Chameleon™

Retractable Hose System

Installation Instructions

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www.chameleonvac.com

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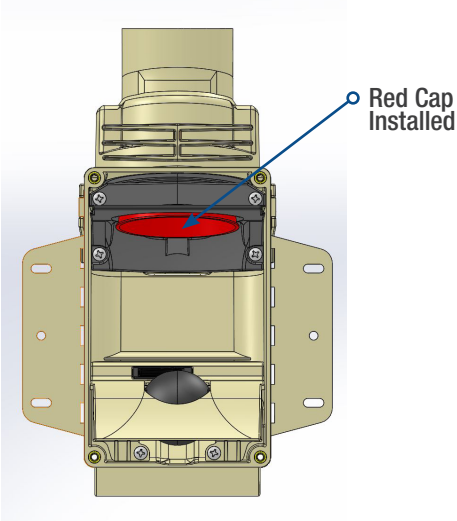
GENERAL INFORMATION

It is important for a trained technician to perform the installation of the Chameleon Valve and central vacuum system to achieve the high performance, durability and benefits they were designed to deliver. Installers are responsible to be knowledgeable and comply with all local building codes to perform the installation.

PLANNING THE INSTALLATION

- More tubing is required to install retractable hose valves versus standard valves as tubing runs are longer to allow for a hose storage area.
- Selecting a power unit with strong suction and substantial airflow is important to provide proper hose retraction.
- It is best to install the valve in a central area to maximize coverage (i.e. hallways, transition areas or foyers.) A well-located Chameleon Valve with a 50' hose can cover up to 2300 sq. ft. of living space.
- The installation of Chameleon Valves and central vacuum systems should be done with central vacuum tubing (not plumbing pipe) for optimum performance and compatibility to industry standard fittings.
- Only special long radius elbows are to be used in the hose storage area of each Chameleon Valve. It is also recommended to install a reducer coupling at the end of each hose storage area before using standard fittings or connecting to the trunk line. This prevents the hose from being retracted deeper into the tube system than intended.
- The tubing run for the hose storage area should be installed on one plane. Avoid placing long radius elbows closer than 24" to each other.
- The tubing should be cut with a tubing cutter to produce square ends. The inside and outside diameters of each tube end should be deburred to allow for the hose to travel smoothly in and out of the hose storage area.

Multiple Valve Installation Tip: It is necessary to leave the red plug securely in place in all valves until the hoses are installed to allow the system to seal. Only a sealed system will have the adequate vacuum to retract the hose into a valve when a hose is being installed. Once the hose is installed in a valve, the system will be sealed to allow for proper vacuum.



INCLUDED IN ROUGH-IN KIT:

- Valve
- Pre-installed Red Plug
- Pre-installed Mud Guard
- Reducer Coupling
- Screws to Mount Valve
- Adhesive Wire Holder (New Construction Applications)

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED:

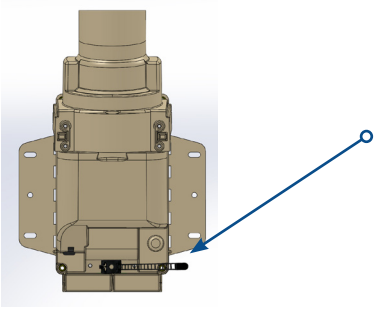
- Drill
- Drywall Knife (Retrofit Applications)
- Low Voltage Wire
- Long Radius Fittings
- Tubing
- PVC Glue
- Tubing Cutter
- Deburr Tool
- Standard Fittings
- Level

NEW CONSTRUCTION ROUGH-IN

The Chameleon Valve can be mounted so the hose can either retract up or down. Mount the valve assembly at approximately the same height as a light switch if the hose will retract up. If the hose will retract down, mount it at approximately the height of an electrical outlet. Following these recommendations will help to ensure the hose can be pulled out and retracted easily.

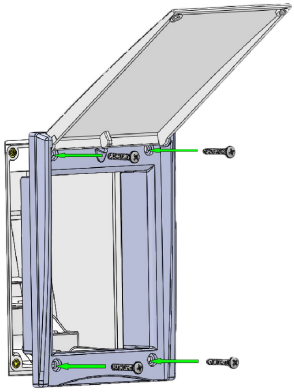
NOTE: The Chameleon Valve is designed to accommodate various wall thicknesses up to 1" without any modifications during installation. If you have a situation where the wall thickness will be more than 1", you will need to shim the valve assembly from the stud during the rough-in.

1. Secure valve assembly to stud and verify it is level. The red plug and plaster guard are pre-installed for your convenience.
2. Push desired length of tubing into valve assembly after applying PVC glue to outside diameter of tubing.
3. Attach desired length of low voltage wires to the low voltage wires on valve assembly and secure with wire nuts.
4. Remove adhesive backing on wire holder and stick to the back of valve assembly. Secure wire connection to valve assembly using holder.



TRIM OUT - FINISH

Once drywall work is complete, remove the plaster guard and secure valve door to valve assembly with four screws (do not over tighten).



EXISTING HOME INSTALLATION

1. Remove pre-installed plaster guard from valve assembly.
2. Use the plaster guard as a template to cut hole in drywall.

   INSTALLATION TIP: The top will need to be slightly larger, approximately another blade width, to accommodate the valve. (FIG. 1)
3. Remove mounting flanges from valve by carefully scoring them with a utility knife and breaking them off. (FIG. 2)
4. Cut, deburr and insert tubing into wall along with low voltage wire.
5. Connect low voltage wires from valve to wires from tubing drop with wire nuts.
6. Slightly lower the bottom of the valve into wall to extend end of tubing and apply PVC glue to tubing outside diameter. Press glued tubing completely into valve socket. (FIG. 3)
7. Secure valve door to assembly with four screws (do not over tighten). (FIG. 4)

FIG. 1

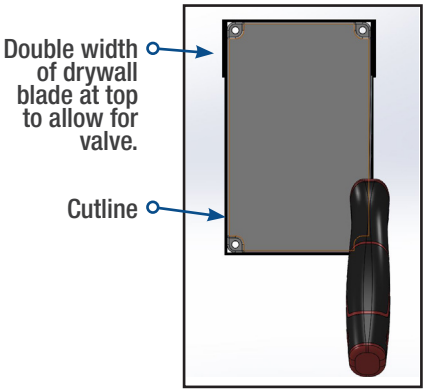


FIG. 2

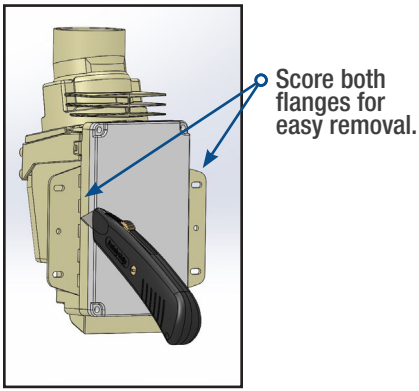


FIG. 3

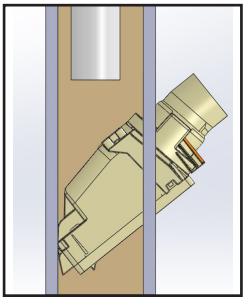
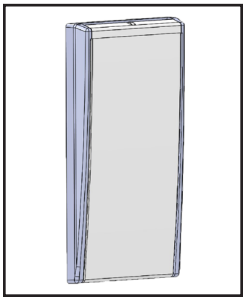


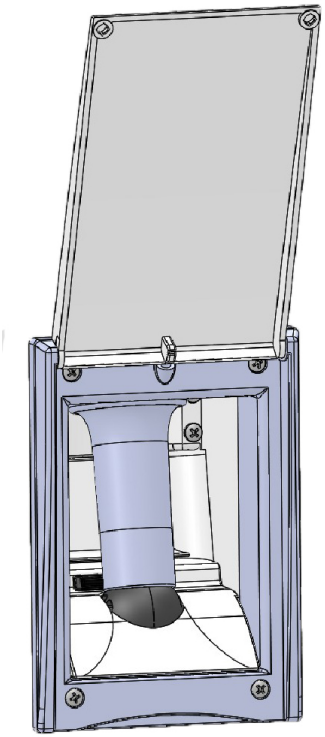
FIG. 4



INSTALLING THE HOSE INTO THE VALVE

NOTE: If a shorter hose is needed, the hose MUST be shortened on the handle end, not the cuff end. Please refer to "Shortening the Hose" section on the next page.

1. Lift the valve door and remove the red plug that is pressed into the valve.
2. Turn central vacuum on using the on/off switch inside valve. Push the hose cuff end into the valve until it clicks and stops. Rotate the hose cuff 90-degrees to the left and partially cover the handle end of the hose with hand. The hose will release and begin retracting into the tubing.
3. Once the hose is fully retracted, push the hose handle onto the rubber ball and the vacuum will automatically turn off and seal the valve. Repeat above steps for each additional valve.



SHORTENING THE HOSE

1. Locate the tabs on each side of the handle's underside. (FIG. 1)
2. Use a screwdriver or fingernail to press tabs in towards the hose to release and remove the handle. (FIG. 1)
3. Keep the black locking collar on the hose. (FIG. 2)
4. Remove the clear barbed insert by pulling outward and unscrewing (left-hand thread) or carefully slit hose below insert with razor knife to remove. (FIG. 2)
5. Shorten the hose as needed.
6. Push the barbed insert into the hose, then slide the locking collar into place. (FIG. 3)
7. Attach the nozzle by re-engaging the tabs on each side (push outwards)—you should hear a "click." (FIG. 3)

FIG. 1

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

H-P Products
Central Vacuums

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