to last and are reliable as long as proper maintenance is performed semi-annually. However, I would recommend bringing spare fuel just in case you get into a bind. Can I run a generator while on the road? Most generators can be used while driving, but check the owners manual before using your RV to specify what appliances can and cannot be used while on the open road. The most common appliances available while en route to your destination are televisions, indoor lights, air conditioning, etc. Are you looking for the best oil for portable generator?In fact, the right oils for generators are the same synthetic motor oils you use for your car.Any good quality synthetic 5W-30 oil will be a good choice for your generator.Taking this into consideration, we think that Castrol 03084 EDGE 5W-30 is the best fit for most generators. It is one of the best performing synthetic oils suitable for car and generator engines.Keep reading if you want to learn more about what makes some oils better than others and how to choose the right oil for your generator engine.How to Choose the Right Oil for a GeneratorWhen buying oil for your portable generator you should take into account a few important considerations. Follow these steps to get a better idea of what exact kind of oil you need.1. Read the ManualThis is the first and probably the best step you can make before purchasing oil for your generator. Every portable generator comes with the user's guide. The manual section of this guide about generator maintenance should mention what exact kind of oil does your generator engine need.2. Determine the engine typeDifferent engine types demand different types of oil. The good news is that the vast majority of generators are equipped with 4-stroke engines making the choice easier. You won't find many generators with 2-stroke engines.The most common oil used with 4-stroke engines found in generators, lawnmowers, and other related equipment is SAE 30. You can also go for its synthetic variations such as SAE 5W-30 and SAE 10W-30.3. Operating temperatureThis are the criteria you should take into account if you are planning to run a generator out in the cold. Certain types of oil are specifically designed to be used in extreme temperatures. Then there are oil types that generally support a wider range of temps. One such oil is SAE 5W-30 which is suitable for engines exposed to as low as -20F. Conversely, 5W-30 is also good for higher ranges of up to 100 degrees.4. Check the ViscosityTalking about temperatures, this is the exact oil feature that determines how suitable the certain oil type is for cold weather. It represents the fuel's resistance to flow. You can easily find out the viscosity by simply looking at the name of the oil.The first number before the letter "W" (as in "winter") is the viscosity at 0 Fahrenheit. The second number represents the value at 212F.Generally speaking, for hot temperatures the higher the second number is, the better. It means that the oil is thicker and provides enhanced lubrication for the moving parts of the engine.On the other hand, if you are primarily intending to use the generator in the cold surroundings then you should pay close attention to the first number. That's why as we've mentioned before, the SAE 5W-30 is a better choice for sub-zero temperatures.5. Stick to reputable brandsYou should only buy oil manufactured by trusted companies. These should be approved by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). Some of the most reputable names include Castrol, Shell, Generac, and Schaeffer. Check out the listings on Amazon to ensure you only buy the quality oil with good reviews.Our Selection of Best Oils for Generators1. Castrol 03084 EDGE 5W-30 Advanced Full Synthetic Motor OilCastrol 03084 EDGE is a premium full synthetic motor oil made to be used under high pressure. It's one of the best synthetic oils available on the market. It performs very well in extreme temperatures, significantly reducing friction between moving parts of the generator engine. It has all required certifications issued by American and international automotive regulation bodies including API SN, ILSAC GF-5, ACEA A1/B1, A5/B5 etc. Its design incorporates fluid titanium technology which has a positive physical impact on how the oil reacts to the highest pressure. Overall, this is one of the most popular motor oils in the market and IMHO is the best choice for portable generators. Check Latest Price2. Shell Rotella 550045348 T5 15W-40Shell is a very reputable automotive brand manufacturing highest quality fuels and engine oils. Rotella is a very durable and robust engine oil, performing on average 37% better than the max wear requirements stipulated by API CK-4 tests. It features a Triple Protection Plus technology which further helps minimize friction inside an engine. It also offers additional protection against oil breakdown. Overall this is one of the top-performing engine oils suitable for a typical 4 cc generator motor. Check Latest Price3. Pennzoil Ultra Platinum Full Synthetic Motor Oil 5W-20Pennzoil produces high-quality synthetic oils suitable for lower temperatures. It can easily handle temperatures as low as -13 degrees Fahrenheit. It usually performs very well in the whole variety of tests. It has a SN/GF-5 certification. This oil is also known for providing the additional layer of protection to the engine parts, significantly enhancing their lifetime. It comes highly recommended to all portable generator owners. Check Latest Price4. Generac Full Synthetic Motor Oil 5W-30 SNGenerac is the name very well known in the generator industry. Their generators, both standby, and portable, are among the most popular on the American market. Therefore it doesn't come as a surprise that the Generac motor oil is also a very good choice to use along with portable generators. It is specifically designed to work within the wide temperature range, from subzero freeze to tropical heat. You can also use it with the standby generators (not only the Generac ones). Bear in mind though that if you want to use it with larger generators you should stock larger quantities in advance (the same can be said about other oils). One quart is certainly not going to be enough to run a whole house generator for a long time. Check Latest Price5. Schaeffer 9003D-012S Supreme 9000SSchaeffer is another very trusted brand in the automotive industry. The motor oil released by this reputable manufacturer performs flawlessly in different settings including the below-freezing temperatures. It is blended with friction modifiers that give better protection against scuffing or abrasion. It is also GM dexos-1 compliant. As long as you follow the instructions provided by your generator manufacturer and apply this oil on a regular basis, you can expect it to preserve your generator motor for years to come. Check Latest Price The following manuals are Onan manuals that are useful for finding and ordering parts for your MEP002A or MEP003A. Note that DJE = the Onan engine used in the MEP002A and DJF = the Onan engine used in the MEP003A. It's an independent life. That is what they say about life as an RV owner or user. One way to stay independent is to make sure you have your own power source. Then learning how to maintain that power source helps keep you independent and freeWhat Oil Does my Onan Generator Use? The best oil you can use for your new Onan generator would be a SAE 30W viscosity oil. At best you would probably need to use 1.6 quarts to fill the oil tank.To get all the facts about maintaining your Onan generator just continue to read our article. The facts help make your Onan generator last along time.Onan Generator Oil Recommendation (viscosity) All the word viscosity refers to is the measure used to determine the oil's resistance to flow. The first number refers to the oil's resistance to flow and the second to its thickness. The lower the number the thinner the oilA good SAE 30 W oil would do the trick for your Onan generator. The brand is not as important as the viscosity levels. You may want to check your owner's manual to see what recommendations they make.Onan 4000 Generator Oil Type The type of oil you should use depends a lot on the outside temperature in the area you are running it in. For those areas that are 32 degrees F and higher, you can get away with using a 30W oil.For lower temperatures, you can drop to a 15W40, a 10W30 or 10W40 and for extremely low temperatures, you should use a 5W30. All of these oil levels are SAE rated.How Much Oil Does an Onan 4000 Generator Take When it is time to do an oil change on your Onan 4000 generator, you will not need to buy a lot of oil. The generator only takes 1.6 quarts of oil. YOU can get away with buying only 2 quarts unless you need extra oil lying around your RV for other duties.Onan 5500 Generator Oil TypeOnan recommends that you use a 10W40 oil viscosity when changing the oil in your 5500 generator. That is if the area temperatures range from very mild to hot. Also, the oil should be very diesel specific if it is a diesel powered generator. If it is a gas powered one then any oil at that level will do.Some generator users have been able to use Mobil1 20-50 Synthetic Oil and received good results.Onan 5500 Generator Oil CapacityThe oil tank size for this model of Onan generators is 2 quarts. That is about half the size of most modern small cars. When you do your oil change, you should not have any left over oil taking up storage space.Does an Onan Generator Have an Oil Filter Yes it does. When the time comes to change it, you will need a special oil filter cup wrench to get the old filter off and the new one on. As you remove the old oil filter, make sure to check to see if the gasket came off with it. If it didn't, you will need to remove it yourself.Here are the filters you should use Onan 122-0836, NAPA 7398, WIX 57398. Double check your owners manual to make sure your engine type doe snot take a different one than those listed.The Microquiet 4000 does not come with an oil filter while other models in its class do.Onan Generator Oil ConsumptionGenerators are not big on preserving oil. Depending on the year, make and model of your generator you can use up about 1 quart every 50 hours of operation.Some models will only use about 1/2 quart every 75 hours.If the oil is too thin, then expect to burn a little more over those same time frames.Onan Generator Oil Change Frequency (4000, 5500)Different generator models have different oil change deadlines. Some generator users were able to go over 500 hours using synthetic oil and did not make a change. But it is recommended that for the 4000 model, you should change the oil every 100 hours or so.For the 5500 model, that time limit is extended to 150 hours. To be exact, you should check your owners manual and see what the manufacturer says.How to Change Onan Generator OilChanging the oil on an Onan generator is not the same as changing the oil on your car. There are some differences. Here are the basic steps to follow: First, run the generator for a brief period of time to warm up the oil Next, urn the generator off and remove the green cover over the drain plugThird, use a 9/16 socket to remove the drain plugThen, let the oil drain into an oil pan. If your generator has an oil filter,yo need to remove it at this time and replace it with a new oneOnce the oil is out, put a little sealant on the plug and screw it back inJust do not over tighten itFinally, remove the oil cover and replace the oil. Check to see that you do not over fill the oil tank Onan Generator Oil Smells Like GasOne possible origin of this problem is that gas has gotten into the oil somehow. When this happens it could be that you have a carburetor problem. The carburetor is probably plugged by varnish.When gas ages, it tends to turn into varnish and will clog up the lines in the carburetor blocking the newer gas from getting through. When gas sits for a while this process starts and using fuel additives will only slow it downSome Final CommentsHaving a generator with you when you use your RV is a great idea. They help save your batteries, keep you powered up and can take the load off when you do not have any electrical plug-ins.Maintaining your Onan generator is important and as you can see, there is not that much to maintaining your model. The oil changes go quickly and all you need to do is learn which oil to use in which temperature zone.

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