



# Use and Care Guide

## Dehumidifier



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More questions?...call  
GE Answer Center® 800.626.2000



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*Models: AHE25 AHE50  
 AHE40*



## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**Read All Instructions Before Using This Dehumidifier.**

When using this dehumidifier, always follow basic safety precautions, including the following:



- **This dehumidifier must be properly installed and located in accordance with the Installation Requirements before it is used.**
- Use this appliance only for its intended purpose as described in this Use and Care Guide.
- **This dehumidifier must be properly grounded before it is used.** See grounding instructions in the Installation section.

• **Never operate this dehumidifier in an area that is likely to accumulate standing water.** If this condition develops, for your safety **disconnect** the power supply before stepping into the water.

• **Repair or replace immediately all electric service cords that have become frayed or otherwise damaged.** Do not use a cord that shows cracks or abrasion damage along its length or at either the plug or connector end

## SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

**GE Quality Product**



## HELP US HELP YOU

### Before using your dehumidifier, read this book carefully.

It is intended to help you operate and maintain your new dehumidifier properly.

Keep it handy for answers to your questions.

If you don't understand something or need more help, write (include your phone number):

Consumer Affairs  
GE Appliances  
Appliance Park  
Louisville, KY 40225

### Write down the model and serial numbers.

You'll find them on a label behind the bucket at the back of dehumidifier.

These numbers are **also** on the Consumer Product Ownership Registration Card that **came** with your dehumidifier. Before sending in this **card**, please write these numbers here:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Model Number**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Serial Number**

Use these model and **serial** numbers in any correspondence or service **calls** **concerning** your dehumidifier.

### If you received a damaged dehumidifier...

Immediately contact the **dealer** (or **budder**) that sold you the dehumidifier.

### Save time and money. Before you request service...

Check the Problem Solver in the back of this book. It lists causes of minor operating problems that you can correct yourself.

## IF YOU NEED SERVICE

To obtain **service**, see the Consumer Services page in the back of this book.

We're proud of our service and want you to be pleased. If for some reason you are not happy with the service you receive, here are three steps to **follow** for further help.

**FIRST**, **contact** the people who **serviced** your appliance. Explain why you are not pleased. **In** most **cases** this **will** solve the problem.

**NEXT**, if you are still not **pleased**, write **all** the **details**—**including** your phone number-to:

Manager, Consumer Relations, GE Appliances  
Appliance Park  
Louisville, KY 402X

**FINALLY**, if your problem is still not resolved, write:

Major Appliance Consumer Action Panel  
20 North **Wacker** Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606



## ~S OF YOUR DEHUMIDIFIER

Appearance may vary

### Humidity Control

A Humidity Control, **built** into your dehumidifier, **automatically maintains** a selected humidity level. It starts the **dehumidifier** when the humidity is above the desired level and shuts it off when the humidity is below the desired level.



### Fan Control (on some models)

The Fan Control adjusts the fan speed. Set the Fan Control to **HIGH** for maximum moisture removal. When the humidity has been **reduced** to the desired level and quiet operation is **preferred**, set the Fan Control to **LOW**.

### Full Bucket Indicator

The signal light glows when the bucket is full. 

### Auto Shut Off

This switch **will automatically** shut off the dehumidifier when the bucket is full.

### Auto Defrost

The Auto Defrost **will** prevent **excessive** frost from **accumulating** on the coils and **will also** prevent the dehumidifier from cycling on and off **excessively**.

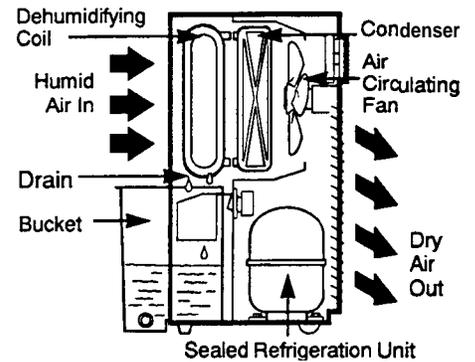
# OPERATING YOUR DEHUMIDIFIER

Appearance may vary



## How It Works

**Moist**, humid air is drawn over a **cold**, refrigerated dehumidifying coil. Moisture in the **air** condenses on this **coil** and then drains into a bucket (or through a hose into a drain). Dry, clean air is then drawn over the condenser where it is **actually** heated several degrees and discharged out the front grille into the room. It is **normal** for the surrounding air to **become slightly warmer** as the **dehumidifier** operates. This warming effect further **reduces** the relative humidity of the surrounding air.



## Selecting a Location

1. Place the dehumidifier in a **location** that does not restrict air flow into the rear **coil** or out the front grill.
2. The dehumidifier must be operated in an enclosed area to be most effective. **Close all** doors, windows and other outside openings to the room. The effectiveness of the dehumidifier depends on the rate at which new moisture laden air enters the room.
3. A dehumidifier **operating** in a basement **will have little or no effect** in drying an **adjacent** enclosed storage area, such as a **closet**, **unless** there is adequate circulation of air in and out of the area. It may be necessary to **install a second** dehumidifier in the **enclosed** area for satisfactory drying.

## For Maximum Dehumidification

When Humidity Control is set at "10," the dehumidifier will usually run continuously during rally humid periods. This is due to humid air seeping into the room through the walls, around doors and windows and through the use of clothes dryers and other equipment that add moisture to the air. This continuous operation is **normal**.

**The first 3 or 4 days that you have your dehumidifier, set the Humidity Control at "10" and the Fan Control to HIGH. This will** allow it to remove large amounts of moisture **already** in the room. **When** the room has reached the set humidity level, **the** amount of moisture removed **from** the air **will** be considerably less. Turn the Humidity Control knob toward "1" **until** the dehumidifier shuts off. The Humidity Control **will** automatically maintain the desired dryness **in** the room.

When the dehumidifier is **first** turned on and the dehumidifying coil is dry, a light coating of frost **will appear**. This is **normal**. The frost will usually disappear within 60 minutes.

If room temperature goes below 65°F., frost may accumulate on the dehumidifying coil, reducing the unit's operating efficiency. The Auto Defrost control will shut the compressor off **automatically** until the coil reaches the correct operating temperature. The fan will continue to run to aid in the defrosting.

The Auto Defrost **feature** is **also** designed to prevent **excessive** on-off cycling, and under **certain** renditions may allow the frost to remain on the coil for some time before the compressor shuts off and the frost is cleared. This is not unusual.

## To Remove Collected Water (appearance may vary)

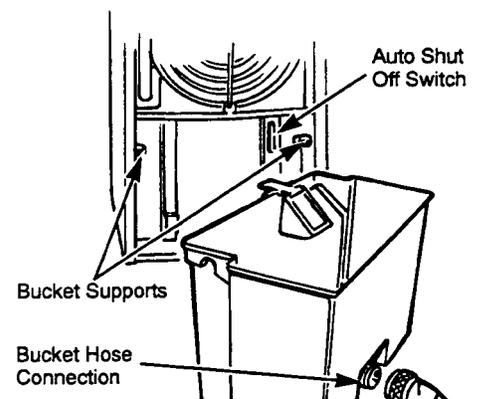
Your dehumidifier has an open or closed bucket that catches the water that is removed from the air, an automatic water **overflow** control, and a **signal** light that glows when the bucket is **full**.

Both the open and closed bucket models are **equipped** with an Auto Shut Off switch which stops the unit before the bucket **overflows** and turns the unit on again after the bucket is emptied and **replaced**.

After emptying the bucket, hang it on the bucket supports on each side.

**For continuous drain-off of water**, drill a 3/16" to 3/8" hole in the center of the bucket hose connection and attach a standard garden hose (not supplied). A **male** thread is provided on the water bucket.

To **seal** the hose connection on the bucket, use any standard hose end cap.





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## CARE AND CLEANING

**Unplug dehumidifier before cleaning.**

**Occasionally** the dehumidifier will require cleaning. Dust the outer cabinet with an oil-free cloth or wash with warm water. Use a vacuum cleaner attachment or brush to clean the front grille. **The** best way to clean the dehumidifying coil is by the use of a soft brush when the **soil** is soft and wet. (If **allowed** to dry and harden, it will be difficult to remove and must be soaked and softened.)

Do not allow a lot of water to enter the electrical/machine compartment through the circular opening behind the **coil**. Use a squirt bottle or syringe so you **can** control the water. Do not spray the coil with a hose.

**NOTE:** The fan motor has been permanently lubricated.

# INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**IMPORTANT:** Leave these instructions with the appliance.  
**OWNER:** Keep these instructions for future use.



## Electrical Safety—IMPORTANT... Please Read Carefully

For personal safety, this dehumidifier must be properly grounded.

### Electrical Requirements

- Do not change the plug on the power cord of this dehumidifier.
- Follow **national** electrical codes or local codes and ordinances.
- **Aluminum** house wiring may present special problems—consult a qualified electrician.

The 115-volt models require a 115/120-volt a.c., 60 Hz grounded outlet protected with a 15-amp time delay fuse or circuit breaker.

The power cord on these models has a 3-prong (grounding) plug that mates with a standard 3-prong (grounding) wall outlet (Figure 1). This minimizes the possibility of electric shock hazard from the dehumidifier.

If the wall outlet you plan to use is only a 2-prong outlet, it is your personal responsibility to have it replaced with a properly grounded 3-prong wall outlet.

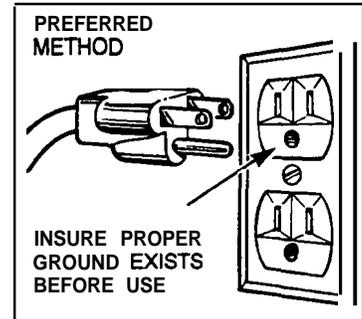


Figure 1

**DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, CUT OR REMOVE THIRD (GROUND) PRONG FROM THE POWER CORD.**

### Use of Adapter Plug (115-volt models only)

Because of potential safety hazards under certain conditions, we strongly recommend against use of an adapter plug. However, if you still elect to use an adapter, a temporary connection may be made where local codes permit. Use a UL-listed adapter, available at most local hardware stores and make sure the 2-prong wall outlet is properly grounded (Figure 2). You should have the circuit checked by a qualified electrician to make sure the outlet is properly grounded.

When you put the adapter plug into the wall outlet, make sure the larger prong goes into the larger slot. This provides the proper polarity in the connection of the power cord. For proper grounding, you must also screw the adapter to the outlet, using the outlet cover screw.

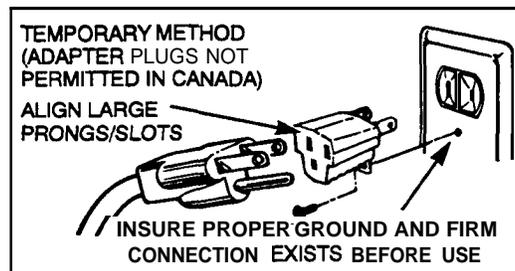


Figure 2

### CAUTION:

Screwing the adapter to the cover screw will not ground the dehumidifier unless:

1. The outlet is already grounded through the house wiring; and
2. The cover screw is metal and not insulated.

When disconnecting the power cord from the adapter, always hold the adapter with one hand while pulling the plug with the other hand. If this is not done, the adapter ground terminal is likely to break with repeated use.

**Should the adapter ground terminal break, DO NOT USE the dehumidifier until a proper ground has again been established.**

### Use of Extension Cords

Because of potential safety hazards under certain conditions, we strongly recommend against the use of an extension cord. However, if you still elect to use an extension cord, it is absolutely necessary that it be a UL-listed 3-wire grounding type appliance extension cord. The current-carrying rating of the cord in amperes must be equal to or greater than the branch circuit size shown on the rating nameplate of the dehumidifier.



## QUESTIONS USE THIS PROBLEM SOLVER

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE
DEHUMIDIFIER DOES NOT OPERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not plugged in. Plug may have been bumped loose.</li><li>• <b>If plugged in</b>, fuse <b>could</b> have blown or circuit breaker may have tripped</li><li>• Bucket may not be pushed <b>all</b> the way into the dehumidifier.</li><li>• The dryness level you selected has been reached. The dehumidifier <b>automatically</b> shuts off when selected amount of moisture has been removed from the air. If you <b>want to</b> remove more moisture, turn the Humidity <b>Control to "10"</b>. After the dehumidifier starts, reset the control to the desired setting.</li><li>• "Water in the bucket (on some models) has reached its preset level. Dehumidifier <b>automatically</b> turns off when this <b>occurs</b>. Empty bucket and return bucket to position.</li><li>• Dehumidifier is not turned on. Turn the Humidity <b>Control to "10"</b>.</li></ul>
DEHUMIDIFIER "DOES NOT DRY THE AIR AS IT SHOULD"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When the dehumidifier was <b>first installed</b>, not enough time was <b>allowed</b> for it to remove the large <b>amount</b> of moisture that had <b>accumulated in</b> the room. As long as three <b>or</b> four days, with the Humidity <b>Control knob set at "10,"</b> maybe required to achieve and maintain the desired dryness.</li><li>• Objects blocking front or back of <b>dehumidifier will</b> restrict air flow and reduce efficiency.</li><li>• Humidity <b>Control</b> may be set too low. Turn control knob to a higher setting.</li><li>• Doors <b>and/or</b> windows may not be <b>tightly</b> closed</li><li>• <b>Clothes dryer may be</b> blowing moisture-laden air into the <b>room</b>.</li><li>• <b>If your unit</b> has a low fan speed move it to <b>high</b>.</li><li>• Room temperature is too low. Unit <b>will not operate satisfactorily</b> if the room temperature is below <b>65°F. (18°C)</b>. See the <b>Operating Conditions</b>.</li></ul>
DEHUMIDIFIER RUNS TOO MUCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area to <b>be</b> dehumidified is too large. <b>Check</b> with your alder to see if capacity is adequate.</li><li>• <b>Windows</b> or doors near dehumidifier are open to <b>outdoors</b>. <b>Close all</b> windows or <b>doors</b> to outside.</li><li>• Humidity <b>Control is</b> set at "10" or "continuous". The dehumidifier <b>will not</b> turn off if the Humidity <b>Control</b> is set at "continuous".</li></ul>
FROST APPEARS ON COILS ABOVE BUCKET OR DRIP TRAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The dehumidifier has been turned on <b>recently</b> or the room temperature <b>is</b> below 65° F. (18°C). This <b>is normal</b> due to refrigerant rushing through the <b>coil</b>. Frost <b>will usually disappear within 60 minutes</b>.</li></ul>
NOISE IS LIKE A FAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Air is moving through the dehumidifier. This is a <b>normal</b> sound</li></ul>
WATER ON FLOOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Connection</b> may be loose if hose is attached to <b>dehumidifier for</b> continuous <b>drain-off</b>.</li><li>• Bucket may <b>not be pushed all</b> the way into <b>the dehumidifier</b>.</li><li>• Bucket not hung <b>properly from</b> bucket <b>supports</b>.</li></ul>

If you need more **help...call, toll free:**  
GE Answer Center™  
800.626.2000  
consumer information service

# We'll Be There

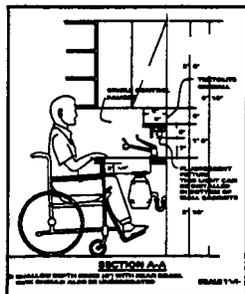
With the purchase of your new GE appliance, receive the assurance that **if you** ever need information or assistance from GE, **we'll** be there. **All you** have to do is ~1-tofl-free!

## ***In-Home Repair Service*** ***800-GE-CARES (800-432-2737)***

AGE consumer service professional will provide expert repair service, scheduled at a time that's convenient for you. Many GE Consumer Service **company-operated** locations offer you service today or tomorrow, or at your convenience (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturdays). Our factory-trained technicians know your appliance inside and out—so most repairs can be handled in just one visit.

## ***GE Answer Center®*** ***800.626.2000***

Whatever your question about any GE major appliance, GE Answer Center™ information service is available to help. Your **call—and your question** will be answered **promptly** and courteously. And you can call any time. GE Answer Center™ service is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



## ***For Customer With Special Needs...*** ***800.626.2000***

Upon request, GE will provide Braille controls for a variety of GE appliances, and a brochure to assist in planning a barrier-free kitchen for persons with limited mobility. To obtain these items, free of charge, call 800.626.2000.

Consumers with impaired hearing or speech who have access to a TDD or a conventional teletypewriter may call 800-TDD-GEAC (800-833-4322) to request information or service.

## ***Service Contracts*** ***800-626-2224***

You can have the secure feeling that GE Consumer Service will still be there after your **warranty** expires. Purchase a GE contract while your **warranty** is still in effect and you'll receive a substantial discount. With a multiple-year contract, you're assured of future service at today's prices.

## ***Parts and Accessories*** ***800-626-2002***

**Individuals qualified to service their own appliances** can have needed parts or accessories sent directly to their home. The GE parts system provides access to over 47,000 parts... and all GE Genuine Renewal Parts are fully warranted. VISA, MasterCard and Discover cards are accepted.

**User maintenance instructions contained in this booklet cover procedures intended to be performed by any user. Other servicing generally should be referred to qualified service personnel. Caution must be exercised, since improper servicing may cause unsafe operation.**

# YOUR GE DEHUMIDIFIER WARRANTY

Staple sales slip or cancelled check here. Proof of original purchase date is needed to obtain service under warranty.

## WHAT IS COVERED

### LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

For one year from date of original purchase, we will provide, free of charge, parts and service labor to repair or replace **any part** of the dehumidifier that fails because of a manufacturing defect.

### LIMITED ADDITIONAL FOUR-YEAR WARRANTY

For the second through fifth year from date of original purchase, we will provide, free of charge, parts and service labor to repair or replace **any part of the sealed system** (the compressor, condenser, dehumidifying coil and all connecting tubing) that fails because of a manufacturing defect.

**For each of the above warranties:** You must take the dehumidifier to a General Electric Factory Service Center or a General Electric Customer Care® Servicer and pick it up following service. In-home service is also available, but you must pay for the service technician's travel costs to your home.

This warranty is extended to the original purchaser and any succeeding owner for products purchased or set in the 48 mainland states, Alaska, Hawaii and Washington, D.C.

All warranty service will be provided by our Factory Service Centers or by our authorized Customer Care® servicers during normal working hours.

Should your appliance need service, during warranty period or beyond, call 800-GE-CARES (800-432-2737).

## WHAT IS NOT COVERED

- Service trips to your home to teach you how to use the product.

**Read your Use and Care material.** If you then have any questions about operating the product, please contact your dealer or our Consumer Affairs office at the address below, or call, toll free:

GE Answer Center®  
800.626.2000  
consumer information service

- Improper installation.  
If you have an installation problem, contact your dealer or installer. You are responsible for providing adequate electrical, plumbing and other connecting facilities.
- Replacement of house fuses or resetting of circuit breakers.

- Failure of the product if it is used for other than its intended purpose or used **commercially**.
- Damage to product caused by accident, fire, floods or acts of God.

WARRANTOR IS **NOT** RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state consumer affairs office or your state's Attorney General.

Warrantor: General Electric Company

If further help is needed concerning this warranty, write:  
Manager—Consumer Affairs, GE Appliances, Louisville, KY 40225

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