

Mini & Midi Series Strata-vator™

Installation and Service

Please read this entire manual before installing your fountain.

Final Assembly Instructions

Pump assembly

(The Midi series requires some initial electrical assembly of its components. This is described in the instructions shipped with the unit.)

The curved portion of the float body is its top. Take the completed pump assembly and pass the threaded discharge end through the bottom of the float body. The nozzle is then screwed onto the pump assembly. The nozzle has left-hand threads, so you will use a counter-clockwise motion to thread it on the pump assembly. Hand-tighten only.

The completed nozzle and pump will now rest down into the molded top of the float body. Due to its larger float size the Midi series will accept three stainless bolts to hold the entire assembly together. These are shipped with the nozzle but are optional because of the weight of the pump assembly. The Mini does not use these bolts and they may be discarded.

Once assembled, either product series should be transported by hand. Especially with the Midi series this will reduce stress on the nozzle connection caused by the weight of the pump.

Lights

Light fixtures are attached to the float body using the brackets and stainless hardware provided. (With the Midi series the pointed end of the brackets attach to the float.)

Be careful in assembly or installation not to rest the weight of the unit on its light fixtures.

Safety

Your Oase floating fountain is designed to operate only with the UL listed ground fault (GFCI) protected command center shipped with the unit. Qualified personnel should perform the electrical installation of your unit. **An electrical disconnect means should be employed and locked-out** during installation, service, or removal of the fountain.

Your fountain has been designed and listed for decorative and aeration purposes only. It is not to be used in conjunction with swimming, boating, or other water activities.

Fountain Installation

The fountain is held in place with two or three ropes that may be attached to the shore or to anchors. The fountain electrical cable(s) are **never** to be used to move the unit in the water. Be sure at all times to keep the ends of the power cables out of the water –they should be tied to a permanent object on shore to prevent being accidentally pulled into the lake.

For most installations 1/8 inch nylon rope is sufficient.

Shore-line method

This approach should only be used if the fountain is in a private area where scoundrels will not molest the ropes. You will need excess rope length to be able to walk around the lake and pull the fountain into position. Be careful not to stress the electrical cables.

To make the ropes less visible it is possible to tie a brick or other moderate weight to the center of each rope span. This will submerge the rope and keep it out of view.

Anchor method

Note: Please wear a life vest while in the boat. An observer on shore will be helpful in helping you position the float in the lake.

Prepare three ropes of one and one half to two times your lake depth. These should be tied to suitable anchors such as single concrete half-block (one opening blocks or split blocks –full block are usually excessive).

The end of the first anchor rope should be attached to the tie point provided on the float body. This rope is used to tow the float into its final position. When the float is in position, the remaining two anchor ropes may be attached and dropped. The detail here is to paddle away from the float until the rope is taut and then gently release the block in the water.

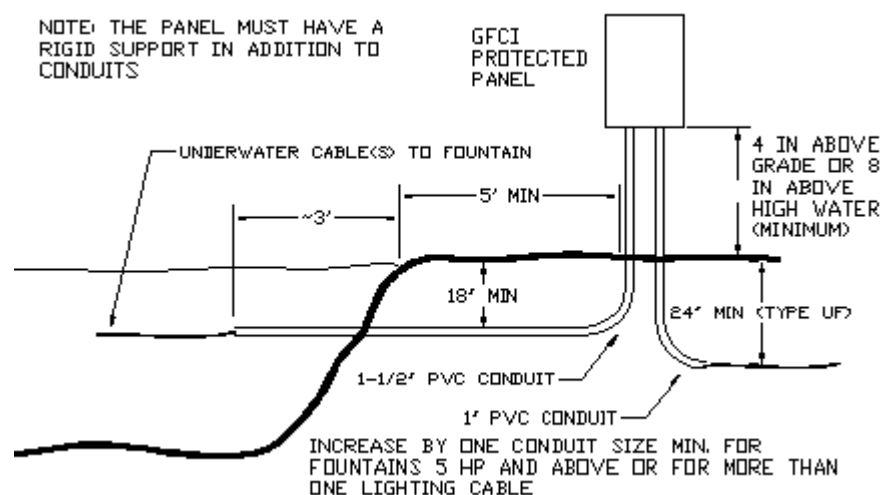
When you are done you will have a rope “tripod” that holds the float in place. The lines will be roughly one third of a circle (120°) apart. Rope tension should be such that the float is capable of some vertical movement to allow for changes in lake levels, but not so much slack that the float can spin in place and foul its anchor ropes and power cables.

Electrical Installation

Disclaimer: All electric installations must comply with the National Electric Code. Oase supplies this information for use by a qualified installer and is not responsible for direct or consequential damages arising from its use or application.

Your GFCI protected command center should be mounted near shore to ease installation of the GFCI protected cable between it and the fountain. If you have a gnawing problem with turtles or muskrats, loose lengths of conduit may be slid over the pump and light cables to protect them

A conduit sleeve from the pond to your GFCI panel allows the cables to be pulled into place and attached. This sleeve is typically 1-1/4" for single cables (fountains without lights) or 1-1/2" and up for fountains with multiple cables. Be generous with the diameter, because a few years down the road when the conduit is filled with mud you may need to pull the cable back out.



The method above is superior to running the cable directly from the command center over the bank as it allows mowing and trimming without concern.

Be sure to tape off the ends of the power cables before pulling them up the conduit sleeve. This will keep the cable filler dry during the process and reduce the opportunity for GFCI problems. The outer jacket of the cable is what makes the cable waterproof and should not be stripped back or broken until it is above water and enters the command center.

Wire the cables according to the command center instructions. The green wire must be properly grounded for the GFCI protection to be effective. The white wire is a neutral only on 120V light circuits and ½ hp pumps. It otherwise may be a 230V hot leg on two wire pumps or a starting/running winding common on pumps with a Franklin motor starter. Read carefully.

Make sure you have suitable help for the unit you are installing. Be careful not to damage the pump assembly or cables when putting the unit in the water.

Maintenance

Important: Use and lock out your electrical disconnect before servicing the fountain.

Until you become familiar with the cleaning needs of your fountain it should be inspected regularly. When your new fountain is installed make note of its spray pattern size. Although regular inspection should prevent the need for this approach, any reduction in size points to a clogged filter and should be addressed immediately.

The cleaning tool of choice is a stiff-bristled toilet brush. This may be used while the float is still in the water and should be used to clean both the intake screen and the light fixture lenses. After extended installation in lakes with substantial organic matter a pressure washer will make on-shore cleaning quick and effective.

Winter operation and storage

If it is desired to operate the fountain in moderate winter climates set the timer so that the unit runs continuously. The Strata-vator™ design draws water from well below the surface, however the pump impeller chamber is located near the top of the unit. A prolonged shut down may allow ice to form in the pump chamber and damage the impeller on start up.

Units removed from the water should preferably have the nozzle spun off so that the unit does not sit like a toppled letter "T." If stored outdoors, prevent water from collecting and freezing in the pump housing.

Relamping

Oase light fixtures use stainless 9/16" hex or Phillips heads bolts. These bolts are removed or tightened in a star pattern similar to the lug nuts on a car wheel. This provides uniform pressure on the gasket. Be sure the fixture is completely dry before reassembly.

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