

Attaching External Grill to Airstream

PROBLEM: Can I run a gas grill through two regulators? On my new 2013 Classic they put a nipple valve beyond the regulator at the tanks. I put a quick connect hose on there and attached it to my grill through the grill's regulator. I get a weak flame that blows out easily. I cannot find a grill without a regulator. What is up? What are my options? Why would Airstream put this access valve in if you cannot use it?

ANSWER: Figure (1) illustrates the LPG port for attaching external low pressure appliances.

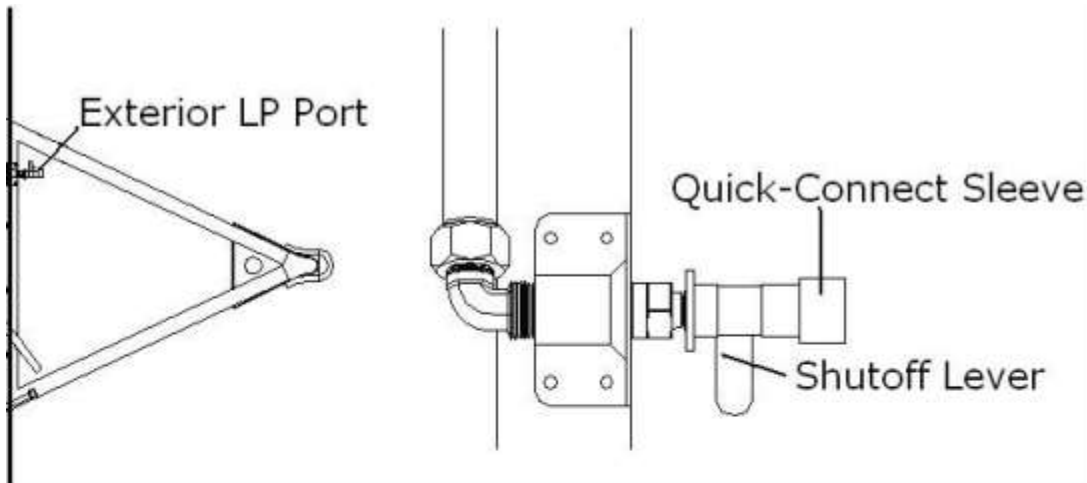


Figure (1) Airstream LPG Port

Quick Connect Instructions:

Slide the quick connect valve sleeve back and insert the appliance supply gas line male coupler into the quick connect valve female coupler. Release the sleeve to capture the male coupler and gently pull on appliance supply line to check that it is properly captured. Turn the shut off lever to the on position to supply gas to the appliance.

To remove the appliance supply line:

Turn the gas lever to the off position to unlock the male coupler and slide the sleeve back to release the appliance supply line. For safety, the LP port valve has a shut off lever that locks the male coupler in place when the gas is turned on. The gas is on when the lever is turned so it is in line with the valve. Figure (1) shows the shutoff lever in the off position.

WARNING: Each time you use the exterior LP port, check it for wear and/or damage. If any damage or wear is found, **DO NOT USE** the port until it has been inspected by a qualified technician.

You should be able to run the grill off this valve. All the grill regulator is doing is limiting the maximum gas pressure. As long as the pressure stays below the regulator setting, the grill flame should be fine. There is no problem having multiple regulators in a propane line. If you were going to add a separate propane heater, it would also have its own regulator. The problem is you are not getting enough propane pressure to run the grill.

Assuming all of your main propane appliances work fine and you can run your furnace and cook top at the same time, your total gas pressure is probably set correctly. You may have a faulty LPG gas shut-off valve fitting, or your grill regulator is not working.

Your grill regulator may be stuck which will result in a low yellow flame. Try this procedure first by going through the following steps:

1. Turn off the propane at the tank regulator
2. Disconnect the grill gas line to the Airstream nozzle
3. Open the grill lid
4. Turn all of the grill valves to high
5. Wait about a minute or so
6. Turn the grill valves off
7. Reconnect the gas line to the nozzle
8. Slowly turn on the main tank valve
9. Light the grill

This will release the pressure on the grill regulator. Your problem is definitely not having two regulators.

If this does not fix the problem, the grill regulator may just be defective. Try using a one pound propane tank to test the grill. If it still does not work the quick release valve may be defective or have a metal chip stuck inside. Get an Airstream dealer to check the gas pressure available at the quick release coupling.

RESULTS: I did as you suggested and after several minutes, I have a solid 350 degree flame temperature, which should suffice for most things. It is not a big grill. Thanks.