Cool Tip #1

Did you ever find yourself tired from lifting up on your snow blower's handles so the front bucket will stay on the ground instead of riding up and over the snow? Some people add specially designed weights to the front bucket to keep it down, some add bags of sand or other "make shift" weight on top of the bucket….well, the first solution is expensive and the second is sloppy and not very efficient so here is a better alternative for you to consider:

Simple and inexpensive. All you need is:

- A piece of 4" PVC pipe w/end caps cut to the length of your front bucket. (appx $12.00)
- (2) 5" pipe or joint screw clamps to secure the pipe to the top of the bucket. (appx. $2.50)
- (2) ¾" flat head bolts & lock nuts (appx. $.0.50)
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-Total cost: $15.00

Just fill the pipe with wet sand, rocks, bolts/screws or whatever you want in order to add 10-15"lbs. of weight and attach the pvc pipe to the top of your snow blower's front bucket with the clamps and bolts/nuts. In fact, you can use the factory made bolt holes already on the top of the bucket for this purpose! For that finished look, paint the PVC tube to match your snow blower if you want. Adjust the weight inside the tube until you find the right amount for you and you are all done!

Cool Tip #2:

Do you ever find yourself fighting with your snow blower to move forward as the front scraper bar hits every bump in the way? Do you want to make it a bit easier? You can go out and buy "roller skid shoes" that are made just for this purpose and spend $30-$50 dollars on a pair, or you can easily make your own. A cheap pair of kid's roller skates work great because the poly or rubber wheels have sealed bearings and are the perfect size.

Cool Tip #3:

Our snow blower impeller kits are designed to enable your machine to throw snow farther while clogging up much less than they would otherwise, but there are two other things you can do to make snow blowing, and end-of-job cleanup easier. First, spray all of the inside and outside surfaces of your snow blower with **Teflon** spray available at any hardware store to keep snow from sticking to any surface. Not only will this also improve the snow throwing ability of your machine, but since snow won't stick to Teflon-coated surfaces, cleanup is a breeze! In a pinch, you can also use a cooking spray like PAM. **For longer lasting results, apply a high-quality polymeric car wax to the inside of the auger bucket, impeller chamber and discharge chute.**

Cool Tip #4:

When dealing with wet or slushy snow, you might notice better results if you keep the front augur & impeller spinning instead of starting and stopping them all of the time. Constant motion will also help prevent any wet snow from turning to ice while it sits in the augur bucket, impeller chamber or discharge chute. If you do this, **always remember that the augur and impellers are moving so do it safely and at your own risk!!! Keep hands/feet/objects/people away from the discharge chute and front auger!**

Cool Tip #5:

If you **keep your snow blower inside** when not in use, most likely the metal parts on it are warmer than the temperatures outside. This temperature difference will cause snow to partially melt as it comes in contact with the warmer metal parts, increasing the likelihood that it will to stick to those parts. Sticky snow on you impeller blades and front auger means more clogs and less throwing distance. Snow will be less likely to stick to your snow blower's auger and impeller blades if they are the same temperature, so it is a good idea to let your snow blower acclimate outside before you start to use it. 15 minutes should be enough time.

Cool Tip #6:

If you do get snow stuck in your front augers, Impeller blades or discharge chute, most people reach for whatever stick is handy to try to clean the snow out. If you don't have a clean-out tool, we have found that a big, long-handled wooden spoon (like the kind used to stir a pot of stew) works pretty well for this purpose and they are really inexpensive..

Cool Tip #7:

Don't Wait for it to Stop Snowing. If you're in for a huge snowfall, start clearing the snow before it reaches 6 in. Sure, you'll spend more time snow blowing, but your machine won't have to work as hard, and it'll throw the snow farther. That will reduce the height of the snowbanks flanking your driveway.

Cool Tip #8:

Throw it Far. Avoid throwing snow only partway off the driveway and then throwing it a second time. That just creates a heavier load for the blower. There are four ways to get the maximum throw: Take smaller bites of snow, run the blower at full rpm but at a slower ground speed, adjust the chute diverter to its full raised position and blow with the wind.

Cool Tip #9:

Take Smaller Bites to Avoid Clogs. When you get blasted with wet, heavy snow, Instead of making a full-width pass through the snow, manufacturers recommend taking smaller bites; about one-third to one-half the width of the machine. It's faster than slogging through a full path of heavy snow and it's easier on the machine. It's also a better snow-blowing technique that allows the machine to throw the snow farther.

Cool Tip #10:

Don't Forget Pre-season Maintenance. Get your snow blower ready for action by installing a new spark plug, changing the oil and checking the condition of the belts. Replace the belts if you see cracks, fraying or glazing or notice that chunks are missing. Buy Parts Before You Need Them. Belts and shear pins always break on a Sunday night in the middle of a blizzard. So buy replacement parts at the start of the season when everyone has them in stock.

We hope you have enjoyed our "Cool Tips"