

MAINTENANCE

Unless the unit is to be used every day, it is best to empty the unit via the small drain tap (fitted) to prevent the build up of algae.

Every month, remove the separators, taking care to keep them in order and wash them in warm soapy water.

NEVER, under any circumstances, use very hot water or attempt to move the washer when it is full.

ILFORD's latest information on fibre base washing for decreasing the wash time by using a Hypo Clearing Agent/Washaid:-

- a) 60 seconds FIX (no longer) with a *non-hardening fixer*
- b) 5 minutes RINSE in running water.
- c) 10 minutes in HYPO clearing agent.
- d) 5 minutes WASH in running water (at 20°C or higher)

Or if lower than 20°C

- a) 10 minutes WASH in running water (single weight paper)
- b) 20 minutes WASH in running water (double weight paper)

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OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE

Nova Academy III Archival Print Washer

The **NOVA ACADEMY III** print washer was designed to meet the needs of the professional or keen amateur printer. Its independently water-fed compartments save time and increase efficiency, whilst the plumbed inlet / outlet facility allows the unit to be placed virtually anywhere in the darkroom.

It is hand-made from the highest quality materials and should last a lifetime.

UNPACKING

Carefully unpack the washer and check that the following items are present:-
The main wash unit, 14 - Internal Separators, 1 - Novaclip, 1 - Drain Tap (fitted), 1 - Black Print Retrieval Blade, 1 - Inlet Plumbing Kit, 1 - Outlet Plumbing Kit

INSTALLATION

1) Place the unit on a strong bench or in a sink, both of which should be structurally sound to support the weight of the washer when full (see below), and should also be flat and level. Approximate weight when totally full:-
16x12 (40x30cm) =45kg, 20x16 (50x40cm) =73kg, 24x20 (60x50cm) =104kg

2) Remove the polystyrene packing pieces from the tops of the separators. Ensure that each separator is correctly inserted into the grooved channels with the angled corners downwards.

3) The grey inlet pipe, situated on the front of the unit, requires 12 mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") Nova Inlet Kit (supplied) and ease the tap connector end onto your tap carefully ensuring that it is correctly fitted and tightened.

4) The water outlet is via the 25 mm (1") diameter clear tube situated above the grey inlet. The fittings are based on a washing machine type outlet and so push on the NOVA Universal Outlet Kit (supplied) and direct the tube to the nearest drain/sink.

NOTE:- It is possible to stand the unit in a sink or on a draining board, in which case no outlet fittings are required.

IN OPERATION

5) Fill the two static left-hand slots with HYPO Clearing agent/Wash-aid mixed to the manufacturers recommended strength. Approximate amounts of wash-aid required to fill the washers are listed below:
16x12 (40x30cm) =4.7L, 20x16 (50x40cm) =7.5L, 24x20 (60x50cm) =11.5L

6) Turn on the water supply and wait for the unit to fill up. When the water reaches the top of the weir, reduce the pressure to a trickle using your water mains tap.

7) Slowly increase the pressure until slight turbulence can just be seen at the opposite end to the weir. This signifies the minimum flow rate required to give maximum efficiency.

The turbulence visible at this point indicates that there are no stationary elements in the flow pattern. Further fine-tuning of the mains supply is possible using the inline flow guage tap (fitted). To allow you to always achieve

the same water flow on each use, an outflow water guage is shown in the outlet chamber. Monitor the water level on the guage during use and use this as a guide for future water flow settings.

8) You will note that the separators have a smooth side and a textured side. The prints will be washed most effectively when its emulsion faces the most textured side of the separator.

9) Lower the fixed print into the first available wash compartment, raising and lowering it for a few seconds to remove surface fixer and any air bubbles.

10) Leave the print in this compartment for 5 minutes, then transfer it to one of the HYPO Clearing slots for the recommended time.

NOTE:- Once the first slot is vacant, then a freshly fixed print can be put into the washer without fear of contaminating the first print(s) that is already being washed.

11) When the Hypo Clearing time has expired, remove the print and return it the first available water washing slot for the required time (see table overleaf)

11) Washing of smaller prints is possible by using the Nova Clip (supplied) recovered by inserting the black print retrieval blade (supplied) between the back of the print and the separator, twist the blade and then lift the print, blade and separator all together.

Recommended Minimum Wash Times (without use of HYPO clear/washaid)

	<u>Water 20°C or less</u>	<u>Water 21°C or higher</u>
All Fibre Based Papers	60 mins	45 mins
All Resin Coated Papers	6 mins	3 mins
Reversal/IlfoChrome Papers	6 mins	3 mins
Films	8 mins	6 mins

