

Frequently Asked Questions

Pass and Seymour® Humidity Based Fan Control (HSW)

Question: I only have two black wires, how do I properly connect Pass and Seymour® Humidity Based Fan Control (HSW)?

Answer: One of those wires is incoming power and one is power to the fan. Please refer to the instruction manual for proper wiring of HSW.

Question: I do not have a white neutral wire; will HSW still work without it?

Answer: HSW fan switch does need a white neutral to operate. Generally there is a type of neutral wire available in your junction box (wall box). Older homes or homes where code was not followed can make it a problem to find a neutral. You will need good knowledge of electrical and an electrical testing device to find a neutral wire. We strongly suggest you use a Licensed and Bonded electrician for this task.

Question: How do I set HSW's sensitivity for my specific bathroom?

Answer: HSW comes preset at the 12:00 o'clock position. This is the best place to start. For further instruction on setting your sensitivity levels, please refer to the manual included with your HSW switch.

Question: The fan comes on too early/too frequently. How can I fix this?

Answer: This means HSW is set to a higher sensitivity level. Simply turn the sensitivity dial counterclockwise slightly to reduce sensitivity. We suggest small increments at a time.

Question: The fan doesn't come on soon enough; there is already moisture on the walls by the time the fan comes on. How do I fix this?

Answer: If you want HSW to come on faster, you can rotate the sensitivity dial clockwise. Now HSW is more sensitive. Move to the right again if needed but only move in small increments until you find the right setting.

Question: I occasionally like to steam up my bathroom. Is it possible to disable the sensor?

Answer: Yes! You can disable the sensing of moisture. Make sure the fan is OFF. Now push down and hold down the button for 15 seconds, then release the button. Moisture sensitivity is now disabled.

Question: If I disable the sensor, can I still turn the fan on/off manually?

Answer: Yes! You can turn ON and OFF your fan manually. Now the fan switch is a manual ON OFF and the timer will continue to work.

Question: How do I turn the sensor back on?

Answer: Yes! It's easy to turn the moisture sensing back ON. Make sure the fan is OFF. Now push down and hold down the button for 15 seconds, then release the button. Now the moisture sensor is able to detect moisture again.

Question: I use an air conditioner during the day in the summer, then turn it off at night. When I do this, my fan comes on. What is happening?

Answer: Sometimes when the air conditioning is turned OFF the house will start to attract moisture and this is similar to taking a shower or bath. HSW senses this and turns ON the bath fan. You can avoid this by reducing the sensitivity level. To do this, rotate the dial counterclockwise. We suggest small increments at a time.

Question: The blue LED light is pulsing. What does this mean?

Answer: The pulsing is telling you that HSW sees moisture and HSW is running the fan to remove the moisture. When the blue LED is solid (not pulsing on/off the fan is ON and in manual timer mode or in HSW drying mode. Note: When HSW senses moisture it will run the fan as long as it takes to dry the room back to the level it saw your room at prior to the moisture. After a shower or bath this is typically 25-35 minutes. THE MANUAL TIMER SETTING DOES NOT CHANGE THE DRYING TIME, it is important that your room is properly dried. The manual timer is for smell removal time only.

Question: I lost my adjustment tool that came with HSW. Can I use a screw driver to make adjustments?

Answer: Yes you can use any small tool but be careful not to break the small sensitivity and time dials with a large screw driver tool.

Question: What happens if someone turns the fan off before the room is properly dried out?

Answer: HSW knows your room needs to be dry and if someone turns OFF HSW it is OK. HSW will sense the moisture again after one minute and turn back ON to finish drying the room.

Question: If I set my Countdown Timer to 5 minutes, does that mean that the fan will only run for 5 minutes when moisture is detected?

Answer: No. The timer is for smell removal time. The moisture detection runs longer and runs until the room is back to the original dryness before the shower or bath.