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UpStart Components 746-0897

UpStart Components 746-0897 Auger Clutch Cable Replacement Manual

For MTD 317E644E129 Snow Blowers and Compatible Models

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective replacement of the UpStart Components 746-0897 Auger Clutch Cable. This replacement part is designed for compatibility with MTD 317E644E129 snow blowers and other models using part numbers 746-0897, 746-0897A, 946-0897, and 946-0897A. Please read these instructions thoroughly before beginning any installation or maintenance procedures.



Figure 1: Two UpStart Components 746-0897 Auger Clutch Cables. Each cable features a black outer casing, a coiled spring hook at one end, and a threaded rod with a Z-bend at the other end.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working with machinery. Failure to follow these safety guidelines may result in personal injury or damage to equipment.

- **Disconnect Power:** Before performing any service or maintenance, ensure the snow blower's engine is off, the spark plug wire is disconnected, and the key is removed (if applicable).
- **Wear Protective Gear:** Use appropriate personal protective equipment, including gloves and eye protection.
- **Consult Original Manual:** Refer to your snow blower's original owner's manual for specific safety procedures and

component locations.

- **Secure Equipment:** Ensure the snow blower is stable and cannot move unexpectedly during the replacement process.

3. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Part Number	746-0897
Compatible Part Numbers	746-0897A, 946-0897, 946-0897A
Length	Approximately 49 inches (excluding screw bar)
Quantity	2 cables per pack
Manufacturer	UpStart Components

Note: Always verify the length and connection types of your original cable against this replacement part to ensure proper fitment.

4. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

This section outlines the general steps for replacing an auger clutch cable. Specific procedures may vary slightly depending on your snow blower model. Always refer to your equipment's service manual for detailed instructions.

4.1. Tools Required

- Wrenches (various sizes)
- Pliers
- Screwdriver set
- Work gloves
- Safety glasses

4.2. Replacement Procedure

- 1. Prepare the Snow Blower:**
 - Ensure the engine is off and cool.
 - Disconnect the spark plug wire to prevent accidental starting.
 - Remove the ignition key if present.
- 2. Locate the Old Cable:** Identify the auger clutch cable, which typically runs from the control handle to the auger engagement mechanism.
- 3. Document Connections:** Take photos or make notes of how the old cable is routed and connected at both ends. This will aid in reassembly.
- 4. Disconnect the Old Cable:**
 - At the control handle, detach the cable from the lever.
 - At the auger engagement mechanism, disconnect the spring hook and remove the threaded end from its bracket.
 - Carefully unroute the cable from any clips or guides.
- 5. Compare Cables:** Before installing, compare the new UpStart Components cable with the old one to ensure they

are identical in length and connection types.



Figure 2: Close-up view of the auger clutch cable's spring hook end. This end typically connects to the auger engagement lever.



Figure 3: Close-up view of the auger clutch cable's threaded rod and Z-bend end. This end typically connects to the control handle or a tensioning bracket.

6. Install the New Cable:

- Route the new cable exactly as the old one was routed, using the photos/notes taken earlier.
- Connect the spring hook end to the auger engagement mechanism.
- Connect the threaded end to the control handle lever.

7. Adjust Cable Tension:

- Most auger clutch cables have an adjustment point (often a nut on the threaded rod) to set the proper tension.
- Adjust the tension so that the auger engages firmly when the lever is squeezed and fully disengages when

released, without excessive slack or binding.

- Refer to your snow blower's manual for specific tensioning guidelines.

8. Test Operation:

- Reconnect the spark plug wire.
- Start the engine (if safe to do so).
- Test the auger engagement and disengagement in a safe, open area. Ensure the auger stops completely when the lever is released.
- If the auger does not engage or disengage correctly, re-adjust the cable tension.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance extends the life of your auger clutch cable and ensures reliable operation of your snow blower.

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the cable for signs of wear, fraying, kinks, or damage to the outer casing.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a light lubricant to the cable ends and pivot points as recommended by your snow blower's manufacturer to ensure smooth operation.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the cable and its routing path free from dirt, ice, and debris.
- **Proper Storage:** When storing the snow blower, ensure the cable is not kinked or under excessive tension.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

If you experience issues with your auger clutch, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Auger Not Engaging:**
 - Check cable tension; it may be too loose.
 - Inspect the cable for breaks or severe kinks.
 - Verify all connections are secure.
- **Auger Not Disengaging / Stays Engaged:**
 - Check cable tension; it may be too tight or binding.
 - Ensure the cable moves freely within its casing.
 - Inspect the auger engagement mechanism for obstructions or damage.
- **Stiff or Hard-to-Operate Lever:**
 - Lubricate the cable and pivot points.
 - Check for kinks or damage to the cable casing.
 - Ensure the cable is routed correctly and not pinched.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, it is recommended to consult a qualified service technician or refer to your snow blower's specific service manual.

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This UpStart Components replacement part is not an OEM product. Any warranties for this product are offered solely by UpStart Components. For warranty claims or support inquiries regarding this specific replacement part, please contact UpStart Components directly.

Note: This product is not affiliated with any original equipment manufacturers, and its warranty is separate from any warranties offered by the original manufacturers of your snow blower.

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