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Kohler 1044458

Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit Instruction Manual

Model: 1044458 | Brand: Kohler

Introduction

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit. Designed with premium materials, this genuine Kohler part ensures enhanced durability and long-lasting performance for your toilet. Following these guidelines will help maintain the original product performance and promote the longevity of your toilet system.

Key Features:

- Genuine Kohler replacement flush valve kit.
- Engineered to maintain original product performance.
- Constructed with premium materials for enhanced durability.
- Designed to promote toilet longevity.

Product Overview

The Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit is a critical component for your toilet's flushing mechanism. It includes the main flush valve assembly and a gasket, designed for a precise fit and reliable operation.

Figure 1: Fully assembled Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit, showing the black valve body, red flapper, and chain.

Figure 2: Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit with the red flapper in an open position, revealing the internal structure.

Figure 3: Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit shown alongside its separate rubber gasket, ready for installation.

Figure 4: Close-up view of the waterline markings (1.6 GPF and 1.4 GPF) on the upper part of the flush valve, indicating water level settings.

Setup and Installation

Proper installation is crucial for the optimal performance of your flush valve. Follow these steps carefully:

1. **Prepare the Toilet:** Turn off the water supply to the toilet at the shut-off valve located near the base of the toilet. Flush the toilet to drain the tank completely. Use a sponge or towel to remove any remaining water from the tank.
2. **Remove Old Flush Valve:** Disconnect the old flapper chain from the flush lever. If applicable, remove the old flapper. The Kohler flush valve is typically secured by a twisting mechanism. Push down on the old valve and twist it counter-clockwise to unlock and remove it from the tank. Remove the old rubber seal.
3. **Clean the Tank Base:** Thoroughly clean the porcelain surface around the flush valve opening inside the tank. Remove any mineral deposits or debris that could interfere with the new seal.
4. **Prepare the New Flush Valve:** Place the new rubber seal onto the bottom of the new flush valve. Ensure the tapered edge of the seal is facing upwards, towards the valve body. Lubricate the new rubber seal and the porcelain surfaces where the valve will sit with a small amount of olive oil or silicone grease to aid in installation and ensure a good seal.
5. **Install New Flush Valve:** Align the new flush valve with the opening at the bottom of the tank. The valve has locking tabs that need to align with corresponding slots in the tank. Once aligned, push

down firmly and twist the flush valve clockwise until it locks securely into place. You should feel it seat firmly.

6. **Connect Flapper and Chain:** Attach the red flapper to the appropriate posts on the flush valve. Connect the flapper chain to the flush lever, ensuring there is a small amount of slack (about 1/2 to 1 inch) when the flapper is closed. Too much tension or too much slack can cause issues.
7. **Restore Water Supply:** Slowly turn the water supply valve back on. Allow the tank to fill. Check for any leaks around the base of the flush valve.
8. **Test Operation:** Flush the toilet several times to ensure the flapper opens and closes correctly, and the tank refills properly without continuous running.

Tip: *If the gasket is very firm, some users have found success by compressing it between two pieces of wood with clamps and freezing it overnight. This can make it more pliable for easier installation. Always ensure proper alignment before applying force to avoid damage.*

Operating Instructions

Operating a toilet with the Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit is straightforward:

1. **Flushing:** Press or push the flush lever down firmly and release. This action lifts the flapper, allowing water from the tank to flow into the toilet bowl, initiating the flush cycle.
2. **Refilling:** After the flush, the flapper will close, and the tank will begin to refill with water. The fill valve will automatically shut off once the water reaches the designated waterline.

Ensure the flapper closes completely after each flush to prevent continuous running water.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance helps prolong the life of your flush valve and toilet system:

- **Inspect Annually:** Periodically inspect the flush valve, flapper, and chain for signs of wear, cracks, or corrosion.
- **Clean the Flapper and Seal:** If you notice the toilet running continuously, the flapper or its seating surface might be dirty. Turn off the water, drain the tank, and gently clean the flapper and the rim of the flush valve where the flapper seals with a soft cloth and mild cleaner.
- **Check Chain Slack:** Ensure the flapper chain has adequate slack. Too much slack can prevent the flapper from opening fully, leading to a weak flush. Too little slack can prevent the flapper from sealing completely, causing a leak.
- **Avoid Harsh Chemicals:** Do not use harsh chemical cleaners in the toilet tank, as they can damage rubber and plastic components of the flush valve.

Troubleshooting

Here are common issues and their potential solutions:

- **Toilet Runs Continuously:**
    - **Flapper Seal:** The flapper might not be sealing correctly. Check for debris on the flapper or the flush valve rim. Clean as described in the Maintenance section.
    - **Flapper Chain:** The chain might be too tight, preventing the flapper from closing fully. Adjust the chain to have a small amount of slack.

    - **Worn Flapper:** The flapper itself might be worn or deteriorated. Replace the flapper if necessary.
    - **Flush Valve Seal:** If the water level drops below the flapper, the issue might be a faulty seal at the base of the flush valve or broken locking tabs. This requires replacing the flush valve kit.
- **Weak or Incomplete Flush:**
    - **Flapper Opening:** The flapper might not be opening fully. Check the chain for too much slack or obstructions.
    - **Water Level:** Ensure the water level in the tank is at the recommended waterline mark. Adjust the fill valve if needed.
- **Leaks from Tank Base:**
    - **Improper Installation:** The flush valve might not be seated or locked correctly. Re-install, ensuring proper alignment and lubrication of the seal.
    - **Damaged Seal:** The rubber seal at the base of the flush valve might be damaged or improperly installed. Replace the seal or the entire flush valve kit.

Specifications

Attribute	Value
Model Number	1044458
Brand	Kohler
Material	Metal (components), Rubber (seal), Plastic (valve body, flapper)
Exterior Finish	Unfinished
Item Weight	1 pounds
Product Dimensions	5.9 x 14.5 x 6.2 inches
Included Components	Flush Valve Kit
Inlet Connection Size	2 Inches
Outlet Connection Size	2 Inches

Warranty Information

To protect the warranty on your Kohler products, always ensure you are using genuine Kohler parts. The Kohler 1044458 Flush Valve Kit is a genuine replacement part designed to meet Kohler's quality standards. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the documentation provided with your original Kohler toilet or visit the official Kohler website.

Support

If you encounter any issues that cannot be resolved using the troubleshooting steps provided, or if you require further assistance, please contact Kohler Customer Service. You can find contact information on

the official Kohler website or through the documentation included with your product.
When contacting support, please have your product model number (1044458) and any relevant purchase information ready.