



10-ton Tortolita Hydraulic Press

Set-up and Instructions

Congratulations! You have purchased a Tortolita 10-ton hydraulic press designed, manufactured, and assembled by Potter USA. Named after one of the mountain ranges that surround Potter USA, the Tortolita Press is our newest, most compact, and most economical jewelry hydraulic press, created specifically for use with small impression dies and shot plates. This bench-top press has been designed to form metal safely and efficiently in a jewelry studio environment. The Tortolita is an excellent choice for smaller studios, instructors who desire a portable press, traveling, and for anyone who wants to be able to use mainly impression dies and silhouette dies.

Manual Tortolita Press



Purchase of the Tortolita Press Includes:

- Press Frame
- Hydraulic Cylinder
- Hose
- Quick Connect Fittings
- Manual Hand Pump
- Die Spatula
- 2 Spacers

About the Tortolita Press

Hose Specifications

- 40" long
- Quick-connect Fitting

Pump Specifications

- Manual Hand Pump
- 13" long, 2-3/8" wide, and 5-1/4" tall (at rest), 13-1/2" tall at full height (when handle is fully extended in upright position)

Hydraulic Cylinder Specifications

- 10-Tons
- 2" Stroke - you will need spacers (min. 2)
- Quick-connect Fitting
- Cannot be upgraded to electric

Press Specifications

- Press Measurements (without Hose or Manual Pump)
 - Height: 11.5"
 - Width: 4.5"
 - Depth: 4"
- Press Body is constructed of 3/8" thick steel
- Height and Width of Working Area for Dies: 3-1/4" x 3-1/4"
- Working Area Window Measurements: 2-9/16" x 3-1/2"
- Upper Platen is Mild Steel
- Weight of Press Frame with Cylinder: 26 lbs
- Total Weight of Press Frame and Manual Hand Pump: 33.5 lbs
- Approx. Space Needed on Workbench for Press: 13" x 9" plus space for the hose
- Does not include a PSI Gauge and cannot be fitted with one
- The body of the press is powder coated to prevent rust. Colors will vary, and what is seen at checkout is what is currently available. Cylinder and pump colors may vary. The handle/pump/ cylinder may be different than what appears in photos. You cannot choose a color for the pump or cylinder.
- The press does NOT need to be bolted down. You can mount the Hand Pump, if desired.
- Lifetime warranty on press frame, 2-year warranty on the cylinder and other parts.
- The purchase of this press also includes a \$45 shipping allowance. (Final shipping cost will be determined before your press ships and will vary by location. You will be invoiced for excess shipping charges if fees exceed \$45.) This allowance has no cash value, and the price of the press will not be adjusted if you pick up locally.
- Includes 15% OFF impression dies for 3 months AFTER the press is paid in full. To begin receiving this discount, complete your order for the Tortolita Press first, then place a separate order for the impression dies. REMEMBER: To receive this discount you MUST be logged in to your account when purchasing the press and for subsequent impression die orders.

Shipping

The Tortolita Press ships FedEx Express. International customers please email sales@potterusa.com for a shipping quote (include the shipping address).



Read ALL instructions before assembling or operating the hydraulic press. This will familiarize you with the parts, the tools required, and the order in which things are required to be done in order to properly use the press.

General Safety: DOs and DO NOTs

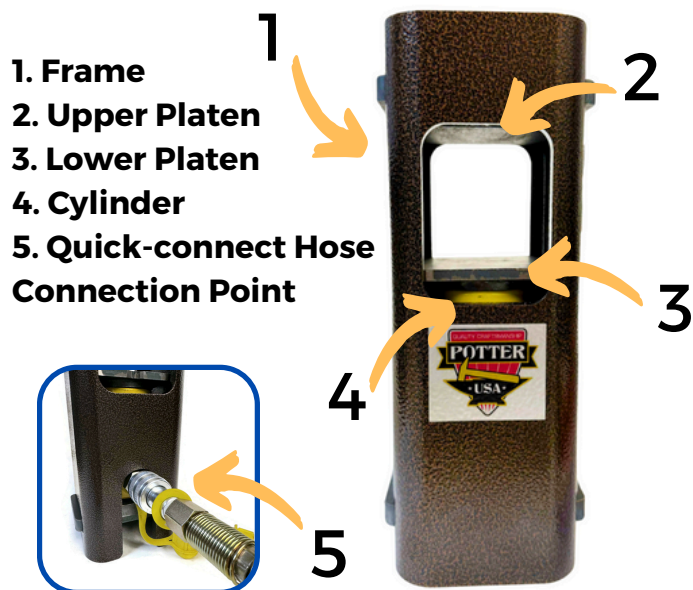
✓ DO ...

- keep your work area clean.
- keep children away from the press.
- keep fingers away from moving parts.
- tie back long hair.
- wear ANSI-approved impact safety eye and face protection when using the press.
- only use replacement parts from Potter USA.
- ALWAYS center your work on the lower platen.
- ALWAYS use spacers to avoid overextending the ram of the cylinder.
- lower the ram completely at the end of the day to prevent dust and debris from sticking to the ram, which will cause wear on the seals.

⊘ DO NOT ...

- assemble or operate the press when you're tired or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- wear loose clothing or jewelry.
- operate the press beyond its rated capacity.
- place cast iron, springs, wood, plastic, glass, fragile or brittle objects, or any item that could disengage from or crack in the press.
- put heat-treated tool-steel dies or bench blocks in the press unless you know they have been properly heat tempered. They can shatter like glass.
- use bronze impression dies purchased elsewhere in the press. They can shatter or explode under pressure.
- use the press for hot forging.

Parts of the Tortolita press frame



Parts of the Manual Hand Pump

1. Quick-connect Hose
2. Handle
3. Release Valve



General Use Instructions

The Tortolita press is extremely versatile and can be used for a variety of applications. While each accessory, tool, and application requires a specific technique, there are a few general rules that apply no matter how you're using the press.

- **ALWAYS make sure your work and tooling is centered front-to-back and left-to-right in the press. Working off-center is dangerous and can potentially damage the press.**
- Do NOT overextend the ram of your cylinder. Use more spacers to reduce the distance the ram must travel.
- Don't stand directly in front of the press when using it. In the unlikely event that something you put in it were to disengage, standing off to one side of the press is safer.
- Fully lower the ram at the end of the day to prevent dust and debris from prematurely wearing out the seals and damaging the jack.

Set Up the Manual Tortolita Hydraulic Press

Tools and Materials Needed (NOT INCLUDED)

- Sturdy Work Surface
- Rags/paper towels (keep on hand for oil cleanup)

Manual Tortolita Press Assembly and Setup

1. Place the press frame onto a sturdy work surface.
2. Place the Hand Pump on the work surface next to the frame.
3. Remove the plastic plug from the Quick-connect Hose Connection Point on the cylinder. (You can remove it entirely, but we suggest leaving it looped on to the connection for future transport.)
4. The hand pump uses a Quick-connect mechanism to connect to the cylinder.
5. Press the nipple on the end of the pump hose into the opening of the cylinder until you hear a quiet "pop." This pop occurs when the hose pushes through the cylinder gasket, ensuring a secure connection.
6. Twist the freely moving knurled piece (on the cylinder) onto the hose. Tighten as much as you can by hand; there's no need to use a wrench for this.
7. Make sure the Release Knob on the hand pump is tight.
8. Pump the Handle. The lower platen of the press should begin to rise. This pump raises more slowly than you might think, especially the first time you use it. If it doesn't, see "Troubleshooting."

Please Note: Store and use the press at room temperature for best results. Temperature variation can make oil leak from the hand pump. If kept in a hot location, things expand and any air bubble can push oil out. And, if kept in a very cold location, the seals can shrink and allow oil to come out.

Types of Dies That Can Be Used in the Tortolita Press

The Tortolita Hydraulic Press is designed primarily for use specifically with small impression dies and shot plate dies. However, it can be used for a variety of additional applications, with limitations.

The following types of dies CAN be used in the Tortolita:

- Impression Dies on pucks 2" or smaller (compatibility will be noted on our site)
- Ring Impression Dies, excluding Humpback Ring Impression Dies (compatibility will be noted on our site)
- Shot Plate Dies (compatibility will be noted on our site)
- Bezel Die Tools
- Silhouette Dies (2" OD or smaller)
- Pancake Dies Less than 2-9/16" wide (this will be only a very small number of our available pancake dies. MOST pancake dies will NOT fit!)

The following types of tools/dies can NOT be used in the Tortolita:

- MOST Pancake Dies (anything wider than 2-9/16")
- Large Silhouette Dies (wider than 3", like MOST of our Dish Former dies)
- Humpback Ring Dies
- Large impression dies (anything that comes on a puck larger than 2" diameter.)
- Contained Urethane
- Bracelet Former Frame and Formers
- FSS dies

Troubleshooting

My pump is leaking oil. Is this normal?

Yes! Hydraulic pumps (manual and electric) are not completely sealed systems, so some oil leakage is normal. Oil residue around the pump and cylinder is normal. If you're regularly finding large puddles of oil (more than a couple tablespoons), please contact us. It's good practice to always keep rags or paper towels on hand. Store and use the press at room temperature for best results. Temperature variation can make oil leak from the hand pump. If kept in a hot location, things expand and any air bubble can push oil out. And, if kept in a very cold location, the seals can shrink and allow oil to come out.

My lower platen isn't raising. Why?

Make sure that the pressure Release Knob is tightened fully. This pump raises more slowly than you might think, especially the first time you use it.

Please see our videos and/or contact us at sales@potterusa for more information.



Potter USA
PotterUSA.com

Contact Us

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