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Briggs & Stratton 498260

Briggs & Stratton 498260 Carburetor Overhaul Kit Instruction Manual

For Single Cylinder Engines

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the Briggs & Stratton 498260 Carburetor Overhaul Kit. This kit contains genuine replacement parts designed to restore proper function to select Briggs & Stratton single-cylinder engines. Regular maintenance and timely replacement of carburetor components are crucial for optimal engine performance and longevity.

2. Safety Information

Always prioritize safety when working with engine components and fuel. Failure to follow safety instructions can result in serious injury or property damage.

- Ensure the engine is cool and disconnected from its power source (e.g., spark plug wire removed) before beginning any work.
- Work in a well-ventilated area to avoid inhaling fuel vapors.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety glasses and gloves.
- Handle gasoline with extreme care. It is highly flammable. Store in approved containers away from ignition sources.
- Keep a fire extinguisher readily available.
- Refer to your engine's specific service manual for detailed disassembly and reassembly procedures.

3. Package Contents

The Briggs & Stratton 498260 Carburetor Overhaul Kit typically includes the following components:

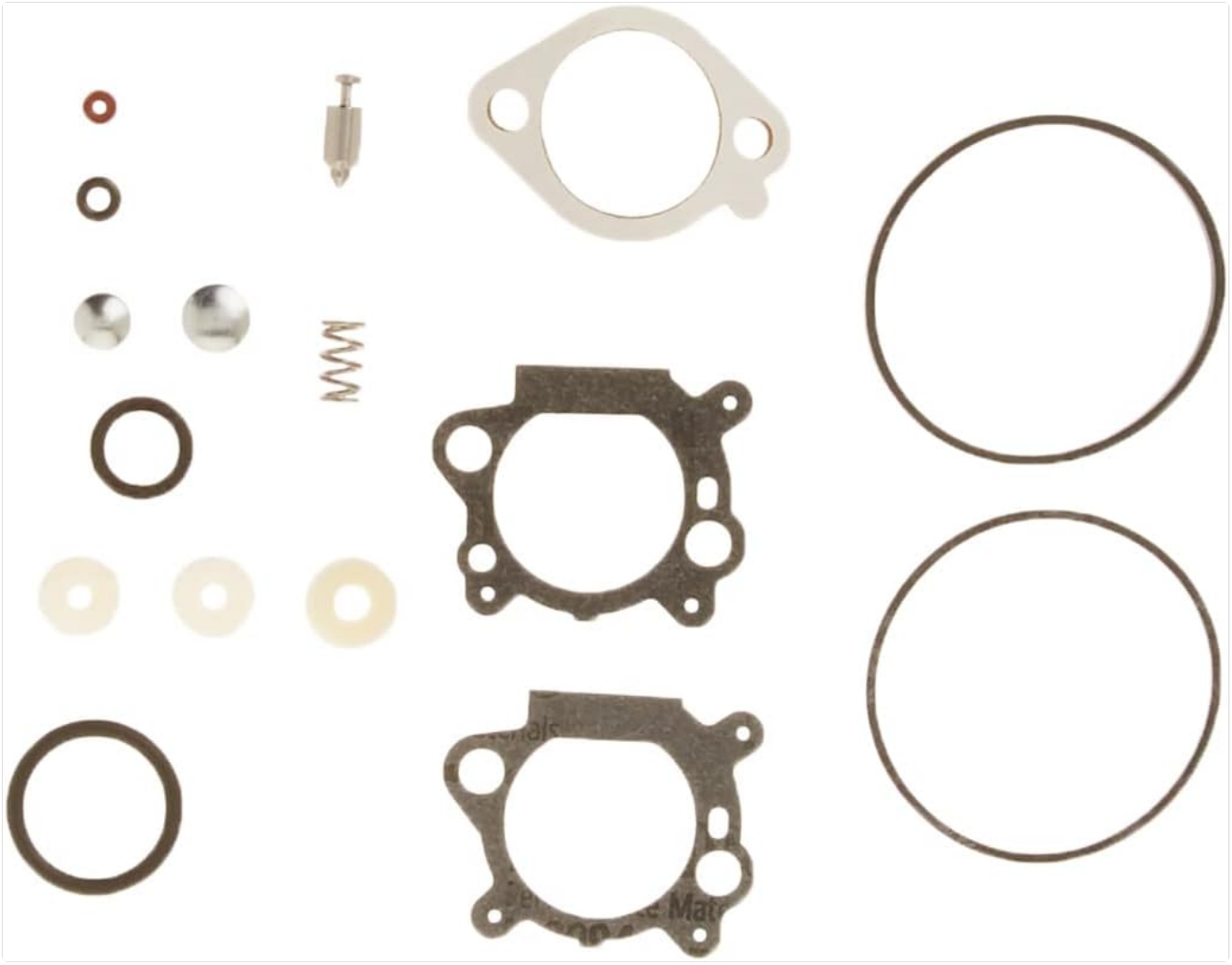

Image 1: Contents of the Briggs & Stratton 498260 Carburetor Overhaul Kit. This image displays various gaskets, O-rings, a needle valve, and a spring, which are essential for rebuilding a carburetor.

- Gaskets (various shapes and sizes for sealing carburetor components)
- O-rings (for sealing fuel passages and bowl)
- Needle valve and seat (regulates fuel flow into the float bowl)
- Springs and other small hardware

Note: The exact contents may vary slightly. Always compare the kit components with the parts being replaced from your specific carburetor.

4. Compatibility

This genuine OEM replacement carburetor kit (Briggs & Stratton part number 498260) is designed for use with specific Briggs & Stratton single-cylinder engines. It is compatible with:

- Select 3.5 HP and 4 HP Max Series horizontal shaft engines.
- All Quantum series horizontal shaft engines.
- 5 HP Industrial Plus horizontal shaft engines.
- Engines with a 122K00 or 123K00 carburetor.

To ensure proper fitment, always verify your engine's model and type numbers against the kit's specifications or consult your engine's service manual.

5. Setup and Installation (Carburetor Overhaul)

Overhauling a carburetor requires mechanical aptitude and careful attention to detail. If you are unsure about any step, it is recommended to seek professional assistance or consult a detailed service manual for your specific engine model.

General Steps:

1. **Preparation:** Ensure the engine is off and cool. Disconnect the spark plug wire. Drain the fuel tank.
2. **Removal:** Carefully remove the air filter assembly, fuel lines, and any linkages connected to the carburetor. Detach the carburetor from the engine.
3. **Disassembly:** Disassemble the carburetor, paying close attention to the order and orientation of all components. Take photos or make diagrams if necessary.
4. **Cleaning:** Thoroughly clean all metal parts of the carburetor using a carburetor cleaner. Ensure all passages and jets are clear of debris. Use compressed air to blow out passages.
5. **Part Replacement:** Replace all old gaskets, O-rings, the needle valve, and seat with the new components from the 498260 kit. Ensure the correct parts are used for each location.
6. **Reassembly:** Reassemble the carburetor in reverse order of disassembly. Ensure all screws are tightened to the manufacturer's specifications (refer to your engine manual).
7. **Installation:** Reinstall the carburetor onto the engine, reconnect fuel lines, linkages, and the air filter assembly.
8. **Testing:** Refill the fuel tank with fresh fuel. Reconnect the spark plug wire. Start the engine and check for proper operation, fuel leaks, and smooth idling. Adjust idle speed if necessary.

Always refer to the specific service manual for your engine model for detailed, step-by-step instructions and torque specifications.

6. Operating Principles (Post-Installation)

After successful installation of the carburetor overhaul kit, your engine's carburetor should function optimally. The carburetor's primary role is to mix air and fuel in the correct ratio for combustion. The new components in this kit ensure:

- **Proper Fuel Delivery:** The new needle valve and seat prevent fuel leaks and ensure the correct amount of fuel enters the float bowl.
- **Air-Tight Seals:** Fresh gaskets and O-rings prevent air leaks, which can cause lean fuel mixtures and poor engine performance.
- **Consistent Performance:** By replacing worn components, the carburetor can maintain a stable air-fuel mixture across various engine speeds, leading to easier starting, smoother idling, and improved power output.

The engine should start reliably and run smoothly without excessive smoke or hesitation.

7. Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and continued performance of your engine and its newly overhauled carburetor, adhere to the following maintenance guidelines:

- **Fuel Quality:** Always use fresh, clean gasoline. Stale fuel or fuel containing ethanol can degrade carburetor components over time. Consider using a fuel stabilizer, especially during storage.
- **Fuel Filter:** Regularly inspect and replace the fuel filter (if equipped) to prevent contaminants from reaching the carburetor.
- **Air Filter:** Keep the air filter clean and replace it as recommended by your engine manufacturer. A dirty air filter can restrict airflow and affect the air-fuel mixture.

- **Seasonal Storage:** Before long-term storage, either run the engine until it runs out of fuel or drain the fuel tank and carburetor bowl to prevent fuel degradation and gumming.
- **Regular Inspections:** Periodically check fuel lines, connections, and carburetor mounting for leaks or loose fittings.

8. Troubleshooting

If your engine experiences issues after installing the carburetor overhaul kit, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine will not start or starts hard	Incorrect reassembly, clogged fuel line/filter, spark plug issue, old fuel.	Double-check all connections and reassembly steps. Ensure fresh fuel. Check spark plug.
Engine runs rough or surges	Air leak around carburetor gaskets, partially clogged jet, incorrect idle adjustment.	Inspect gaskets for proper seating. Clean jets again. Adjust idle screw.
Fuel leaks from carburetor	Improperly seated O-rings/gaskets, faulty needle valve/seat, cracked carburetor body.	Verify O-ring and gasket placement. Ensure needle valve and seat are installed correctly. Inspect carburetor body for damage.
Engine lacks power	Restricted air filter, partially clogged fuel system, incorrect engine timing (unlikely due to carb kit).	Clean/replace air filter. Check fuel flow. Consult engine service manual.

For persistent issues, consult a qualified service technician or refer to your engine's comprehensive service manual.

9. Specifications

- **Part Number:** Briggs & Stratton 498260
- **Item Model Number:** 498260
- **Product Dimensions:** Approximately 6 x 6 x 6 inches
- **Item Weight:** Approximately 0.01 ounces
- **Manufacturer:** Briggs & Stratton
- **Compatibility:** Single cylinder engines (3.5-4 HP Max Series, Quantum, 5 HP Industrial Plus horizontal shaft engines with 122K00 or 123K00 carburetor)
- **UPC:** 799360342966, 024847885040, 049826000009, 798256132339

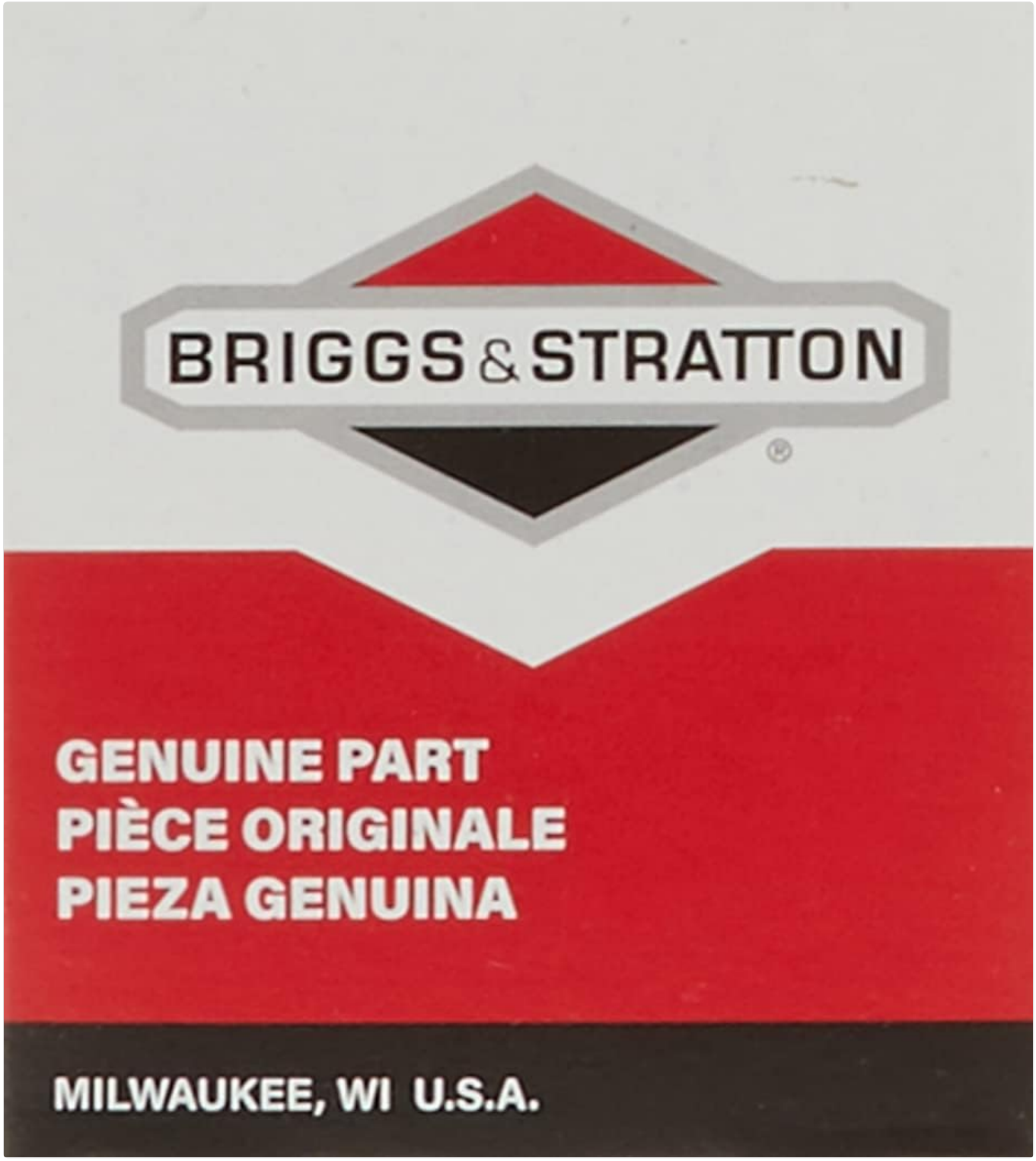

Image 2: Packaging for Briggs & Stratton Genuine Part. This image shows the official branding, indicating the authenticity of the replacement parts.



Image 3: Approximate dimensions of the Briggs & Stratton Carburetor Overhaul Kit packaging, showing 4.1 inches or 10 cm for scale reference.

10. Warranty and Support

This Briggs & Stratton genuine part is manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty information regarding this carburetor overhaul kit, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or contact Briggs & Stratton customer service directly.

For technical support or further assistance, please visit the official Briggs & Stratton website or contact their authorized service centers. Always provide your engine's model and type numbers when seeking support.

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