

Kohler 83996

Kohler 83996 Flush Valve Gasket Manual

Model: 83996

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the proper installation and maintenance of the Kohler 83996 Flush Valve Gasket. This genuine Kohler part is designed to replace worn or damaged gaskets in compatible Kohler toilet flush valves, preventing leaks and restoring efficient flushing performance.



Image of the Kohler 83996 flush valve gasket, a circular rubber seal designed for toilet flush valves.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation of the flush valve gasket is crucial for preventing leaks. This process typically involves removing the toilet tank's flush valve assembly, replacing the old gasket, and reassembling the unit. Some installations may require significant downward pressure and twisting to seat the new gasket correctly.

Required Tools:

- Adjustable wrench or pliers
- Towels or sponges
- Bucket (optional, for draining water)
- Mild lubricant (e.g., olive oil, optional, for easier installation)

Installation Steps:

1. **Turn off Water Supply:** Locate the shut-off valve for the toilet, usually on the wall behind or near the base of the toilet. Turn it clockwise until the water flow stops completely.
2. **Drain the Tank:** Flush the toilet to empty most of the water from the tank. Use a sponge or towel

to remove any remaining water.

3. **Remove Tank Lid:** Carefully lift the toilet tank lid and set it aside in a safe place.
4. **Disconnect Water Supply Line:** Use an adjustable wrench to disconnect the water supply line from the bottom of the toilet tank. Have a towel ready to catch any residual water.
5. **Remove Flush Valve Assembly:** The flush valve assembly is typically secured by a large nut on the underside of the tank or by a twisting mechanism from inside the tank. For some Kohler models, such as those with an older Rialto flush valve or a rectangular overflow unit, the assembly may require significant downward pressure and a clockwise twist to disengage it from its seated position.
6. **Remove Old Gasket:** Once the flush valve assembly is removed, carefully peel off the old, worn gasket. Inspect the area for any debris or mineral buildup and clean thoroughly.
7. **Install New Gasket:** Place the new Kohler 83996 gasket onto the flush valve. Ensure it is seated evenly. For easier installation and to prevent crimping, a thin coat of mild lubricant (like olive oil) can be applied to the bottom of the gasket.
8. **Reinstall Flush Valve Assembly:** Carefully reinsert the flush valve assembly into the tank opening. Apply firm downward pressure while twisting counter-clockwise (or as per your specific model's requirements) to lock the assembly into place. This step often requires substantial force to compress the new gasket and create a watertight seal.
9. **Reconnect Water Supply Line:** Reattach the water supply line to the bottom of the tank, hand-tightening first, then using a wrench for a snug fit. Do not overtighten.
10. **Restore Water Supply and Check for Leaks:** Slowly turn the water supply valve counter-clockwise to restore water flow to the tank. Allow the tank to fill. Inspect all connections and the base of the flush valve for any signs of leaks. Flush the toilet several times to confirm proper operation and absence of leaks.
11. **Replace Tank Lid:** Once confirmed leak-free, replace the toilet tank lid.

OPERATING

The Kohler 83996 Flush Valve Gasket functions as a critical seal within the toilet's flush mechanism. Its purpose is to create a watertight barrier between the flush valve and the toilet tank, preventing water from continuously leaking into the bowl. When the toilet is flushed, the gasket lifts, allowing water to flow into the bowl, and then reseals to hold water in the tank until the next flush.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps prolong the life of your flush valve gasket and ensures efficient toilet operation.

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the gasket for signs of wear, cracking, or deterioration. A common sign of a failing gasket is a toilet that constantly runs or refills itself without being flushed.
- **Avoid Harsh Cleaners:** Do not use in-tank drop-in bleach tablets or harsh chemical cleaners, as these can degrade rubber and plastic components, including the flush valve gasket, leading to premature failure.
- **Clean Mineral Buildup:** If mineral deposits accumulate around the gasket or flush valve, gently clean them using a soft brush and a mild, non-abrasive cleaner. Ensure all cleaner residue is rinsed away.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues after installing the Kohler 83996 Flush Valve Gasket, consider the following:

- **Toilet Continues to Run/Leak:**
 - Ensure the gasket is seated correctly and not twisted or crimped.
 - Verify that the flush valve assembly is fully locked into place and sufficient pressure was applied during installation.
 - Check for any debris or foreign objects preventing a complete seal.
 - Inspect the flush valve itself for cracks or damage that might prevent the gasket from sealing properly.
- **Difficulty Flushing:**
 - Ensure the flush chain has the correct amount of slack. Too much slack will not lift the gasket sufficiently, while too little can prevent it from seating fully.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Part Number	83996
Brand	Kohler
Material	Stainless Steel (referring to the overall product, gasket is typically rubber/elastomer)
Outside Diameter	4.06 Inches
Washer Type	Flat
Item Weight	1.6 ounces
Shape	Round
UPC	040688951904

WARRANTY

Genuine Kohler parts are manufactured to Kohler's quality standards. For specific warranty information regarding the Kohler 83996 Flush Valve Gasket, please refer to the official Kohler warranty documentation provided with your original toilet fixture or visit the official Kohler website.

SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or to inquire about compatible toilet models, please contact Kohler customer service directly. You can find contact information and additional resources on the official Kohler website:

[Visit Kohler Official Website](#)

