

American National Standard

for Power Tools –

Hand-Held and Backpack

Gasoline -Engine-Powered Blowers



American National Standard

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Revision of
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American National Standard
For Power Tools –

Hand-Held and Backpack, Gasoline-Engine-Powered Blowers

Secretariat
Portable Power Equipment Manufacturers Association

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American National Standards Institute, Inc.

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Foreword (This foreword is not part of the American National Standard B 175.2-2000.)

This standard sets forth sound-level test procedures and labeling requirements for the sound level of gasoline-powered backpack and hand-held blowers.

This standard was developed by the ANSI B175 Accredited Standards Committee. The Committee is comprised of several organizations and individuals interested in these products. The Committee's membership includes representatives from the following groups: accredited testing laboratories, component manufacturers, dealer associations, federal government agencies, individuals, and original equipment manufacturers.

The initial standard was developed in 1990 in response to the needs expressed by various county and municipal governments and professional and consumer users. It was revised in 1996 to reflect changes to several clauses, namely Scope and Purpose, Definitions, Measurement of Noise in Sound Room, Test Data to be Recorded, Labeling, and Operator Manual Recommendations.

Since 1996, the Committee has focused on the need to revise the test procedures to improve the accuracy and repeatability of the sound level measurements and to clarify labeling requirements. Continuing regulation of leaf blowers by local governments demonstrates a need for the uniform sound level test procedures that this standard provides. The revised labeling requirements are intended to clarify sound level measurements for interested communities and product users.

The year 2000 revisions to this standard are found in the following clauses: Definitions, Measurement of Sound in a Free Field, Measurement of Sound Level in Sound Room (Alternate Method), Blower Operation, Measurements, Test Data to be Recorded, Labeling, and Operator Manuals.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to Secretariat, ANSI B 175 Accredited Standards Committee, 4340 East West Highway, Suite 912, Bethesda, MD 20814.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Accredited Standards Committee on Safety of Portable Hand-Held Chain Saws, B175. Committee approval of this standard does not necessarily imply that all Committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, the B175 Committee had the following members:

Accredited Testing Laboratories:
Underwriters Laboratories

Component Manufacturers:
Carlton Co.
Blount/Oregon Cutting Systems

General Interest:
Ralph Lombard
Ron Loyd
Vincent Morabit

Government Agencies:
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
U.S. Department of Agriculture – Forest Service
U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Original Equipment Manufacturers:
Echo, Inc.
John Deere Consumer Products
Husqvarna AB
Stihl, Inc.
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S. A.

Trade Associations
North American Equipment Dealers Association

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

ANSI B175.2-2000

American National Standard for Power Tools –

Hand-Held and Backpack Gasoline-Engine-Powered Blowers

1 Scope and Purpose

1.1 Scope

The requirements of this standard apply to new portable, backpack and hand-held, gasoline-engine-powered blowers, including those blowers that accept vacuum attachments.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to establish bystander sound level test procedures and labeling requirements for hand-held and backpack, gasoline-engine-powered blowers. This standard also includes requirements for operator manual(s) instructions.

NOTE: Metric units are included for information only.

2 Definitions

2.1 Blower. A device that propels an airstream in a directed manner.

2.2 Blower Tubes. Devices that direct the blower airstream.

2.3 Category. Group designation of measured sound levels according to decibel range (for example, low, medium, high). The sound categories are as follows: Category I $\text{dB(A)} \leq 65$, Category II $65 < \text{dB(A)} \leq 70$, and Category III $\text{dB(A)} > 70$.

2.4 Handle(s). Hand grip(s) on unit.

2.5 May. The term that indicates a permissive condition.

2.6 Muffler. Device for reducing engine exhaust noise and directing the exhaust gases.