

The Van De Graff

1. Noun

2. Noun - Plural

The Van De Graff

The Van De Graff _____ is a machine that uses an electric motor to create a large static charge. Along with the motor most Van De Graff _____ have a power switch, a base, an insulating tube and a collection dome. A rubber belt runs on two pulleys through the insulating tube. There is a metal brush near each pulley. When the power switch is turned on the electric motor turns the bottom pulley causing the rubber belt to spin. As the belt spins electrons gather on the bottom brush and collect on the metal base. The left over positive atoms gather on the top brush, and end up gathering on the large collection dome. The result is a large positive charge on the dome. If a person places their hand on the collection dome they too will fill up with positive charges, and because like charges repel their hair will stand on end. If used right the Van De Graff generator can provide a science class 140,000 volts of fun!