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Briggs & Stratton 796232

Briggs & Stratton 796232 Cylinder Head Instruction Manual

Genuine Replacement Part for Briggs & Stratton Engines

1. Product Overview

The Briggs & Stratton 796232 Cylinder Head is a genuine OEM replacement part designed to maintain the peak performance of your outdoor power equipment. This component is crucial for the proper functioning of your engine, ensuring optimal compression and combustion.
It is manufactured to exact OEM standards, ensuring a precise fit and reliable operation. Using genuine Briggs & Stratton parts helps ensure compliance with applicable EPA emission regulations.



Image 1.1: The Briggs & Stratton 796232 Cylinder Head, shown with accompanying gaskets and rocker arms, ready for installation. This assembly includes the cylinder head, valves, springs, and associated hardware.

Key Features:

- Genuine Briggs & Stratton Cylinder Head, part number 796232.
- Designed to meet exact OEM specifications for optimal performance.
- Includes necessary components for a complete replacement.

2. Compatibility

This cylinder head is compatible with a range of Briggs & Stratton engines. It is essential to verify your engine's model number before purchasing and installing this part to ensure proper fitment.

Applicable Engine Models:

- Fits most 401000 series Briggs & Stratton Engines.
- Fits most 405000 series Briggs & Stratton Engines.
- Fits most 406000 series Briggs & Stratton Engines.

Replaces Previous Part Numbers:

This part directly replaces the following older Briggs & Stratton part numbers:

- 796633
- 792300
- 697581
- 693999
- 499595



Image 2.1: Important reminder to always verify your engine's model number before purchasing replacement parts to ensure correct fitment and avoid compatibility issues.

3. Setup and Installation

Installation of the cylinder head requires mechanical aptitude and specific tools. If you are not comfortable performing this procedure, it is recommended to seek assistance from a qualified service technician.

Required Tools and Materials:

- Socket wrench set
- Torque wrench (essential for head bolt tightening)
- Feeler gauges (for valve clearance adjustment)
- Engine oil
- Clean rags
- Service manual for your specific engine model (for torque specifications and valve clearances)

Installation Steps (General Guide):

1. **Safety First:** Disconnect the spark plug wire and ensure the engine is cool before beginning any work. Drain engine oil if necessary for access.
2. **Remove Old Cylinder Head:** Carefully remove all components obstructing access to the cylinder head, including the air cleaner, carburetor, exhaust, and valve cover. Loosen and remove the cylinder head bolts in a reverse sequence of tightening (typically from outside in).
3. **Clean Surfaces:** Thoroughly clean the mating surfaces on both the engine block and the new cylinder head. Ensure no old gasket material or debris remains. A clean surface is critical for a proper seal.
4. **Install New Gasket:** Place the new cylinder head gasket onto the engine block, ensuring it is correctly oriented.
5. **Position New Cylinder Head:** Carefully place the new cylinder head onto the engine block, aligning it with the gasket and bolt holes.
6. **Install Head Bolts:** Insert the cylinder head bolts. Refer to your engine's service manual for the correct tightening sequence and torque specifications. Typically, head bolts are tightened in stages to the specified torque. *(Note: A common torque specification for these heads is around 220 inch-pounds or 12.5 foot-pounds, but always verify with your specific engine manual.)*
7. **Install Rocker Arms and Pushrods:** Install the pushrods, ensuring they are seated correctly in the lifters. Place the rocker arms and pivots. Lubricate the rockers and valve guides with engine oil.
8. **Adjust Valve Clearances:** This is a critical step. Refer to your engine's service manual for the precise valve clearance specifications (e.g., 0.004-0.006 inches). Adjust the valves using feeler gauges.
9. **Reassemble Components:** Reinstall the valve cover, carburetor, exhaust, air cleaner, and any other components removed during disassembly. Reconnect the spark plug wire.
10. **Add Engine Oil:** If oil was drained, refill to the proper level with the recommended engine oil.

Important: *Always consult your specific Briggs & Stratton engine service manual for detailed, model-specific instructions, torque values, and valve clearance settings. Incorrect installation can lead to engine damage.*

4. Operating Considerations After Installation

After successful installation of the cylinder head, perform the following checks before operating your equipment:

- **Fluid Levels:** Verify engine oil level is correct.
- **Connections:** Double-check all hoses, wires, and fasteners for tightness and proper connection.
- **Initial Start-up:** Start the engine and allow it to run for a few minutes. Listen for any unusual noises, and check for oil or fuel leaks.
- **Break-in Period:** While not strictly a break-in for the cylinder head itself, it's good practice to operate the engine under light load for the first few hours after major repairs to allow components to settle.

5. Maintenance

Proper maintenance of your engine will extend the life of all components, including the cylinder head. While the cylinder head itself requires little direct maintenance, its longevity is tied to overall engine health.

- **Regular Oil Changes:** Follow your engine manufacturer's recommendations for oil change intervals and use the specified oil type. Clean oil prevents sludge buildup that can affect valve train components.
- **Air Filter Maintenance:** A clean air filter prevents dirt and debris from entering the engine, which can cause premature wear on internal components, including valves and cylinder walls.
- **Spark Plug Inspection:** Regularly inspect and replace spark plugs as recommended. Proper ignition contributes to efficient combustion and reduces stress on engine components.
- **Valve Clearance Checks:** Periodically check and adjust valve clearances according to your engine's service manual. Incorrect clearances can lead to poor performance or valve damage.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues after installing the cylinder head, consider the following common problems and their potential solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine will not start or runs poorly	Incorrect valve clearance, improperly seated pushrods, vacuum leak (gasket not sealed), incorrect head bolt torque.	Re-check valve clearances. Ensure pushrods are correctly seated. Inspect gasket for proper seal; re-torque head bolts if necessary. Check for air leaks around carburetor/intake manifold.
Oil leak around cylinder head	Improperly installed valve cover gasket, damaged cylinder head gasket, insufficient head bolt torque.	Ensure valve cover gasket is correctly seated and bolts are tightened. Inspect cylinder head gasket for damage; re-torque head bolts.
Excessive smoke from exhaust	Damaged valve stem seals (unlikely with new head), incorrect oil level (too high).	Verify oil level. If problem persists and is blue smoke, consult a technician.

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, it is recommended to consult a certified Briggs & Stratton service center or a qualified small engine mechanic.

7. Specifications

Attribute	Value
Part Number	796232
Manufacturer	Briggs & Stratton
Product Dimensions	Approximately 1 x 1 x 1 inches (packaging dimensions)
Item Weight	Approximately 4.2 ounces
Replaces Part Numbers	796633, 792300, 697581, 693999, 499595

8. Warranty Information

Briggs & Stratton genuine parts are typically covered by a limited warranty against defects in material and workmanship. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary. Please retain your proof of purchase.
For detailed warranty information, refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Briggs & Stratton website.

9. Support and Contact

For technical assistance, parts inquiries, or service questions, please contact Briggs & Stratton customer support or visit their official website.

- **Official Website:** www.briggsandstratton.com
- **Service Locator:** Use the service locator tool on the Briggs & Stratton website to find an authorized service dealer near you.

Image 9.1: The official Briggs & Stratton logo, representing the brand's commitment to quality and genuine parts.

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