



## BULLETIN

CARE AND HANDLING  
OF SPRINKLERS

The Viking Corporation, 210 N Industrial Park Drive, Hastings MI 49058  
 Telephone: 269-945-9501 Technical Services: 877-384-5464 Fax: 269-818-1680 Email: techsvcs@vikingcorp.com

## SPRINKLERS ARE FRAGILE - HANDLE WITH CARE!

### General Handling and Storage:

- Store sprinklers in a cool, dry place.
- Protect sprinklers during storage, transport, handling, and after installation.
- Use the original shipping containers. DO NOT place sprinklers loose in boxes, bins, or buckets.
- Keep sprinklers separated at all times. DO NOT allow metal parts to contact sprinkler operating elements.

### For Pre-Assembled Drops:

- Protect sprinklers during handling and after installation.
- For recessed assemblies, use the protective sprinkler cap (Viking Part Number 10364).

### Sprinklers with Protective Shields or Caps:

- DO NOT remove shields or caps until after sprinkler installation and there no longer is potential for mechanical damage to the sprinkler operating elements.
- **Sprinkler shields or caps MUST be removed BEFORE placing the system in service!**
- Remove the sprinkler shield by carefully pulling it apart where it is snapped together.
- Remove the cap by turning it slightly and pulling it off the sprinkler.

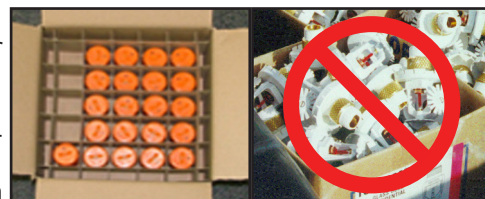
### Sprinkler Installation:

- DO NOT use the sprinkler deflector or operating element to start or thread the sprinkler into a fitting.
- **Use only the designated sprinkler head wrench!** Refer to the current sprinkler technical data page to determine the correct wrench for the model of sprinkler used.
- DO NOT install sprinklers onto piping at the floor level.
- Install sprinklers after the piping is in place to prevent mechanical damage.
- **Take care not to over-tighten the sprinkler or damage its operating parts!**
- DO NOT allow impacts such as hammer blows directly to sprinklers or to fittings, pipe, or couplings in close proximity to sprinklers. Sprinklers can be damaged from direct or indirect impacts.
- DO NOT attempt to remove drywall, paint, etc., from sprinklers.



**CORRECT**  
(Original container used)

**INCORRECT**  
(Placed loose in box)



**CORRECT**  
(Protected with caps)

**INCORRECT**  
(Protective caps not used)



**CORRECT**  
(Piping is in place at the ceiling)

**INCORRECT**  
(Sprinkler at floor level)



**CORRECT**  
(Special installation wrenches)

**INCORRECT**  
(Designated wrench not used)

## ⚠ WARNING

Any sprinkler with a loss of liquid from the glass bulb or damage to the fusible element should be destroyed. Never install sprinklers that have been dropped, damaged, or exposed to temperatures exceeding the maximum ambient temperature allowed. Sprinklers that have been painted in the field must be replaced per NFPA 13. Protect sprinklers from paint and paint overspray in accordance with the installation standards. Do not clean sprinklers with soap and water, ammonia, or any other cleaning fluid. Do not use adhesives or solvents on sprinklers or their operating elements.

**Refer to the appropriate technical data page and NFPA standards for complete care, handling, installation, and maintenance instructions. For additional product and system information Viking data pages and installation instructions are available on the Viking Web site at [www.vikinggroupinc.com](http://www.vikinggroupinc.com).**



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## PROTECTIVE SPRINKLER SHIELDS AND CAPS

### General Handling and Storage:

Many Viking sprinklers are available with a plastic protective cap or shield temporarily covering the operating elements. The snap-on shields and caps are factory installed and are intended to help protect the operating elements from mechanical damage during shipping, storage, and installation. NOTE: It is still necessary to follow the care and handling instructions on the appropriate sprinkler technical data sheets\* when installing sprinklers with bulb shields or caps.

### WHEN TO REMOVE THE SHIELDS AND CAPS:

NOTE: SHIELDS AND CAPS MUST BE REMOVED FROM SPRINKLERS BEFORE PLACING THE SYSTEM IN SERVICE!

Remove the shield or cap from the sprinkler only after checking all of the following:

- The sprinkler has been installed\*.
- The wall or ceiling finish work is completed where the sprinkler is installed and there no longer is a potential for mechanical damage to the sprinkler operating elements.

**SHIELDS AND CAPS MUST BE REMOVED FROM SPRINKLERS BEFORE PLACING THE SYSTEM IN SERVICE!**

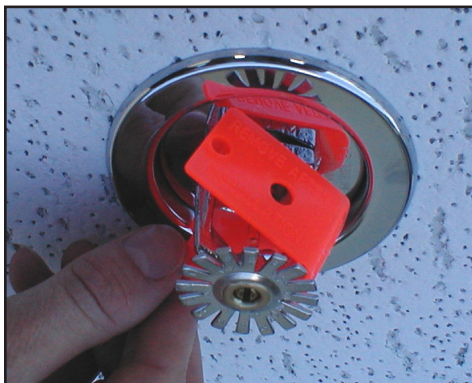


Figure 1: Sprinkler shield being removed from a pendent sprinkler.



Figure 2: Sprinkler cap being removed from a pendent sprinkler.



Figure 3: Sprinkler cap being removed from an upright sprinkler.

## HOW TO REMOVE SHIELDS AND CAPS:

No tools are necessary to remove the shields or caps from sprinklers. DO NOT use any sharp objects to remove them! **Take care not to cause mechanical damage to sprinklers when removing the shields or caps.** When removing caps from fusible element sprinklers, use care to prevent dislodging ejector springs or damaging fusible elements. NOTE: Squeezing the sprinkler cap excessively could damage sprinkler fusible elements.

- To remove the shield, simply pull the ends of the shield apart where it is snapped together. Refer to Figure 1.
- To remove the cap, turn it slightly and pull it off the sprinkler. Refer to Figures 2 and 3.

### NOTICE

Refer to the current sprinkler technical data page to determine the correct sprinkler wrench for the model of sprinkler used.

### WARNING

Never install sprinklers that have been dropped, damaged, or exposed to temperatures in excess of the maximum ambient temperature allowed.

\* Refer to the appropriate current technical data pages for complete care, handling, and installation instructions. Data pages are included with each shipment from Viking or Viking distributors. They can also be found on the Web site at [www.vikinggroupinc.com](http://www.vikinggroupinc.com).



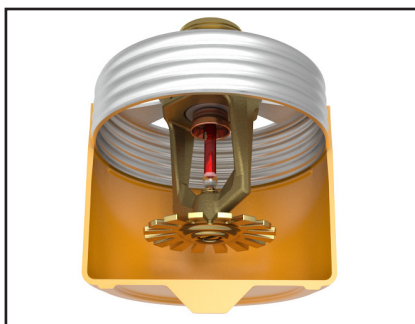
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**CONCEALED COVER ASSEMBLIES ARE FRAGILE!**  
**TO ASSURE SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE OF THE PRODUCT, HANDLE WITH CARE.**



Concealed Sprinkler and Adapter  
 Assembly with Protective Cap



Concealed Sprinkler and Adapter  
 Assembly (Protective Cap Removed)



Cover Plate Assembly  
 (Pendent Cover 12381 shown)

#### GENERAL HANDLING AND STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS:

- Do not store in temperatures exceeding 100 °F (38 °C). Avoid direct sunlight and confined areas subject to heat.
- Protect sprinklers and cover assemblies during storage, transport, handling, and after installation.
  - Use original shipping containers.
  - Do not place sprinklers or cover assemblies loose in boxes, bins, or buckets.
- Keep the sprinkler bodies covered with the protective sprinkler cap any time the sprinklers are shipped or handled, during testing of the system, and while ceiling finish work is being completed.
- Use only the designated Viking recessed sprinkler wrench (refer to the appropriate sprinkler data page) to install these sprinklers. **NOTE:** The protective cap is temporarily removed during installation and then placed back on the sprinkler for protection until finish work is completed.
- Do not over-tighten the sprinklers into fittings during installation.
- Do not use the sprinkler deflector to start or thread the sprinklers into fittings during installation.
- Do not attempt to remove drywall, paint, etc., from the sprinklers.
- Remove the plastic protective cap from the sprinkler before attaching the cover plate assembly. **PROTECTIVE CAPS MUST BE REMOVED FROM SPRINKLERS BEFORE PLACING THE SYSTEM IN SERVICE!**

Refer to the appropriate current technical data pages for complete care, handling, and installation instructions. Data pages are included with each shipment from Viking or Viking distributors. They can also be found on the Web site at [www.vikinggroupinc.com](http://www.vikinggroupinc.com).



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## USE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS WHEN HANDLING WAX-COATED SPRINKLERS

Many of Viking's sprinklers are available with factory-applied wax coating for corrosion resistance. These sprinklers MUST receive appropriate care and handling to avoid damaging the wax coating and to assure satisfactory performance of the product.

### General Handling and Storage of Wax-Coated Sprinklers:

- Store the sprinklers in a cool, dry place (in temperatures below the maximum ambient temperature allowed for the sprinkler temperature rating. Refer to Table 1 below.)
- Store containers of wax-coated sprinklers separate from other sprinklers.
- Protect the sprinklers during storage, transport, handling, and after installation.
- Use original shipping containers.
- Do not place sprinklers in loose boxes, bins, or buckets.

### Installation of Wax-Coated Sprinklers:

Use only the special sprinkler head wrench designed for installing wax-coated Viking sprinklers (any other wrench may damage the unit).

- Take care not to crack the wax coating on the units.
- For touching up the wax coating after installation, wax is available from Viking in bar form. Refer to Table 1 below. The coating MUST be repaired after sprinkler installation to protect the corrosion-resistant properties of the sprinkler.
- Use care when locating sprinklers near fixtures that can generate heat. Do not install sprinklers where they would be exposed to temperatures exceeding the maximum recommended ambient temperature for the temperature rating used.
- Inspect the coated sprinklers frequently soon after installation to verify the integrity of the corrosion resistant coating. Thereafter, inspect representative samples of the coated sprinklers in accordance with NFPA 25. Close up visual inspections are necessary to determine whether the sprinklers are being affected by corrosive conditions.

TABLE 1

Sprinkler Temperature Rating (Fusing Point)	Wax Part Number	Wax Melting Point	Maximum Ambient Ceiling Temperature <sup>1</sup>	Wax Color
155 °F (68 °C) / 165 °F (74 °C)	02568A	148 °F (64 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	Light Brown
175 °F (79 °C)	04146A	161 °F (71 °C)	150 °F (65 °C)	Brown
200 °F (93 °C)	04146A	161 °F (71 °C)	150 °F (65 °C)	Brown
220 °F (104 °C)	02569A	170 °F (76 °C)	150 °F (65 °C)	Dark Brown
286 °F (141 °C)	02569A	170 °F (76 °C)	150 °F (65 °C)	Dark Brown

<sup>1</sup> Based on NFPA-13. Other limits may apply, depending on fire loading, sprinkler location, and other requirements of the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Refer to specific installation standards.



Never install sprinklers that have been dropped, damaged, or exposed to temperatures in excess of the maximum ambient temperature allowed.

Refer to the appropriate current technical data pages for complete care, handling, and installation instructions. Data pages are included with each shipment from Viking or Viking distributors. They can also be found on the Web site at [www.vikinggroupinc.com](http://www.vikinggroupinc.com).