

PROFICENCY TEST BACKPACK BLOWERS

03-17

I. Multiple Choice: (Pick One)

1. To place the backpack blower on your back, you should:
 - a) Initially lift the blower onto a raised surface such as a picnic table or pickup bed and then slide into the harness and adjust straps prior to leaving picnic table/ pickup.
 - b) Obtain help from a fellow employee.
 - c) Bend at the waist, lift it from the ground onto your back in one fluid motion, twisting into the straps while bouncing up and down to get it in a snug position.
 - d) a or b only.

2. A Site Hazard Assessment prior to operation includes:
 - a) Planning the task so you blow debris away from people and property.
 - b) Planning the task so the angle and direction of the blower reduces airborne debris and fall out.
 - c) Determining if a particulate mask should worn due to airborne dust and debris.
 - d) All of the above.

3. The blower is controlled by:
 - a) Up and down motion.
 - b) Circling motion.
 - c) Slight swing from side to side.
 - d) The Herky-Jerkie motion.
 - e) All of the above.

II. True/False:

4. _____ The fuel tank on gas blowers is filled with an oil and diesel mix prior to operating.
5. _____ Loose clothing and hair can be sucked into the blower intake.
6. _____ The blower should be pointed in anyway that is effective for debris removal.
7. _____ Straps, guards and heat shields **do not** need to be checked before operating.
8. _____ Backpack blowers can create wind velocity up to 180 mph.
9. _____ Hearing and eye protection are required for blower operations.

- 10. _____ If repairs are needed, return the blower back to the location where you found it and do nothing else.
- 11. _____ If a blower requires maintenance or needs repair when turning it in, repair it if you are authorized or lockout/tag out the equipment and report it to your supervisor.
- 12. _____ If you are a truly dedicated employee, you can use a backpack or hand held blower all day without taking any breaks.
- 13. _____ It's okay to use blowers to cool down your coworkers.
- 14. _____ Blower operations that result in personal injury or property damage may result in disciplinary action.

III. Discussion Questions:

- 1. What kind of personal hazards do backpack blowers present?
- 2. How do you use a backpack around people and property?

Employee Name: _____ Pass _____ No Pass _____

Date: _____

Take this test to your supervisor or trainer for sign off.