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**AUTOMOTIVE AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR**

**Question:**

What is the proper method to connect and use an evacuation pump?

**Answer:**

When using an AC service manifold set, the pump will be connected to the center service hose. The right hand gauge hose, discharge, will be connected to the high side service port. The left hand gauge hose, suction, will be connected to the low side service port. Connect the center service hose to the evacuation pump.

Make sure the knobs on the manifold set are in the closed position. Turn on the vacuum pump and then open the high side manifold knob only. When the low side gauge starts to record a reading, the system is open between the two service ports and there is a hose connection. Open the low side manifold knob and allow the pump to operate for a minimum of thirty minutes.

If the low side gauge doesn't record a reading, check to see if there is a connection where the service hoses are connected. Disconnect the suction side first. Depress the schrader valve in the fitting and listen for a sucking sound or no sound. A sucking sound means the low side service hose didn't open the service valve in the port. If there is no sound, the high side didn't make a connection.

For the do-it-yourselfer, connect the servicing hose to the low side service port, and the other end of the hose to the evacuation pump. Turn on the pump and allow to operate for a couple minutes. Remove the cap from the high side service port and depress the schrader valve. Does it suck or no sound? Suck is good. No suck; check low side connection at the service port.

If the humidity is low or the system was open for a short time, pump for thirty minutes. If the humidity is high or the system was open for a long period, pump for one hour. If the ambient

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temperature is below sixty degrees, read section on “should a system be evacuated”.