

Procedure 5.4 — Troubleshooting the External A.C. Power Source

It is extremely important that any Precor treadmill be connected to and operated on a dedicated 20 amp A.C. circuit. A 20 amp dedicated circuit is defined as: a circuit fed by a 20 amp circuit breaker that feeds a single load. A treadmill operating from a non-dedicated circuit or a circuit breaker of less than 20 amps capacity will not have the necessary power available to operate normally under higher load conditions. The lack of available power can cause any number of symptoms ranging from numerous intermittent (seemingly inexplicable) error conditions, poor speed control, or tripping the house circuit breaker.

If any of the above symptoms exist the external A.C. circuit must be checked and confirmed to be a 20 amp dedicated circuit **before** troubleshooting the treadmill.

In addition the A.C. voltage must be checked. Nominal A.C. operating voltage on 120 Vac circuits is 105 Vac to 120 Vac. Nominal A.C. operating voltage on 240 Vac circuits is 208 Vac to 240 Vac.

For operator safety considerations and to minimize electrostatic discharge conditions the A.C. frame ground continuity must also be verified to be a low resistance connection to the A.C. distribution ground bar.

Important

If the A.C. circuit feeding a treadmill is found to be a non-dedicated circuit or a circuit equipped with a circuit breaker with a capacity of less than 20 amps, the A.C. circuit must be corrected to be a 20 amp dedicated circuit **before** any reliable troubleshooting can be performed on the treadmill. More importantly, a non-dedicated circuit may constitute a safety hazard to the treadmill operator.

120 Vac Systems

120 Vac distribution systems utilize a single pole circuit breaker (hot lead) and a neutral lead connected to a common neutral (ground) bar. The A.C. safety ground (green wire) is connected to a separate ground bar in the distribution system.

The most common problems found are (1) the circuit is fed by a circuit breaker of less than 20 amp capacity, (2) the circuit breaker correctly feeds a single A.C. outlet but the neutral is common between several A.C. outlets and (3) both the hot and neutral leads feed several A.C. outlets. The appropriate correction action or actions (see below) must be followed if any of the above conditions exist. **Corrective actions should only be undertaken by a licensed electrician.**

1. The circuit breaker feeding the treadmill is not a 20 amp circuit breaker.

If the circuit breaker is greater than 20 amps, the circuit breaker should be replaced with a 20 amp circuit breaker. If the circuit breaker is less than 20 amps the circuit breaker must be replaced with a 20 amp circuit breaker and the wiring from the A.C. distribution must be capable of safely handling 20 amps. If the A.C. wiring is under sized, it must be replaced with wire capable of safely handling 20 amps. Please, refer to local electrical codes when determining the appropriate wire size for a 20 amp circuit.

2. **The circuit breaker correctly feeds a single A.C. outlet but the neutral is common between several A.C. outlets.**

The common neutral lead must be removed from treadmill's A.C. outlet and a new neutral lead from the treadmill's A.C. outlet to the A.C. neutral distribution bar must be added.

3. **Both the hot and neutral leads feed several A.C. outlets.**

Both the common neutral and hot leads must be removed from treadmill's A.C. outlet and a new neutral lead and hot lead from the treadmill's A.C. outlet to the A.C. neutral distribution bar and circuit breaker must be added.

240 Vac Systems

240 Vac distribution systems utilize a double pole circuit breaker (two hot leads) The A.C. safety ground (green wire) is connected to a ground bar in the distribution system.

The most common problems found are (1) the circuit is fed by a circuit breaker of less than 20 amp capacity and (2) both the hot leads feed several A.C. outlets. The appropriate correction action or actions (see below) must be followed if any of the above conditions exist. **Corrective actions should only be undertaken by a licensed electrician.**

1. **The circuit breaker feeding the treadmill is not a 20 amp circuit breaker.**

If the circuit breaker is greater than 20 amps, the circuit breaker should be replaced with a 20 amp circuit breaker. If the circuit breaker is less than 20 amps the circuit breaker must be replaced with a 20 amp circuit breaker and the wiring from the A.C. distribution must be capable of safely handling 20 amps. If the A.C. wiring is under sized, it must be replaced with wire capable of safely handling 20 amps. Please, refer to local electrical codes when determining the appropriate wire size for a 20 amp circuit.

2. **Both the hot leads feed several A.C. outlets.**

Both hot leads must be removed from treadmill's A.C. outlet and two new hot leads from the treadmill's A.C. outlet to the circuit breaker must be added.

A licensed electrician may use the followings hints to determine if an A.C. service is dedicated.

1. If, on a 120 Vac system, the A.C. distribution panel contains more circuit breakers than neutral leads, the system has shared neutral leads and is not dedicated.
2. If an A.C. outlet (120 or 240 Vac) has multiple hot and/or neutral leads, it is not a dedicated.

If either of the above conditions exist, the system is not dedicated. However, absence of the above conditions does not necessarily mean that the system is dedicated. If any doubt exists about A.C. systems dedication, point to point tracing of the A.C. wiring may be the only way to prove system dedication.