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Briggs & Stratton 492341

Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil User Manual

Model: 492341

Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil. This component is designed to provide the necessary spark for combustion in compatible engines, ensuring reliable engine performance. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use.
The Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil is compatible with a range of engines, including:

- 13, 14, and 15 HP (28 CID) OHV Vertical engines
- 9, 12.5, and 14 HP Vanguard (V-Twin 2 used) engines
- 10-13 HP (28 CID) L-Head engines
- 11 and 13 HP Vanguard Horizontal engines
- Vanguard V-Twin engines

Product Overview

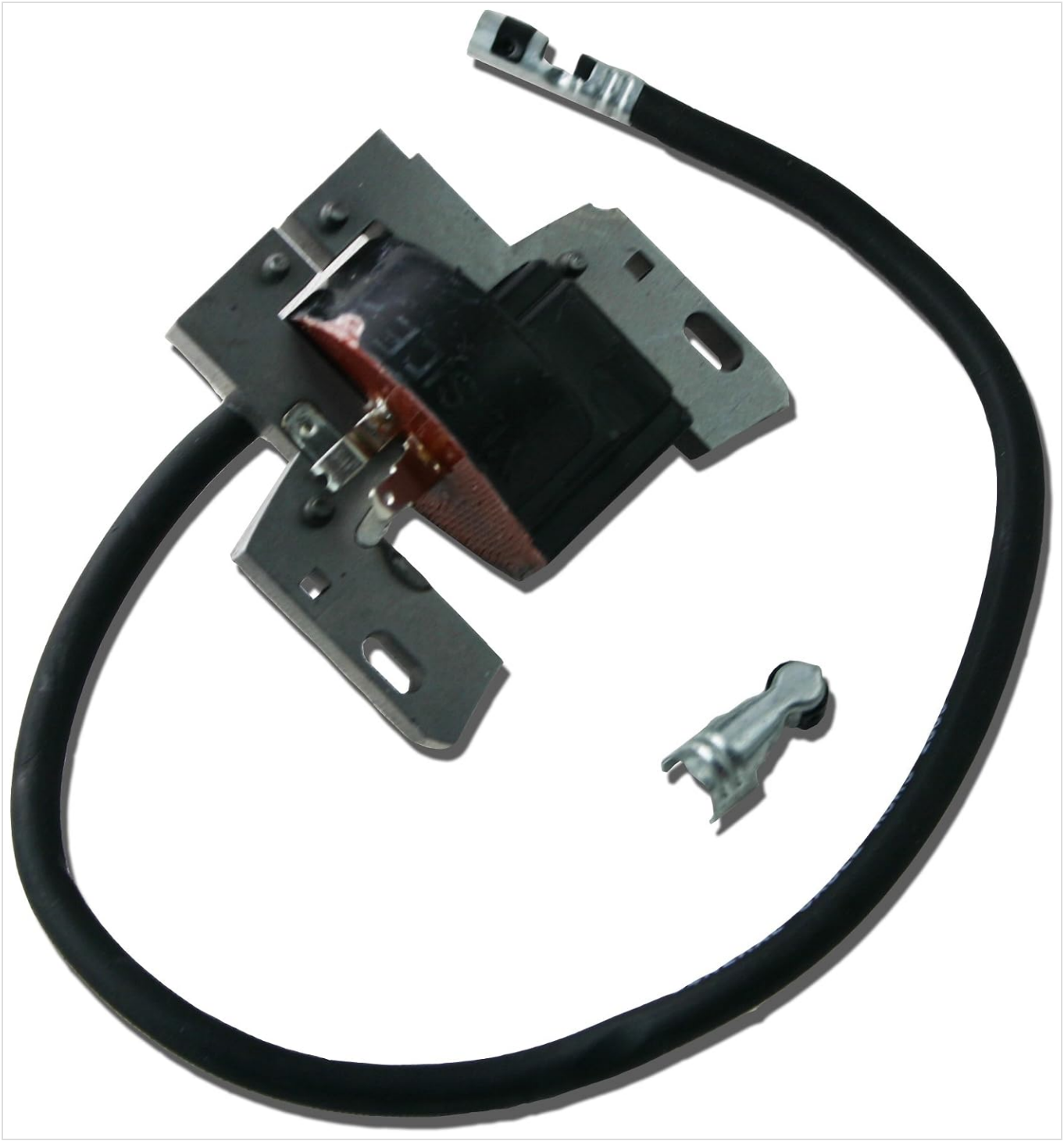


Figure 1: Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil. This image shows the ignition coil with its metal mounting bracket, the black insulated wire, and a metal terminal connector.

The ignition coil is a critical component in the engine's ignition system. It transforms the low voltage from the battery into the high voltage required to create a spark across the spark plug gap, initiating combustion. The 492341 model is a direct replacement part designed for specific Briggs & Stratton engine configurations.

Installation

Safety Precautions

- Always disconnect the spark plug wire and battery (if applicable) before performing any maintenance or installation.
- Ensure the engine is cool before beginning work.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves and eye protection.
- Refer to your engine's specific service manual for detailed instructions and torque specifications.

Installation Steps (Bolt-On)

1. **Locate the Old Coil:** Identify the existing ignition coil, typically mounted near the flywheel.
2. **Disconnect Wires:** Carefully disconnect the spark plug wire and any other low-tension wires connected to the old coil.
3. **Remove Old Coil:** Unbolt the old ignition coil from its mounting points. Note the orientation for proper installation of the new coil.
4. **Clean Mounting Area:** Ensure the mounting surface is clean and free of debris or rust.
5. **Install New Coil:** Position the new Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil in the same orientation as the old one.
6. **Set Air Gap:** An air gap between the ignition coil's laminations and the flywheel magnets is crucial for proper operation. Use a non-magnetic feeler gauge (typically 0.006 to 0.010 inches or 0.15 to 0.25 mm) to set this gap. Loosen the coil mounting bolts slightly, insert the feeler gauge between the coil and the flywheel magnets, push the coil firmly against the gauge, and then tighten the mounting bolts. Remove the feeler gauge.
7. **Reconnect Wires:** Reconnect the spark plug wire and any other low-tension wires securely.
8. **Test:** Reconnect the battery (if applicable) and attempt to start the engine to verify proper installation.

Note: Incorrect air gap setting can lead to weak spark or no spark, affecting engine performance.

Operation

Once properly installed, the Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil operates automatically as part of the engine's ignition system. When the engine crankshaft rotates, the flywheel magnets pass by the ignition coil, inducing a low voltage in the primary winding. This voltage is then rapidly increased by the coil's secondary winding, generating a high-voltage pulse that travels through the spark plug wire to the spark plug. The spark plug then ignites the air-fuel mixture in the combustion chamber, allowing the engine to run.
No user intervention is required for the operation of the ignition coil itself once installed. Its function is integral to the engine's starting and running process.

Maintenance

The Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil is a sealed unit and generally requires no routine maintenance. However, regular inspection of related components can help ensure its longevity and proper function:

- **Spark Plug Wire:** Inspect the spark plug wire for cracks, fraying, or damage. A damaged wire can lead to spark loss.
- **Spark Plug:** Regularly check and replace the spark plug according to your engine's maintenance schedule. A fouled or worn spark plug can put undue stress on the ignition coil.
- **Connections:** Ensure all electrical connections to the coil are clean, tight, and free of corrosion.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the area around the ignition coil clean and free of dirt, debris, and oil buildup, which can affect heat dissipation.

If the coil itself appears physically damaged (e.g., cracked housing, burnt wires), it should be replaced.

Troubleshooting

If your engine is experiencing ignition-related issues, the ignition coil may be a contributing factor. Here are common symptoms and potential solutions:

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine cranks but won't start (no spark)	Faulty ignition coil, incorrect air gap, damaged spark plug wire, faulty spark plug, shorted kill switch wire.	Check spark plug for spark. Verify air gap setting. Inspect spark plug wire and connections. Test kill switch circuit. Replace coil if all other components are good.

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine misfires or runs rough	Weak spark from coil, fouled spark plug, incorrect air gap, carburetor issues.	Check and replace spark plug. Verify air gap. If issues persist after checking fuel system, consider coil replacement.
Engine starts but dies when hot	Coil failing when hot (thermal breakdown).	This is a common symptom of a failing ignition coil. Replace the ignition coil.

If you are unsure about diagnosing or repairing ignition system issues, it is recommended to consult a qualified service technician.

Specifications

Attribute	Value
Brand	Briggs & Stratton
Model Number	492341
Installation Type	Bolt-On
Compatible Vehicle Service Type	Lawn Mower (and other compatible engines)
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	1 x 7 x 8 inches
Item Weight	10.6 ounces
UPC	024847838077

Warranty and Support

For information regarding the warranty of your Briggs & Stratton 492341 Ignition Coil, please refer to the official Briggs & Stratton website or contact their customer support directly. Warranty terms and conditions may vary.
You can find additional support resources, including service manuals and parts diagrams, on the official Briggs & Stratton website: www.briggsandstratton.com
For direct assistance, contact Briggs & Stratton customer service.

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