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Dixie Chopper MF5206 / 600157

Genuine OEM Kohler Muffler Assembly Instruction Manual

Model: MF5206 / Part Number: 600157

For Dixie Chopper Lawn Mowers

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, maintenance, and safe operation of the Genuine OEM Kohler Muffler Assembly, part number MF5206 (Dixie Chopper Part # 600157). This component is designed for specific Dixie Chopper lawn mower models to ensure optimal performance and compliance with noise regulations. Please read this manual thoroughly before proceeding with any installation or maintenance.

2. Product Description

The Kohler Muffler Assembly MF5206 is an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) replacement part for Dixie Chopper lawn mowers. It is designed to reduce engine exhaust noise and direct exhaust gases away from the operator and engine components. This assembly is crucial for maintaining the operational efficiency and safety of your lawn mower.
The package includes one (1) muffler assembly. For correct location and fitment, always refer to your original owner's manual or the appropriate parts diagram for your specific mower model.



Figure 1: Top-down view of the Kohler Muffler Assembly MF5206. This image shows the overall shape and mounting points of the muffler, with the 'HOT' warning visible on the top surface.

3. Compatibility

This Kohler Muffler Assembly (MF5206 / Dixie Chopper Part # 600157) is compatible with the following Dixie Chopper lawn mower models:

- 2012 Silver Eagle
- 2044 (2008)
- 2344 (2009, 2010)
- 2350 (2008, 2009, 2010)
- 2560 (2008, 2009, 2010)
- 2750 (2010)
- 2760 (2010)
- Classic 2550 (2011)
- Classic 3060HP (2011)
- SE2550 (2012)

Always verify compatibility with your specific mower model's owner's manual or parts diagram before installation.

4. Safety Information

Observe the following safety precautions when handling or installing the muffler assembly:

- **Engine Off and Cool:** Ensure the engine is completely off and has cooled down before attempting any work on the exhaust system. Mufflers can remain extremely hot for an extended period after engine shutdown.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Wear appropriate safety gear, including heavy-duty gloves and eye protection, to prevent burns and injuries.
- **Ventilation:** Work in a well-ventilated area to avoid inhaling exhaust fumes.

- **Secure Machine:** Ensure the lawn mower is on a stable, level surface and cannot accidentally move or tip over during installation. Disconnect the spark plug wire to prevent accidental starting.
- **Hot Surfaces:** Be aware that the muffler and surrounding exhaust components will be very hot during and after engine operation. Avoid contact.

5. Installation / Setup

The following are general steps for replacing a muffler assembly. Specific procedures may vary by mower model. Always consult your Dixie Chopper owner's manual for detailed, model-specific instructions and torque specifications.

1. **Preparation:** Park the lawn mower on a flat, stable surface. Turn off the engine, remove the ignition key, and disconnect the spark plug wire to prevent accidental starting. Allow the engine and exhaust system to cool completely.
2. **Access:** Depending on your mower model, you may need to remove guards or other components to gain clear access to the muffler assembly.
3. **Remove Old Muffler:** Locate the mounting bolts or clamps securing the old muffler assembly to the engine exhaust ports and frame. Carefully loosen and remove these fasteners. Support the muffler as you remove the last fasteners to prevent it from falling.
4. **Inspect:** Inspect the exhaust ports on the engine for any damage or debris. Clean as necessary. Ensure new gaskets (if required and not included with the muffler) are available.
5. **Install New Muffler:** Position the new Kohler Muffler Assembly (MF5206) onto the exhaust ports. If new gaskets are used, place them correctly between the muffler and the engine. Align the mounting holes with the frame and engine.
6. **Secure Fasteners:** Install the mounting bolts or clamps. Hand-tighten all fasteners first to ensure proper alignment. Then, tighten them evenly to the manufacturer's specified torque settings. Overtightening can damage components.
7. **Reassemble:** Reinstall any guards or components that were removed for access.
8. **Final Check:** Reconnect the spark plug wire. Start the engine and check for any exhaust leaks around the muffler connections. Listen for unusual noises. Allow the engine to run for a few minutes to ensure proper function.



Figure 2: Side view of the Kohler Muffler Assembly MF5206. This image highlights the exhaust pipes extending from the main muffler body, showing the flange connections for attachment to the engine.

6. Operating Considerations

Once installed, the muffler assembly operates passively to manage exhaust gases. Proper operation of the muffler is indicated by:

- **Reduced Noise:** The engine should operate at its normal, expected noise level. Excessive noise may indicate a leak or internal damage.
- **No Visible Leaks:** There should be no visible exhaust gases escaping from the muffler body or its connections.
- **Stable Engine Performance:** A properly functioning muffler does not negatively impact engine performance.

Always ensure the muffler is securely mounted before operating the lawn mower.

7. Maintenance

Regular inspection and maintenance of the muffler assembly can extend its lifespan and ensure safe operation:

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the muffler for cracks, holes, rust, or other signs of damage. Check for loose or missing mounting hardware.
- **Exhaust Leaks:** With the engine cool, check for soot marks around the muffler connections, which can indicate an

exhaust leak.

- **Blockages:** Ensure the exhaust outlet is clear of debris, grass clippings, or other obstructions.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the exterior of the muffler clean from excessive buildup of dirt or grass. Do not spray water directly onto a hot muffler.



Figure 3: Bottom view of the Kohler Muffler Assembly MF5206. This perspective shows the underside of the muffler body and the routing of the exhaust pipes, including the mounting flanges.

8. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues related to the muffler, consider the following:

- **Excessive Noise:** If the engine becomes unusually loud, check for exhaust leaks at the connections or cracks/holes in

the muffler body. Tighten loose fasteners.

- **Reduced Engine Performance:** A severely clogged muffler can restrict exhaust flow, leading to reduced engine power. Inspect for internal blockages (though less common with new OEM parts).
- **Visible Smoke/Fumes:** If smoke or fumes are escaping from areas other than the exhaust outlet, immediately shut down the engine and inspect for leaks.

For persistent issues or if you are unsure about a repair, consult a qualified service technician or refer to your mower's service manual.

9. Specifications

Attribute	Value
Part Number	MF5206 (Kohler) / 600157 (Dixie Chopper)
Item Weight	Approximately 12 pounds
Package Dimensions	Approximately 15 x 15 x 15 inches
Quantity	1 Muffler Assembly
UPC	706919835855
Manufacturer	Dixie Chopper (OEM Kohler)

10. Warranty Information

Warranty coverage for this Genuine OEM Kohler Muffler Assembly is typically provided by the manufacturer or the authorized seller at the time of purchase. Please refer to your purchase documentation, the manufacturer's official website, or contact your seller directly for specific warranty terms, conditions, and duration.

11. Support

For technical assistance, parts inquiries, or further support regarding your Dixie Chopper lawn mower or this Kohler Muffler Assembly, please contact:

- **Dixie Chopper Customer Service:** Refer to your mower's owner's manual or the official Dixie Chopper website for contact information.
- **Kohler Engines Support:** For specific Kohler engine component inquiries, visit the official Kohler Engines website.
- **Authorized Dealer:** Contact the authorized dealer from whom you purchased the part or your lawn mower.

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