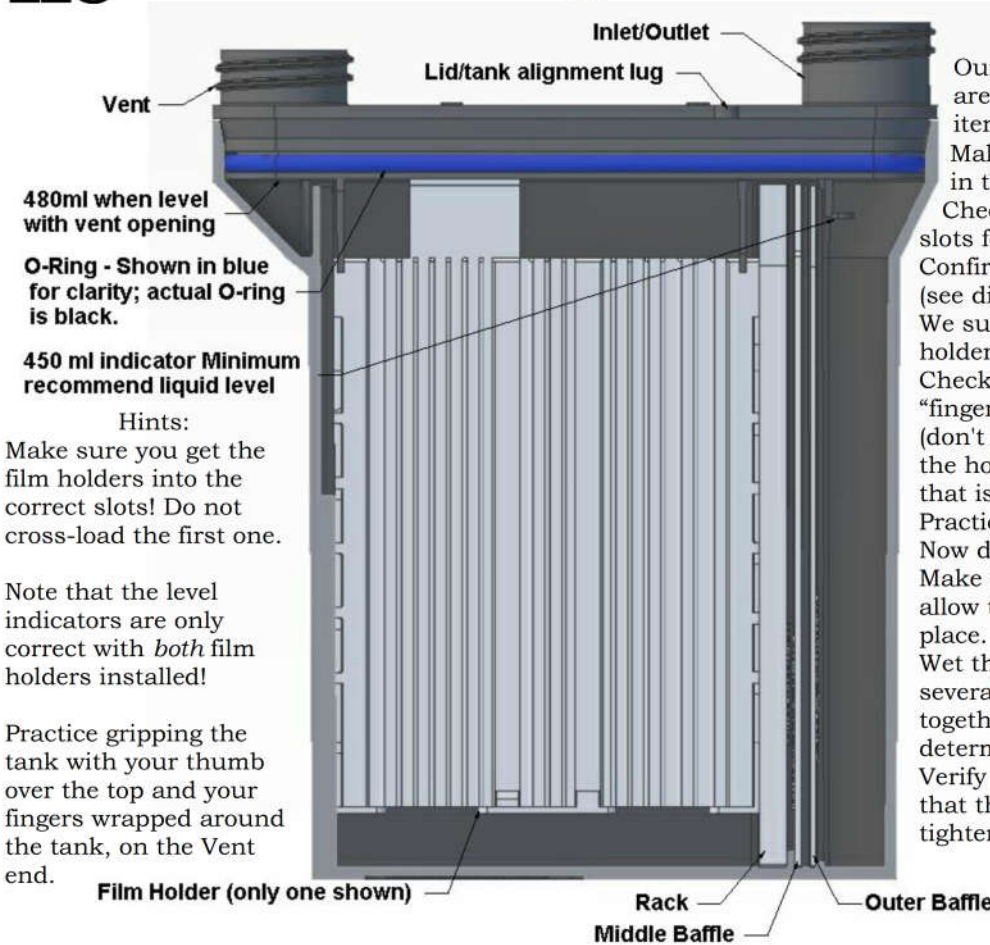




SP-445 4x5 Film Processing System



Checklist:

Our quality control team is good, but they are not perfect. Please check the following items before use:

Make sure the O-ring seal is properly seated in the groove in the lid.

Check that the "Rack" is orientated with the slots for the film holders facing inside the tank. Confirm that the baffles are in the correct slots (see diagram).

We suggest that you practice loading the film holders in daylight with scrap film.

Check to make sure that the film holder's "fingers" are free from any molding "flash", (don't forget the one centered at the bottom of the holder.) Carefully remove any extra "flash" that is keeping the film from sliding in easily. Practice loading the film holder into the tank. Now do it with your eyes closed.

Make sure the notches in the hold-down lugs allow the lid to close with the film holders in place.

Wet the O-ring with water and seat the lid several times to make sure everything slides together easily. Use the alignment lugs to determine the orientation.

Verify that the caps have seals in them and that they fit correctly on the lid. Don't over tighten.

Introduction to the SP-445

First: Check the checklist above. No, seriously, go read it.

Loading: Load your SP-445 tank in complete darkness. *It doesn't hurt to leave the caps on the inlet and vent – just in case you forgot to reinstall one of the light baffles and find it sitting in your darkroom sink...*

Getting a leak proof seal: when filling the tank, first tighten the vent lid. Then, while gently squeezing the tank (you can see the liquid level in fill/drain outlet rise a bit), tighten the fill/drain lid.

Tap the tank firmly on the bench to dislodge any air bubbles and then agitate by inverting the tank, holding it inverted for 1 second, then turning it right side up for 1 second.

Agitation: This can quickly become a religious debate, so you'll want to experiment. However, we've found that 4 inversion cycles every 30 seconds is a good place to start.

Emptying the tank: remove the "Vent" cap to allow air to enter the tank while pouring. *Hold on to both the tank and the lid to ensure that it stays together while pouring.*

Wash/rinse: our testing has shown that 5 to 10 minutes with slowly running water into the Inlet/Outlet (with both caps removed) provides sufficient wash. *However, everyone's setup is unique, we recommend testing your wash procedure with a Residual Fixer Test kit.*

Wetting Agents: Fill the tank with a wetting agent (we suggest our SP-H2O Flow), reinstall the caps and agitate for 45-60 seconds. *You don't need to get violent but we recommend continuous motion.* The film should now slide out of the holders with almost no resistance.

More information is available on our website:

www.stearmanpress.com

This is NOT a complete how-to-develop-film guide! You'll need to follow the instructions for the chemistry you are using. The information provided is the accurate to the best of our knowledge but is presented without warranty of any kind. User's should experiment before attempting to processing important photos.