

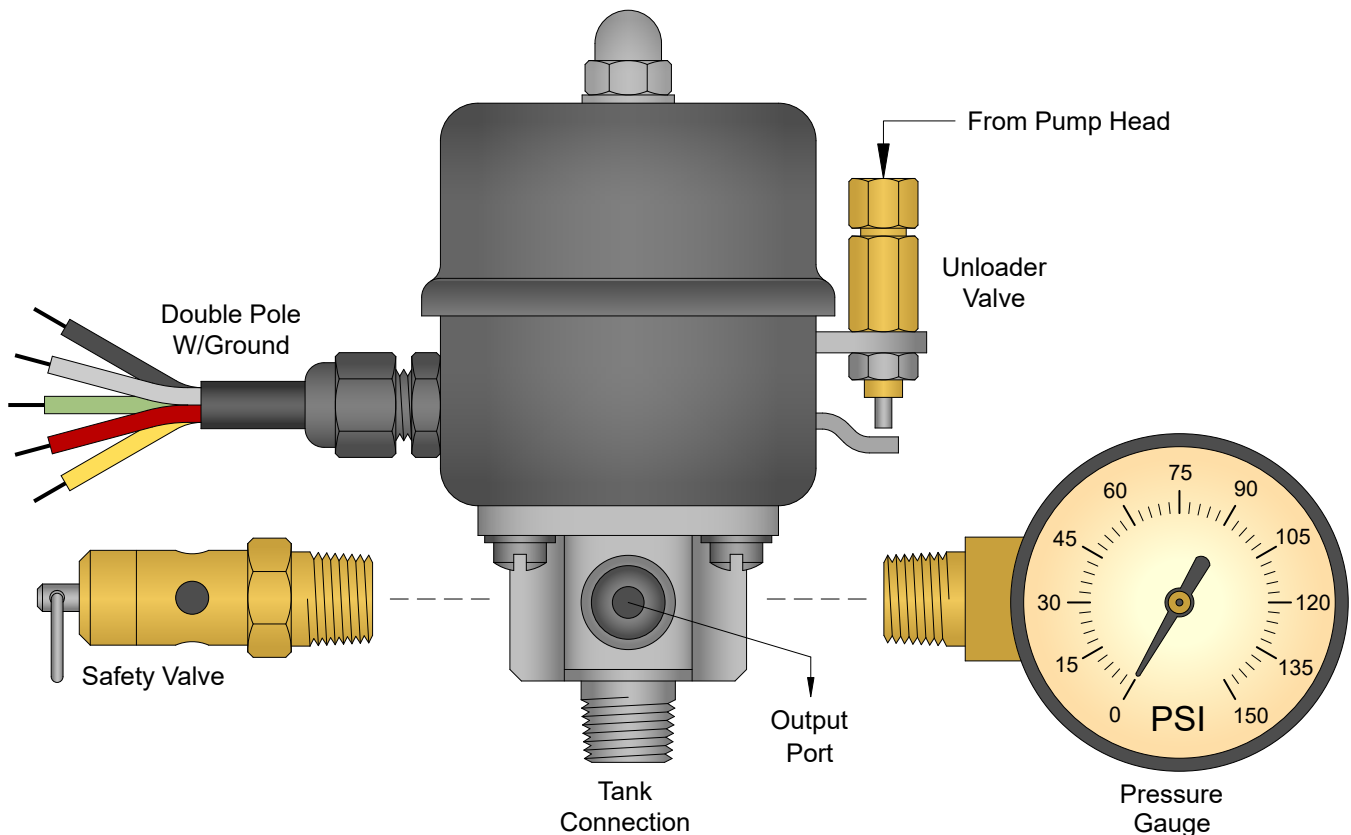
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The Universal Pressure Switch

by Brian S. Elliott

The universal pressure switch, as illustrated below, is pretty much the standard for home/hobby and commercial air compressors. The reason for this is that they provide a complete solution to the compressor's plumbing requirements in an inexpensive and easy-to-install package. These switches will usually have an integrated output manifold that provides ports for a pressure gauge, a safety valve and a compressed air output. Additionally, they will be equipped with a side mounted unloader valve. In most cases, the switch element is a two-pole arrangement that can directly switch up to a 3 horsepower motor. This feature eliminates the need for a motor controller, further reducing manufacturing costs.



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