



Simple to Set Timer (SST) Frequently Asked Questions

Product Information

Q. How do I know which SST timer to purchase?

A. This is determined by location of placement, and how many zones, or valves, the timer will control. First: There are indoor and outdoor models. Indoor is for a garage, shed, or other weather resistant area. Outdoor models can be placed on an exterior wall or fence where there is a power supply. Second: The number of sprinkler valves determines which model you can purchase. If you have 5 valves look for a timer that is a 6 zone timer. Valves are often found in a row next to the side of a house in the case they are anti-siphon, or they can be found in a valve box at various places in the yard. It is important to understand how many you have to select the right model.

Q. Can the SST Timer be used to replace other brands of timers?

A. Yes. As long as the valves being used run on standard 24 VAC than you can replace your current timer with an SST timer.

Q. What are zones?

A. A zone is a watering area that is covered by a single sprinkler valve.

Q. Does the SST have a battery back up in case of power failure?

A. Yes. There is a battery in the timer that is turned on when the timer is first installed and the yellow tab is pulled. This battery does not power the timer in the case of a power failure during a scheduled water event. It only keeps the time until the power is restored.

Q. When there is a power loss do I have to reprogram my SST Timer?

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A. No. The program is stored in non-volatile memory in the timer so it does not have to be reprogrammed in the event of power loss.

Q. After a power loss how long until the SST Timer resumes working normally?

A. As soon as the power comes back on the SST Timer will begin working again as programmed almost immediately.

Q. Does the SST Timer work with a rain sensor?

A. Yes. Rain Bird offers wired rain sensors like the RSD model Rain Sensor that work well with the SST Timer. Installing a rain sensor will help save water and keep your yard looking healthy instead of water logged.

Installation

Q. Where can I install my SST Timer?

A. If the timer is an indoor model than it must be installed in a garage, shed, or other water resistant location. If it needs to be installed outdoors there are after-market water resistant boxes for purchase at many retailers. (If your timer does not say it is indoor on the box look at the model number, if it is an SST400i then the "i" stands for indoor). If your timer is an outdoor model it can be installed either indoors in a garage or outdoors on an outside wall next to a power supply.

Q. What is the yellow pull tab for?

A. When the yellow pull tab is pulled it activates a back-up battery for the clock. For best results in battery life wait to pull the tab until the timer is plugged in and powered up.

Q. Does the SST Timer plug into a regular outlet?

A. The SST indoor uses a regular plug out. The plug has a transformer built into it so it is a little oversized and will require a little more space. It is best to plug it into a surge protector in order to reduce the chance of damage to the timer. The SST outdoor also plus into a regular outlet but the transformer is built into the timer so the plug is not as large.

Q. Does the SST Outdoor come with a plug or just power wires?

A. The SST Outdoor comes with a pre-installed outdoor rated plug that sits at a right angle for installation with outdoor outlets that have a weather resistant cover.

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Q. Do I have to use the plug that comes with the SST Outdoor or can I connect the power wires right into the Timer?

A. The SST outdoor plug can be removed and you can connect power wires right into the timer. This installation requires the removal of screws under the wire bay cover, and connecting wires with connector caps. If you have any questions about how to safely perform this installation please contact a professional electrician.

Q. How do I connect the RSD rain Sensor?

A. 1. Remove the yellow jumper wire from the Rain Sensor terminals. 2. Connect both Rain Sensor wires to the terminals marked Rain Sensor. For best results push down the square button above the wire port with a small screw driver, place the wire in the port, then release the button and the wire will snap into place.

Q. I want to use a PVC conduit to my SST Outdoor. What size do I need?

A. A 3/4" PVC pipe would meet up with the SST Outdoor power wiring nicely as the hole is roughly the same size as the 0.82" inside diameter of the 3/4" PVC pipe.

Programming

Q. Are there steps to programming the timer?

A. The easiest process for setting the timer is to set each notch in a clockwise direction. A. Set the clock time. B. Set the date. C. Turn to each zone and set 1. Start time, 2. Watering time, 3. Watering days, 4. Times per day. D. Set seasonal adjust as needed. E. Turn dial to Auto Run. Additional programming information is available through tutorial videos on this site.

Q. How can I program the clock quickly?

A. When setting the clock there is no AM or PM button but by holding down the up or down arrow the clock will cycle through the time very quickly to get to the time of day needed.

Q. Do I need to set the start times of each zone so they start in sequence?

A. No. Every zone can have the same start time. The SST timer will "stack" the zones in sequence. An example would be if you have a 4 zone timer where every zone is set for 10 minutes duration, and all are set to start at 5 AM. The schedule would work like this: Zone 1: 5AM, Zone 2 5:10 AM, Zone 3: 5:20 AM, Zone 4 5:30 AM

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Q. Can I have every zone start at the same time?

A. No. Most homes would not have the water pressure to run more than one zone at a time. That is why the SST automatically "stacks" zones that are set for the same time so one runs right after the other.

Q. What are the watering time increments?

A. The watering duration can be set from 1 to 240 minutes.

Q. How many times a day can I water?

A. The SST timer will allow for up to 4 different watering times a day.

Q. How do I change additional watering times per day on the SST?

A. The SST second watering time comes with a preset offset of 6 hours after your first watering time. This can be adjusted by pushing the "Two Times" watering time again and it will cycle through additional offset options: "+1, +2, +3, +4, +8, +9, +12". Similar offset options are available when using the "Three Times", and "Four Times" buttons.

Q. Can I set zones for different watering times?

A. Yes! This is one of the best features of the SST Timer. Each and every zone can be fully customized for a different watering time, single or multiple, up to four times per day. Perfect for separating your zones for watering different types of plants, grass, and trees.

Q. How does Rain Delay work?

A. Rain Delay allows you to delay the system from watering. It allows you to set a 12 hr. to a 72 hr. delay, only in 12 hr. increments.

Q. If I want to water all my zones manually do I have to do them one at a time?

A. No. You can water all of them without having to water them one at a time. There are two manual water buttons: "Water All Now", and "Water One Zone Now". If you have the dial on "Auto Run" you can press the "Water All Now" and it will run the preset watering time duration for all zones. Note: Older versions of the SST might not have the "Water All Now" button. Those models would need to be manually watered one zone at a time.

Q. Is there a way to use the "Water All Now" button but skip a zone?

A. Yes. By pressing the "Water All Now" button again you can skip the current zone and move on to the next. This can be used to skip as many zones as desired.

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Q. When I go to water 1 zone manually it starts at a 10 minute watering time. Can this be customized?

A. When the SST timer is set to water one zone manually it will always start at 10 minutes but it can be adjusted from 1 to 180 minutes. If you are looking to run a programmed time for all zones use the "Water All Now" button.

Q. I want to turn one zone off for a few days while I work on the yard but I don't want to lose my program, can I do that?

A. Yes. Turn to the zone number, push the zone off button, and then it will remain off until the time when you come back, turn the water times per day button desired, and your program will still be there waiting.

Troubleshooting

Q. Why does my SST timer run through all my zones, stop and then start all over again?

A. There is a second start time selected. Check the "watering times per day" buttons when the dial is on the zone(s) that repeat. If one time per day is preferred select the "one time" button.

Q. Why is my SST watering double the amount of time as I have in the settings?

A. This could be caused by having the watering time on a zone or zones longer than intended, or by setting the seasonal adjust to 0%. Check all the zone watering times first and when they are accurate turn the dial to seasonal adjust and press the up/down arrows to change the percentage to 100%

Q. Why does my SST still water even after turning it off?

A. If after turning the dial on your timer to off, the water keeps running and it doesn't stop, this means that there is some kind of issue with 1 or all the valves. When this happens it may be necessary to replace a valve, or to call a contractor. See the valves section of the site to flush debris or troubleshoot.

Q. My SST will not water automatically or manually, what now?

A. Check the following: 1. Rain sensor is working properly, or if you have no rain sensor there is a yellow jumper wire in place where the sensor would go? 2. Rain Delay is not activated? 3. Valves have water? You can check this by turning a valve bleed screw and waiting a few seconds. (See valve trouble shooting for more info) If your valve bleed screw lets water out for a few seconds then stops the water supply to your valves has been turned off. Check your water shutoff or contact your water utility company.

Q. My power cord to my SST indoor is missing/damaged/not working, can I get a replacement?

A. Yes. The UT1 model of transformer is the perfect replacement for an SST indoor. It is available at many retailers or online.

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Q. My SST Timer screen is blank. What should I do?

A. For Indoor Timer: Check to ensure the timer power plug has not been dislodged, or damaged. Check the circuit breaker for the outlet being used. Does the red light on the plug come on? If the red light on the plug does not come on and it is plugged into an outlet that you know has power, then the plug may need to be replaced. The replacement for an SST Indoor Timer is the UT1 transformer.