

Western Roofing
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CapStapler

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We Test Out the Paslode CS150 CapStapler

With new construction coming as the weather improves, now is the time that many look into new tools, ideas, and products to save time and money for upcoming jobs. If your company works on anything that requires quick fastening, like building wraps or roof underlayment, the Paslode® CS150 CapStapler is an option to consider.

Housewrap and underlayment manufacturers often require or suggest using capped fasteners. The caps increase surface area of the cap and in turn its holding power, so building fabrics are less likely to tear out from under the fasteners. Building fabrics can billow in the wind and cause tears around staples, leaving holes that can leak. Other tools themselves can also cause damage, the nose that you bump against the building can tear into the membrane. In other words, wind is bad so the more secured surface area the better, and pointy things make holes.

The Paslode CS150 CapStapler is a lightweight option that features a large capacity reel with an in-line magazine, switchable trigger, a quick clear nose, and versatile adjustment options that make it comfortable to carry and easy to operate.

The large capacity reel (240 caps per reel and 90 3/4" - 1 1/2", 18 ga, 3/8" crown staples) makes trips down the ladders a little less frequent, which by itself is already saving time and money in lost productivity. The inline magazine makes it more comfortable to maneuver and easier to control. And, at only 4.5 lbs (empty, about 4.8 lbs loaded) it's easy on the arm, especially when there's a lot of ground (or in this case house) to cover. Adjustments for the CS150 are quick and easy to do. The switchable trigger makes the transition seamlessly from bump to sequential without wasted effort, and adjusting the drive depth is just as simple and quick. It also comes with an adjustable belt hook for mobility.

We were able to test out the CS150 for ourselves and we found it to be comfortable and quick. Even out in heavy wind the lightweight and compact design made it easy to maneuver and adjust to the elements. Not a single cap came loose in the wind and when we ran out it was simple to reload and get back to work. You simply lift the black lever on the canister, drop in a spool of caps, fold the lever down, and then advance the caps through the bottom of the gun by pushing them forward with your finger. Reloading the staples was even simpler as it's a drop in system. Plus the nifty belt hook made it easy to stop and adjust the paper we were stapling without having to find a place to set down the tool. The hook can be installed on either side of the grip, but when installed for a lefty the air coupler can get in the way. We spent a long time with it outside testing the depth adjustments and switching from bump to sequential drive both in an effort to jam it and to check its ability to switch seamlessly. We finally got it to jam, but within minutes the jam was cleared and everything was right as rain, it also just happened to be raining. Switching drives and depths were pretty simple, but switching from staples to caps and back again requires only the push of a button.



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CapStapler (continued)

Underdriving fasteners due to pressure fluctuations is normally a problem with any pneumatic fastening tool. There are, of course, ways to limit this problem with any pneumatic tool (i.e. using an inline pressure valve) but it wasn't much of a problem with the CS150. Overdriving the caps is another pressure issue we considered in our trials. As with underdriving it wasn't a problem on the CS150. Unfortunately the only thing this tool doesn't have is a dry-fire lock-out system, so if you're out of staples it will still advance caps.

With the many features provided in this tool it's no wonder that it required so little effort to use. Overall, we found the Paslode CS150 CapStapler to be a well rounded, comfortable, and easy to use tool.

