

## Assembly of Variable Capacity Tank

Caution: **FIRE DANGER.** Do NOT store open top tanks in direct sunlight. Paper may catch on fire and plastics may melt when the tank is placed in direct sunlight.

There are six components of a floating lid: stainless steel lid, vent, inflatable gasket, soft vinyl tubing, screw clamps and air pump. Assembly of the lid is very simple and is similar to installing a tube on a bike tire.

1. Install the inflatable gasket on the lid. Put the gasket stem through the small hole in the lid lip and stretch the gasket around the lid. The gasket will be very tight when first applied. This is normal. The gasket stretches upon inflation. To make assembly easier, simply attach the gasket to the pump and inflate/deflate once or twice before attaching the gasket to the lid.
2. Install the vent.
3. Attach the air pump to the gasket using the vinyl tubing and screw clamps.
4. Inflate the gasket and check for leaks at the connections of tubing/gasket and tubing/pump. Use either soapy water (2 parts water/1 part dish soap) or immerse in water if possible.
- 5. The vast majority of leaks are at the connection of the vinyl tubing/gasket or pump/vinyl tubing. The leak can result from either under-tightening or over-tightening of the screw clamps. It is very rare for either the pump or the inflatable gasket to be defective.** It is advisable to annually cut the ends off the vinyl tubing or replace the vinyl tubing as it dries out and becomes less pliable.
6. Use Teflon tape to seal threaded connections (sample taps, thermowells, etc).
7. Fill tank with water initially to ensure all connections are sealed.
8. Install floating lid. Simply float the lid on the wine (like a boat) and inflate with gasket to make the seal. Inflate only to make a seal and never exceed 0.8 bar. The green zone on the gauge is the maximum pressure zone. Typically 0.5 bar is sufficient but it will depend on the tank size. Overinflation can result in one of two problems. 1)Forcing wine up through the air valve and 2)lid slips up the side of the tank.

### What to do if your gasket does not hold pressure.

It is quite rare to have either a defective inflatable gasket or air pump.

Find the leak by using soapy water or by immersing the gasket in water. **The vast majority of leaks are at the connection of the vinyl tubing to the gasket stem or to the pump.** Check these carefully.

Pump Note. The pump valve has three positions. The best way to understand it is to simply experiment with it. Fully-closed seals off the gasket from the pump, except for the gauge. Fully-open deflates the gasket. Partially-open is the position used to inflate the gasket.

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