

**SONICJET**  
PTM-100



User Manual for the SonicJet  
Pretreatment Machine



Table of Contents

Introduction

Warning	4
Caution	4

SonicJet Machine Usage and Maintenance Guide

Machine Overview	5
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Pretreatment Machine Setup and Test Run

Position the Machine	5
Connect the Power Supply	5
Power On the Machine	5
Assemble the Nozzle Component	5
Connect the Hoses	5
Run the Maintenance Test with Water First	6
Prepare the Pretreatment Solution	6
Run the Maintenance Test	6
Evaluate and Reuse Excess Solution	6

Table of Contents

Garment Placement and Pretreatment Process

Garment Placement	7
Pretreatment Process	7

Drying Pretreated Shirts

Drying Methods	8
Air Drying	8
Using a Heat Press	8
Important Notes	8

Maintenance and Cleaning Guidelines for Idle Machine Periods

Step 1: Rinse the Machine Using Maintenance Mode	9
Step 2: Clean the Machine Interior	9

## **WARNING**

The machine must be cleaned every day after use. If the machine stops running for more than 30 minutes, the machine and water tubes must be cleaned with water.

## **CAUTION**

To reduce the risk of fire, electric shock or personal injury when using the pretreatment machine, follow basic precautions, including the following:

- Please read all relevant instructions before using the pretreatment machine.
- Don't overload the pretreatment machine with large or bulky items.
- Don't modify the machine's control settings.
- Do not attempt to repair the machine on your own. Consult a professional if any repairs are needed.
- Don't open the pretreatment machine while it's in use.
- Don't use any gasoline, solvent, acid or any other flammable or explosive substance in or near the pretreatment machine, as vapor released by these substances may ignite or explode.
- Don't put too much weight on the machine drawer, as this can cause damage to the drawer sliding system.
- When spraying chemicals, wear appropriate protective equipment recommended by the chemical manufacturer.

## SonicJet Machine Usage and Maintenance Guide

This guide combines information to help customers properly use and maintain their SonicJet pretreatment machine.

**Daily maintenance is mandatory after every use** to ensure proper function of your machine. Failure to do so may result in machine malfunction.

### Machine Overview

- **Display:** 5" HD touchscreen for controls
- **Spray area:** 12" x 18" inches
- **Power Supply:** AC110V/60Hz or AC220V/50H
- **Maximum Power:** 150W
- **Spray Quantity:** Adjustable from 14–36g
- **Product Dimensions:** 25.39 × 19.41 × 19.33 inches

## Pretreatment Machine Setup and Test Run

Proper setup of the pretreatment machine ensures smooth operation and consistent spray results. Follow these steps to assemble, connect, and test your machine before pretreating garments.

### 1. Position the Machine

Place the SonicJet on a stable, flat surface to ensure proper operation and prevent vibrations.

### 2. Connect the Power Supply

Verify that the input voltage matches either 110V/60Hz or 220V/50Hz.

Plug the power cord into the power connector located on the back of the SonicJet.

**Note:** Follow electrical safety guidelines when handling power connections.

### 3. Power On the Machine

Press the power switch to the "on" (I) position.

The SonicJet will automatically move the nozzle to its origin position and prepare for operation.

### 4. Assemble the Nozzle Component

Place the nozzle (2) inside the nozzle cover (1).

Position the rubber pad (3) on top of the nozzle (2).

Securely place the check valve (4) on the rubber pad (3).

Twist the assembled nozzle component onto the nozzle body inside of the pretreatment machine using the quick connection feature.

**Note:** This is for reference in how to assemble the nozzle after every cleaning.

### 5. Connect the Hoses

Firmly insert the two hoses into the pretreatment entries on the back of the machine for a quick connection.

**Note:** Ensure the hoses are fully inserted and securely connected to prevent improper pretreatment solution flow.

## Pretreatment Machine Setup and Test Run (Cont'd)

### 6. Run the Maintenance Test with Water First

#### Prepare the Setup:

Place both hoses into a gallon of water.

Position a cup under the nozzle to catch water during testing.

Adjust the nozzle to face the side closest to you for easy access and remove the nozzle by twisting the nozzle counter clockwise.

#### Access Maintenance Settings:

Click on the Maintenance Menu icon to open the maintenance settings.

#### Start the Test:

Choose either the “Dark” or “Light” button.

**Note:** You will need to label which hose is dark and which hose is light when you are choosing “Dark” or “Light” button on the panel. You will also need to test both hose lines.

Click “Begin” to start the test.

#### Observe Water Flow:

Water will filter through the hoses into the machine.

It will then flow out from the top sprayer where the nozzle was removed.

#### Verify Smooth Operation:

Once a steady flow of water is observed and it runs smoothly through the machine, you’re ready to switch to the pretreatment solution.

### 7. Prepare the Pretreatment Solution

Insert one hose into the light pretreatment solution container.

Insert the second hose into the dark pretreatment solution container.

**Note:** Double-check that the hoses are fully submerged in their respective containers for proper suction.

### 8. Run the Maintenance Test

Click the Maintenance Menu icon to access the maintenance settings.

Place a cup under the nozzle to collect the pretreatment solution during testing.

Adjust the nozzle to face the side closest to you for easy access and remove it.

Select either the “Dark” or “Light” button, depending on your solution choice.

Click the “Begin” button to start the test spray.

**Note:** When starting the machine for the first time, you may need to hold the Start button for up to 30 seconds to ensure proper initialization.

### 9. Evaluate and Reuse Excess Solution

Pour any excess pretreatment solution collected in the cup back into the appropriate container.

## Garment Placement and Pretreatment Process

### Garment Placement

- **Heat Press Your Shirt:** Heat press your shirt for 10 seconds or so to remove any humidity from the shirt.
- **Open the Drawer:** Pull out the drawer to access the platen.
- **Load the Garment:**  
If the design is on the front, place the garment on the platen front side up.  
If the design is on the back, place the garment on the platen back side up.
- **Close the Drawer:** Ensure the drawer is fully closed before proceeding.

### Pretreatment Process

- **Navigate to the Spray Cycle Section:** On the touchscreen panel, go to the New Spray Cycle section.
- **Select Garment Color:** Choose whether your garment is Dark or Light colored.
- **Set Spray Density:** We recommend a spray density of 80 for optimal results.
- **Choose Spray Area:**
  - For a full front or back design, ensure the entire garment area is highlighted.
  - For a smaller design, select top half, bottom half, or middle sections of the shirt.
  - For a small left or right chest logo, select the first two sections on the spray area map.
- **Save Preset (Optional):** Click Save Preset to store these settings for future use, especially useful for bulk orders.
- **Start the Spray Cycle:**
  - For a single shirt, select Single and press Start.
  - For a bulk order, select Bulk and press Start.  
**Note:** For bulk orders, the machine will automatically pretreat each shirt in sequence.
- **Replace Garment After Spray:** Once the machine finishes pretreating the garment:
  - Remove the pretreated shirt.
  - Place the next garment on the platen.
  - After using the pretreatment machine, make sure to clean and maintain it properly to ensure optimal performance and prevent potential damage.

## Drying Pretreated Shirts

After pretreating your shirts, it's essential to ensure they are completely dry before proceeding with printing. Proper drying guarantees the best adhesion of ink and prevents smudging, discoloration, or poor print quality.

### Drying Methods:

#### Air Drying:

- Lay the pretreated shirts flat in a clean, well-ventilated area.
- Avoid stacking the shirts to allow proper airflow.
- Allow sufficient time for the moisture to evaporate naturally.

#### Using a Heat Press (Recommended for Faster Drying):

- Set your heat press to 330°F.
- Place the shirt on the press platen and cover it with a protective parchment sheet or Teflon sheet.
- Apply heat to the treated area for two 15–30 seconds.
- Check the shirt to ensure it's fully dry. If needed, repeat the process. **Note:** Do not over heat as this will burn the pretreatment solution. These instructions are for Ricoma's pretreatment solution.

### Important Notes:

- **Do Not Print on Damp Shirts:** Any moisture remaining in the fabric will affect ink adhesion and final print quality.
- **Ensure Uniform Drying:** Pay attention to thicker areas of the fabric, like seams and collars, as they may retain moisture.
- **Test Before Printing:** If unsure, lightly press your hand on the fabric. If it feels damp or cool, allow additional drying time.

By ensuring your pretreated shirts are fully dry, you'll achieve **sharp, vibrant prints** with excellent durability and wash resistance.



## Maintenance and Cleaning Guidelines for Idle Machine Periods

Proper maintenance and cleaning are essential to ensure long-term performance and prevent damage when the machine will be idle for an extended period. Follow these steps after each use to keep the machine in optimal condition.

### **Important:**

- Failure to properly rinse and clean the machine may cause damage to its components, which is **not covered under warranty**.
- Always **power off the machine** before cleaning the interior of your machine.

### Step 1: Rinse the Machine Using Maintenance Mode

#### 1. Access Maintenance Menu:

- a. Click the **Maintenance Menu Icon** to enter the rinsing settings.

#### 2. Drain Pretreatment Solution:

- a. Remove the **drain hose** from its container and put both hoses into a gallon of water.
- b. Move the **nozzle** near the window and place a cup underneath it to collect excess pretreatment solution.
- c. Remove the nozzle and soak in warm distilled water or rubbing alcohol.
- d. Press **"Begin"** to run the cycle until the pretreatment solution in both the **"Dark"** and **"Light"** hose lines is fully drained.
- e. Pour the collected pretreatment solution back into its original container.

#### 3. Flush with Distilled Water:

- a. Place the **drain hose** into a container filled with **distilled water**.
- b. Open the **front window** and position a cup under the nozzle to collect distilled water.
- c. Press **"Begin"** to flush the hose lines and remove any residual pretreatment solution.

**Note:** Multiple cycles may be needed to fully clear the lines.

#### 4. Prepare for Idle Periods:

- a. Leave a small amount of **distilled water** in the liquid line to ensure smoother startup during the next use.

### Step 2: Clean the Machine Interior

#### 1. Access the Interior:

- a. Open the **side and front windows** or pull out the **drawer** for better access.

#### 2. Wipe Away Excess Solution:

- a. Use a **rag or towel** to clean off any excess pretreatment solution.

#### 3. Deep Clean Residual Solution:

- a. Use an **all-purpose cleaner** to remove any remaining residue from interior components.

Performing these steps diligently after each use will prevent buildup, reduce the risk of damage, and ensure the machine remains in excellent working condition for future operations.