Bag-Tracheostomy Ventilation

Supplies needed:

1. Self-inflating resuscitation bag
2. Tubing to connect to oxygen supply
3. Oxygen tank

Bag-Tracheostomy Ventilation Procedure:

1. If you have an oxygen tank readily available, turn the liter flow on the tank to the highest liter flow possible.

2. Connect the tubing from the ambu bag to the oxygen source. If oxygen is not available, manually bag with room air.

3. If the student is on a ventilator you will need to disconnect the ventilator adaptor from his or her trach. (You will skip this step if the student is not on a ventilator)

4. Once the ventilator is disconnected from the trach, attach the ambu bag directly to the student's trach.

5. Squeeze the ambu bag with slow and steady pressure so you deliver the breath over about one second.

6. Give the student one breath every five to six seconds. (about 12-20 breaths per minute). Count out loud if you need to in order to keep this pace

7. Continue to give slow and steady breaths while watching for chest rise. This will indicate that the student is getting adequate breaths.

8. Watch the manometer on the bag as you give breaths. The pressure on the manometer should read between 20 and 30 when you are giving a breath.
    - If the pressure is too high you may be squeezing too hard.
    - If the pressure is too low you may not be squeezing hard enough.
    - If you are giving slow steady breaths but the pressure on the manometer is consistently going higher than 30, you should suspect a plugged tracheostomy tube. You may also notice that the bag is difficult to squeeze, and that little to no chest rise is seen.

9. If the student is breathing, coordinate the manual breaths with the students, so you give a breath as the student begins to inhale.