



Manuals.plus /

› Rotary /

› Rotary Starter Recoil Spring for Briggs & Stratton Engines (Model 5876) - Installation and Maintenance Guide

## Rotary 5876

# Rotary Starter Recoil Spring for Briggs & Stratton Engines

Model: 5876 | Part Number: 491889

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of the Rotary Starter Recoil Spring, Model 5876. This component is designed as a direct replacement for Briggs & Stratton part number 491889, ensuring reliable starting for compatible engines. Please read this manual thoroughly before attempting any installation or maintenance procedures.

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Rotary Starter Recoil Spring is a crucial component of your engine's pull-start mechanism. It stores kinetic energy when the starter rope is pulled, then releases it to rotate the engine's crankshaft, initiating the combustion cycle. A properly functioning recoil spring is essential for consistent engine starting.



Image 1: The Rotary Starter Recoil Spring (Model 5876). This image displays the coiled metal spring, which is a direct replacement for Briggs & Stratton part 491889, used in various small engines for manual starting.

### 3. COMPATIBILITY

This Rotary Starter Recoil Spring (Model 5876, equivalent to Briggs & Stratton 491889) is compatible with the following Briggs & Stratton engine models:

- 99700 Series
- 121700 Series
- 121800 Series
- 123800 Series
- 124800 Series
- 126800 Series
- 122700 Series
- 124700 Series
- Magnum Engines

Always verify your engine's model number against this list or consult your engine's original service manual to ensure proper fitment.

### 4. SAFETY INFORMATION

Before beginning any work on your engine, observe the following safety precautions:

- **Disconnect the Spark Plug:** Always remove the spark plug wire 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.
- **Secure the Engine:** Place the engine on a stable, level surface to prevent movement during repair.

- **Handle Springs with Care:** Recoil springs are under tension. Exercise caution during removal and installation to prevent injury.

## 5. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

---

Replacing a recoil spring requires careful attention. If you are unsure about any step, it is recommended to consult a qualified service technician.

1. **Prepare the Engine:** Disconnect the spark plug wire. Ensure the engine is cool and drained of fuel if necessary for access.
2. **Remove the Blower Housing:** Locate and remove the bolts or screws securing the engine's blower housing (the cover over the flywheel and recoil starter assembly). Carefully lift off the housing.
3. **Access the Recoil Starter:** The recoil starter assembly will now be exposed. It typically consists of a pulley, rope, and the spring mechanism.
4. **Remove the Old Spring:** If the spring is broken, it may be loose. If it's still intact but faulty, you may need to carefully unhook it from its mounting points. Note the orientation of the old spring for correct installation of the new one. *Caution: Springs can release tension suddenly.*
5. **Clean the Area:** Clean any debris or old grease from the recoil starter housing and pulley area.
6. **Install the New Spring:** Carefully place the new Rotary Recoil Spring (Model 5876) into its designated slot within the recoil starter assembly. Ensure the inner and outer hooks of the spring are correctly engaged with their respective anchor points (usually the center shaft and the outer housing or pulley).
7. **Rewind the Spring (if necessary):** Some recoil springs require pre-tensioning. Follow specific instructions for your engine model if available. Generally, you would wind the pulley in the direction the rope retracts until tension is felt, then allow it to unwind slightly to engage the pawls.
8. **Test the Recoil:** Gently pull the starter rope to ensure the spring retracts the rope smoothly and completely. The pawls should engage the flywheel correctly.
9. **Reinstall Blower Housing:** Carefully place the blower housing back onto the engine, aligning all mounting points. Secure it with the previously removed bolts or screws.
10. **Reconnect Spark Plug:** Reconnect the spark plug wire.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

---

Proper maintenance can extend the life of your recoil spring and starter assembly:

- **Keep Clean:** Periodically remove the blower housing and clean out any dirt, grass clippings, or debris that can interfere with the recoil mechanism.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a small amount of light grease or silicone spray to the spring and pivot points of the pawls to ensure smooth operation. Avoid over-lubrication, which can attract dirt.
- **Inspect Rope:** Regularly check the starter rope for fraying or damage. Replace it if necessary to prevent strain on the recoil spring.
- **Gentle Pulls:** Avoid excessively hard or jerky pulls on the starter rope, as this can prematurely wear out the spring and other components.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

---

If you encounter issues with your recoil starter after installing the new spring, consider the following:

- **Rope Not Retracting:**

- *Check Spring Installation:* Ensure the spring is correctly seated and hooked at both ends.
- *Check for Obstructions:* Remove blower housing and check for debris preventing the pulley from turning freely.
- *Insufficient Tension:* The spring may not be properly pre-tensioned. Refer to engine-specific instructions for winding.

- **Rope Pulls Freely, Engine Not Engaging:**

- *Pawl Issues:* The starter pawls (dogs) may be stuck, broken, or not extending to engage the flywheel. Clean or replace the pawls.
- *Flywheel Engagement:* Ensure the flywheel's engagement teeth are not damaged.

- **Spring Snapped Again:**

- *Improper Installation:* The spring may have been installed incorrectly or under excessive tension.
- *Engine Issues:* Hard starting conditions (e.g., tight engine, fouled spark plug) can put excessive strain on the spring. Address underlying engine problems.

If problems persist, consult a professional small engine mechanic.

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Brand	Rotary
Model Number	5876
Replaces OEM Part	Briggs & Stratton 491889
Product Dimensions	4.5 x 0.25 x 5.75 inches
Item Weight	3.2 ounces
ASIN	B00AZ0RQJS

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Rotary products are manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty information or technical support regarding your Rotary Starter Recoil Spring, please refer to the official Rotary website or contact their customer service department. Keep your purchase receipt for warranty claims.

For further assistance, you may also contact the retailer from whom you purchased this product.