Hydrotools HTP-00105

Hydrotools Model 8940 Complete Standard Thru-Wall Skimmer Instruction Manual

Model: HTP-00105

Product Overview

The Hydrotools Model 8940 is a complete replacement thru-wall skimmer assembly designed for above-ground pools. It is engineered to efficiently remove debris from the pool's surface, contributing to cleaner water and a healthier swimming environment. This comprehensive kit includes all necessary components for installation and operation.



Image: The Hydrotools Model 8940 Complete Standard Thru-Wall Skimmer, showing the main body, top cover, and the skimmer opening with its flap weir.

Key Components Included:

- Complete skimmer housing assembly

- All necessary gaskets
- Hose adapters
- Face plates and face plate screws
- Teflon tape
- Flap weir
- Debris basket
- Top cover
- Complete return assembly with eye-ball, gaskets, and fittings

Setup and Installation

Proper installation is crucial for the optimal performance of your skimmer. This unit is designed for wall-mounted installation in above-ground pools. Ensure you have all components listed in the Product Overview before beginning.

Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare the Pool Wall:** If replacing an existing skimmer, carefully remove the old unit. If installing new, use the provided opening template to accurately mark and cut the skimmer opening in your pool wall. Ensure the area is clean and free of debris.
2. **Install Skimmer Housing:** Position the skimmer housing through the prepared opening from the outside of the pool.
3. **Apply Gaskets:** Place the appropriate gaskets on both sides of the pool wall around the skimmer opening. These create a watertight seal.
4. **Attach Face Plate:** From the inside of the pool, align the face plate with the skimmer opening and secure it to the skimmer housing using the provided face plate screws. Tighten screws evenly to ensure a proper seal, but do not overtighten.
5. **Install Flap Weir and Debris Basket:** Insert the flap weir into its designated slot within the skimmer opening. Place the debris basket inside the skimmer housing.
6. **Connect Hoses:** Attach the necessary hose adapters to the skimmer and connect your pool's filtration hoses. Use Teflon tape on threaded connections to prevent leaks.
7. **Install Return Assembly:** Locate the return fitting opening on your pool wall. Install the complete return assembly, including the eye-ball fitting, gaskets, and other fittings, ensuring a secure and watertight connection.
8. **Final Checks:** Once all components are installed, fill the pool to the appropriate level and check for any leaks around the skimmer and return fittings. Tighten connections as needed.

Detailed, easy-to-follow instructions with an opening template are included with the product to assist with the installation process.

Operating Instructions

The Hydrotools Model 8940 skimmer operates by drawing water from the pool surface, where most floating debris accumulates, into the filtration system. This process helps maintain water clarity and reduces the workload on your main pool filter.

Basic Operation:

- Ensure your pool pump is running to create the necessary suction for the skimmer to operate.
- The flap weir at the skimmer opening will automatically open inward when the pump is on, allowing water and debris to enter. When the pump is off, it helps prevent debris from floating back into the pool.

- Debris such as leaves, insects, and other floating particles will be collected in the debris basket located inside the skimmer housing.
- The included vacuum plate can be used to connect a manual pool vacuum hose to the skimmer, allowing you to vacuum the pool floor directly through the skimmer's suction.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance of your skimmer is essential for its efficiency and longevity. The skimmer is made from Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) material, which is durable but requires proper care.

Maintenance Schedule:

- **Empty Debris Basket:** Check and empty the skimmer debris basket daily or as needed, especially after heavy winds or rain. A full basket restricts water flow and reduces skimming efficiency. To empty, turn off the pool pump, remove the top cover, lift out the basket, dispose of debris, and replace the basket and cover.
- **Clean Skimmer Interior:** Periodically clean the inside of the skimmer housing to remove any accumulated grime or algae. Use a soft brush and a pool-safe cleaner suitable for ABS plastics.
- **Inspect Flap Weir:** Ensure the flap weir moves freely and is not obstructed by debris. A stuck weir can impair skimming action.
- **Check Gaskets and Connections:** Annually, or if you notice leaks, inspect all gaskets and connections for wear, cracks, or looseness. Replace worn gaskets and tighten loose fittings as necessary.
- **Winterization:** If you live in an area with freezing temperatures, follow proper pool winterization procedures, which typically include draining the skimmer and return lines to prevent freeze damage.

Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your thru-wall skimmer.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor or no skimming action	Debris basket is full. Flap weir is stuck or obstructed. Low water level in the pool. Insufficient pump suction. Air leak in the suction line.	Empty the debris basket. Clear any obstructions from the flap weir. Add water to the pool until it reaches the middle of the skimmer opening. Check pump and filter for proper operation; backwash or clean filter if needed. Inspect all connections for leaks, especially around the skimmer face plate and hose adapters.
Water leaking around skimmer face plate	Gaskets are improperly seated or damaged. Face plate screws are loose or unevenly tightened.	Turn off pump, drain pool below skimmer opening. Re-seat or replace gaskets. Tighten face plate screws evenly in a crisscross pattern. Do not overtighten.
Skimmer making unusual noises	Air being drawn into the system. Debris caught in the pump impeller (less common for skimmer-specific noise).	Check water level. Inspect all suction side connections for air leaks. Ensure pump lid is sealed correctly.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	Hydrotools
Model Name	8940 Complete Standard Thru-Wall Skimmer
Item Model Number	HTP-00105
UPC	730792207133
Material	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)
Color	Multi
Installation Type	Wall-mounted
Product Dimensions	12.4"L x 9.4"W x 9.1"H (31.5 cm x 23.9 cm x 23.1 cm)
Item Weight	4.09 pounds (1.86 kg)
Assembly Required	Yes

Warranty and Support

Specific warranty information for the Hydrotools Model 8940 skimmer is not provided in this manual. Please refer to the product packaging or contact Hydrotools customer service for details regarding warranty coverage.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, replacement parts, or further inquiries, please contact Hydrotools customer support. Contact information can typically be found on the manufacturer's official website or on the product packaging.
When contacting support, please have your product model number (HTP-00105) and UPC (730792207133) readily available.

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