

Changing Your Concrete Saw's Filter



Of the things you can do to prolong the life of your concrete saw, changing the filters is probably the most important. I've seen saw filters get so gummed up with dust that air ends up finding ways around the filter, bringing dust with it, burning up those hard-working 2-strokes.

We like to change ours twice per construction season, or according to hours of use (some saws aren't used as much as others and only need a filter change once per season). If you own a [Partner or similar concrete saw](#), the first filter will be an oil-impregnated adhesive filter. There might be a temptation to clean this filter out with gasoline and then just soak it in some 30-weight. Don't! That's not how the filter was designed to operate, and you'll just shorten the life of your saw. Pony up the few bucks for the new filter and be done with it.

The second filter is the more traditional accordion paper filter. This is also inexpensive, but I've been known to blow it out in a pinch, instead of replacing it. If you try the same, be sure you have your compressor gun on the inside of the filter, shooting out. Blowing from the outside can force dust particles into the paper and reduce the filter's ability to do its job, and can create a situation where

dirty air flows past a seal in the filter, instead of through the paper.



While I change filters, I also take a few minutes to disassemble the larger parts of the saw and give them a good cleaning, too. The cooling fan, starter assembly, engine cooling fins and throttle linkages all seem to accumulate a good deal of dust, and can cause problems later if not kept clean. If we were **running the concrete saws wet**, we'll take a little more time cleaning, as the dust will likely be hardened onto the body of the saw.

Take these simple steps to care for your concrete saws, and you may get seven or more years out of them, like we do from ours.

