3B SCIENTIFIC® PHYSICS



Low-Temperature Stirling Engine 1002598

Instruction sheet

05/18 SD



- 1 Top plate
- 2 Housing wall
- 3 Bottom plate
- 4 Displacement piston
- 5 Cylinder with operating piston
- 6 Housing with crankshaft
 - 7 Flywheel

1. Description

This low-temperature model is used to demonstrate the operation and basic design of a Stirling engine.

The low-temperature Stirling engine can be powered by the warmth of the human hand alone. It only requires a temperature difference of about 5°C between the bottom and top plates.

The operating cylinder consists of precision glass, while the displacement cylinder and flywheel are made of acrylic glass. This allows the movement of the operating piston, displacement piston and crank mechanism to be observed clearly. The crankshaft and connecting rod are furnished with high-precision miniature ball bearings in order to minimize losses due to friction.

The matt black coating of the top plate also allows the Stirling engine to run on solar energy.

	2. Technical data
Speed:	approx. 80 rmp at ΔT 10°C
Flywheel:	110 mm diam.
Dimensions:	138 mm x 110 mm diam.

3. Operation

- Place the Stirling engine on your hand or any other warm surface, e.g. on a cup with hot water.
- The bottom plate will heat up sufficiently after 1 or 2 minutes. In warm weather, the temperature difference might prove too small, in which case the top plate would need to be cooled with a moist cloth.
- Set the flywheel in clockwise motion (relative to the front end of the crankshaft).

The Stirling engine will turn anti-clockwise if the top plate heats up, for instance, through solar radiation or warmth emanated by a lamp.

• For this purpose, place the engine on a cool surface such as a window sill.

4. Care and maintenance

The Stirling engine does not need any lubrication.

- Avoid exposure of the device to dust.
- To clean the Stirling engine use a wet cloth with dish washing liquid, if necessary.
- Never clean the acrylic glass pieces with solvent or any aggressive cleaning agent.



