

Briggs & Stratton 498144

Briggs & Stratton 498144 Recoil Pulley with Spring Instruction Manual

For Quantum, 5 HP Horizontal, and 6 HP Intek Engines

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Briggs & Stratton 498144 Recoil Pulley with Spring. Please read these instructions carefully before proceeding with any installation or service to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Briggs & Stratton 498144 is a genuine OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) replacement part designed to restore the starting function of compatible engines. This assembly includes the recoil pulley and the integrated spring mechanism, which are critical components of the engine's pull-start system.



Image 1: Briggs & Stratton 498144 Recoil Pulley with Spring. This image shows the Briggs & Stratton 498144 recoil pulley with its integrated spring mechanism, ready for installation.

3. COMPATIBILITY

This recoil pulley with spring (part number 498144) is compatible with various Briggs & Stratton engines, including:

- 6 HP OHV Vertical engines
- 5, 5.25, and 6 HP Quantum engines
- 5 HP Horizontal engines
- 6 HP Intek engines equipped with Susa starters

Always verify the part number against your engine's model and type numbers to ensure correct fitment.

4. SAFETY INFORMATION

Before performing any service or installation, observe the following safety precautions:

- **Disconnect the spark plug wire:** Always disconnect the spark plug wire and secure it away from the spark plug to prevent accidental engine starting.
- **Wear protective gear:** Use safety glasses and gloves to protect against injury.
- **Work in a well-ventilated area:** Ensure adequate ventilation if working with fuel or cleaning agents.
- **Engine cooling:** Allow the engine to cool completely before handling any hot components.
- **Spring tension:** Recoil springs are under tension. Exercise extreme caution when disassembling or

assembling to prevent injury from uncontrolled spring release.

5. INSTALLATION (SETUP)

The following steps outline a general procedure for replacing the recoil pulley with spring. Specific engine models may vary, so consult your engine's service manual for detailed instructions.

1. **Prepare the engine:** Ensure the engine is off and cool. Disconnect the spark plug wire.
2. **Remove the old starter assembly:** Locate and remove the bolts or screws securing the recoil starter assembly to the engine. Carefully detach the entire assembly.
3. **Inspect the starter housing:** Clean any debris or dirt from the starter housing. Inspect for cracks or damage.
4. **Install the new recoil pulley:** Place the new Briggs & Stratton 498144 recoil pulley with spring into the starter housing. Ensure it seats correctly.
5. **Rewind the spring (if necessary):** The spring in the new pulley may require pre-tensioning. Refer to your engine's service manual or a reliable repair guide for the correct number of turns to tension the spring. Incorrect tension can lead to the rope not retracting or being difficult to pull.
6. **Thread the starter rope:** If the rope is not pre-installed, thread the starter rope through the pulley and the starter housing's rope guide. Tie a knot at the end of the rope to secure it to the pulley.
7. **Attach the handle:** Secure the starter handle to the free end of the rope.
8. **Reinstall the starter assembly:** Mount the complete recoil starter assembly back onto the engine, securing it with the original bolts or screws. Tighten fasteners to the manufacturer's specifications.
9. **Reconnect spark plug:** Reconnect the spark plug wire.
10. **Test:** Slowly pull the starter rope a few times to ensure smooth operation and proper retraction.

6. OPERATING PRINCIPLE

The recoil pulley with spring is a key component of the manual pull-start system. When the starter rope is pulled, the pulley rotates, engaging the engine's flywheel and initiating the combustion cycle. As the engine starts, the spring inside the pulley rewinds, retracting the starter rope back into the housing, ready for the next start.

7. MAINTENANCE

The Briggs & Stratton 498144 recoil pulley with spring is designed for durability. Regular maintenance involves:

- **Periodic inspection:** Visually inspect the recoil starter assembly for signs of wear, cracks, or damage to the pulley, spring, or rope.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the starter housing free of dirt, grass clippings, and debris, which can impede the rope's movement or cause premature wear.
- **Rope condition:** Check the starter rope for fraying or excessive wear. Replace the rope if it shows signs of damage.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your recoil starter after installation, consider the following:

- **Rope does not retract fully:** This often indicates insufficient spring tension. The spring may need to be rewound with additional turns.
- **Rope is difficult to pull:** Excessive spring tension or binding within the pulley mechanism can cause this. Ensure the pulley is seated correctly and the spring is not over tensioned.
- **No engagement when pulling rope:** Check if the starter pawls (dogs) are extending properly to engage the flywheel. Ensure they are clean and move freely.
- **Rope breaks frequently:** Inspect the rope guide for sharp edges or burrs that could be cutting the rope. Ensure the rope is of the correct diameter and material.

If problems persist, consult a qualified service technician or your engine's service manual.

9. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Manufacturer	Briggs & Stratton
Model Number	498144
Product Dimensions	5.22 x 2.19 x 8 inches
Item Weight	4.6 ounces
ASIN	B003RWT266

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage or technical support for your Briggs & Stratton 498144 Recoil Pulley with Spring, please refer to the official Briggs & Stratton website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Briggs & Stratton Official Website: www.briggsandstratton.com