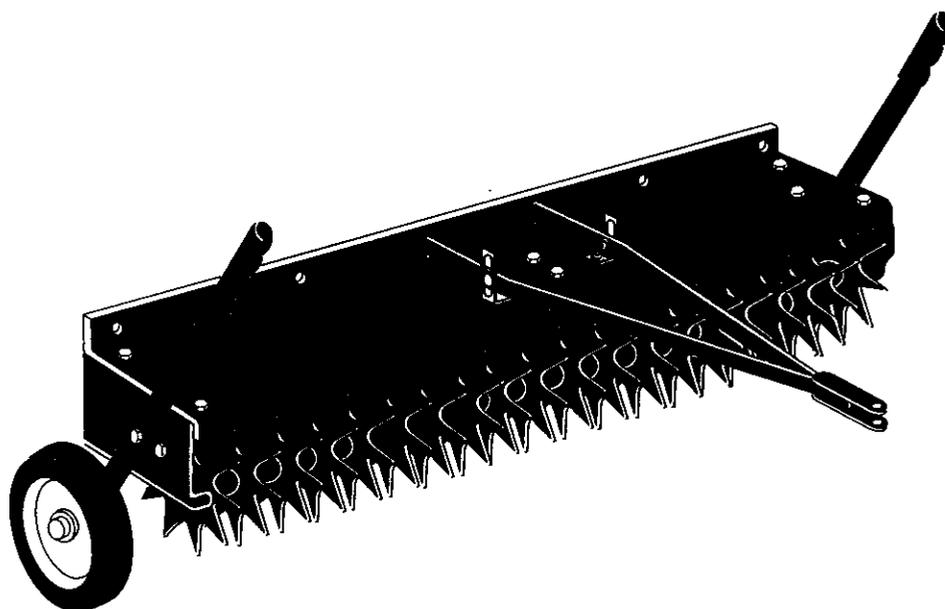


Owner's Manual

CRAFTSMAN®

48" SPIKE AERATOR

Model No. 486.24372



CAUTION:

Before using this product,
read this manual and follow
all Safety Rules and
Operating Instructions.

- Safety
- Assembly
- Operation
- Maintenance
- Parts

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179 U.S.A.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

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WARRANTY

LIMITED ONE YEAR WARRANTY ON

For one year from the date of purchase, when this aerator is maintained and lubricated according to the operating and maintenance instructions in the owner's manual, Sears will repair any defect in material or workmanship free of charge. If this aerator is used for commercial or rental purposes, this warranty applies for only 90 days from the date of purchase.

This warranty does not cover repairs necessary because of operator negligence or abuse, including the failure to maintain the equipment according to instructions contained in the owner's manual.

WARRANTY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING THE NEAREST SEARS SERVICE CENTER/DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

This warranty applies only while this product is in the United States.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. Sears, Roebuck and Co. D/817 WA. Hoffman Estates, Chicago, IL 60179



SAFETY



Any power equipment can cause injury if operated improperly or if the user does not understand how to operate the equipment. Exercise caution at all times, when using power equipment.

- Read the owners manual carefully for operating and service instructions before attempting to assemble or operate this equipment. Be thoroughly familiar with the proper use of this equipment.
- Read the vehicle owners manual and vehicle safety rules, and know how to operate the vehicle before using this equipment.
- Never allow children to operate the tractor or spike aerator attachment, and do not allow adults to operate without proper instructions.
- Wear eye protection when operating the aerator.
- Wear substantial footwear when operating the aerator.
- Do not allow anyone to ride or sit on spike aerator attachment frame or on towing vehicle.
- Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children, and also pets.
- Always begin with the transmission in first (low) gear and engine at low speed, and gradually increase speed as conditions permit.
- The vehicle braking and stability may be affected with the attachment of this equipment. Be aware of changing conditions on slopes. Refer to safety rules in the vehicle owner's manual concerning safe operation on slopes. **STAY OFF OF STEEP SLOPES.**
- Always operate up and down a slope, never across the face of a slope
- This equipment should be operated at reduced speed on rough terrain, along creeks and ditches and on hillsides, to prevent tipping and loss of control. Do not drive too close to a creek or a ditch.
- Do not tow this equipment on a highway or any other public thoroughfare.
- Follow the maintenance instructions as outlined in this owners manual.



Look for this symbol to point out important safety precautions. It mean--**Attention!! Become alert!! Your safety is involved.**

The model number and serial number will be found on a decal attached to the spike shield.

You should record both the serial number and the date of purchase and keep in a safe place for future reference.

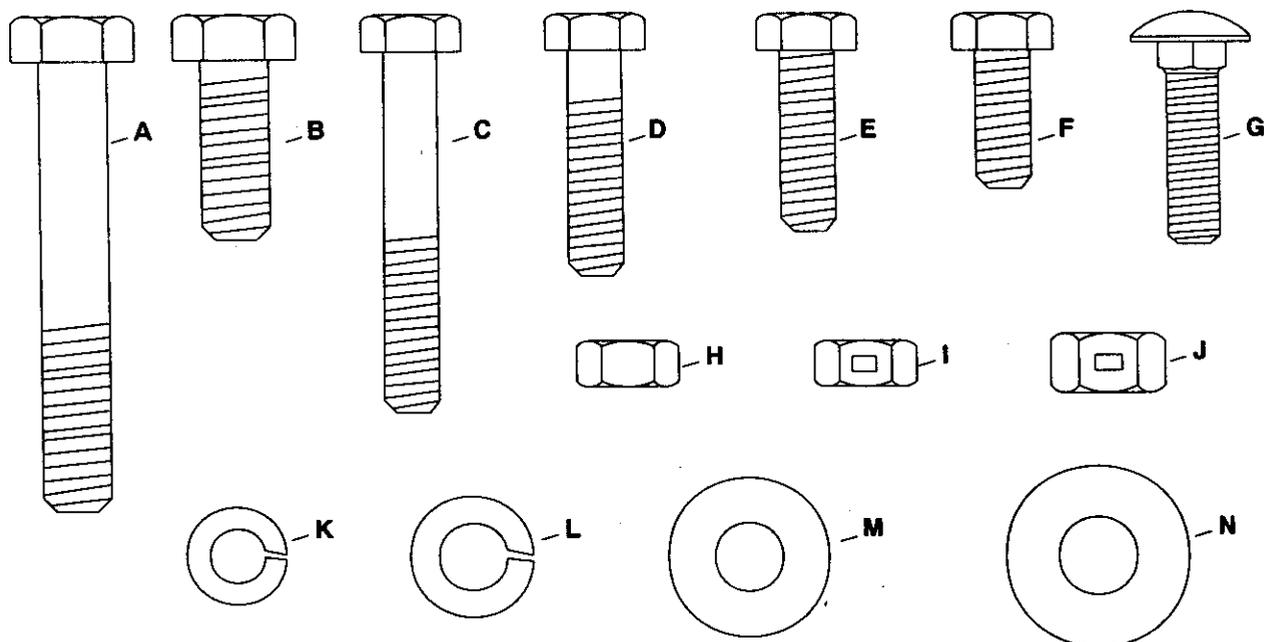
MODEL NUMBER: 486.24372

SERIAL NUMBER: _____

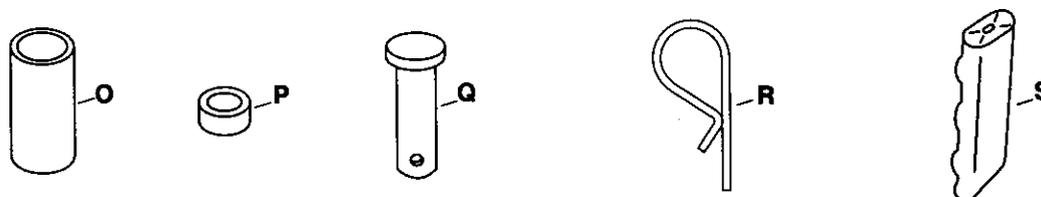
DATE OF PURCHASE: _____

HARDWARE PACKAGE CONTENTS

SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE



NOT SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE

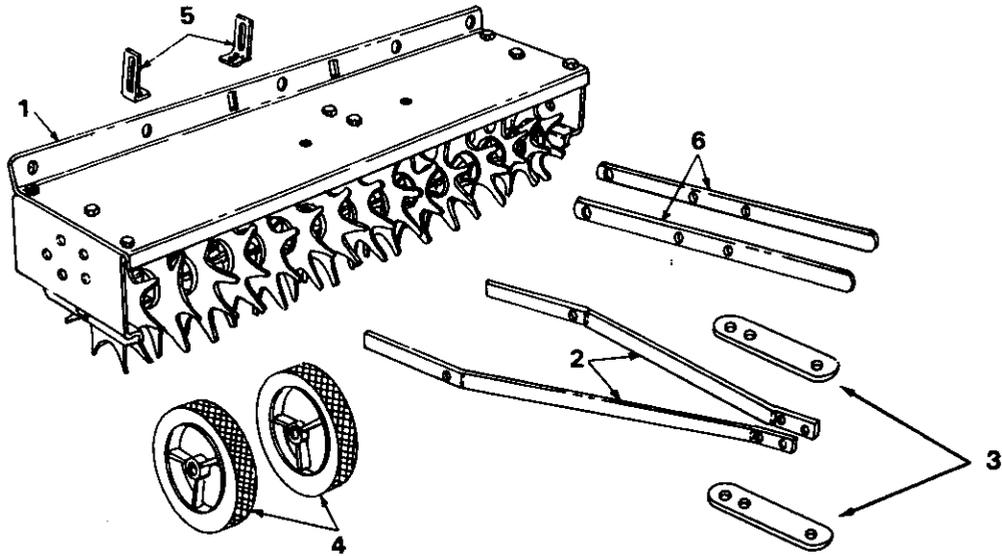


REF.	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	REF.	QTY.	DESCRIPTION
A	2	Hex Bolt, 3/8-16 x 2-1/2" Lg.	J	4	Hex Lock Nut, 3/8"
B	2	Hex Bolt, 3/8-16 x 1" Lg.	K	6	Lock Washer, 5/16"
C	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 2" Lg.	L	2	Lock Washer, 3/8"
D	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1-1/4" Lg.	M	2	Flat Washer, 5/16"
E	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1" Lg.	N	2	Flat Washer, 3/8"
F	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 3/4" Lg.	O	2	Axle Bushing
G	2	Carriage Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1" Lg.	P	2	Bushing, Short
H	6	Hex Nut, 5/16"	Q	2	Clevis Pin, 3/8" x 3/4" Lg.
I	4	Hex Lock Nut, 5/16"	R	2	Hairpin Cotter, 3/32"
			S	2	Grip

ASSEMBLY

CARTON CONTENTS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Spike Shield Assembly | 3. Hitch Bracket (2) | 5. Hitch Arm Mount Bracket (2) |
| 2. Hitch Mount Arm (2) | 4. Wheel Assembly (2) | 6. Transport Handle (2) |
| | | Hardware Package (Page 3) |



TOOLS REQUIRED FOR ASSEMBLY

- (2) 1/2" Wrenches
- (2) 9/16" Wrenches

- Assemble two hitch arm mount brackets to the spike shield assembly using two 5/16" x 3/4" hex bolts and 5/16" hex lock nuts. **Do not tighten at yet.** See figure 1.

REMOVAL OF PARTS FROM CARTON

- Remove all parts and hardware packages from the carton. Lay out all parts and hardware and identify using the illustration on page 3 and the illustration at the top of this page.

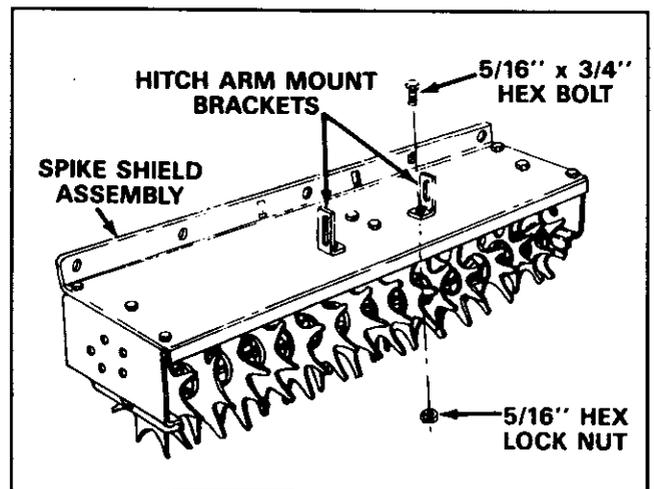


FIGURE 1

- Slide the two hitch mount arms through the slots in the rear flange of the spike shield. Fasten the arms to the outside of the mount brackets using two 5/16" x 1" carriage bolts, two 5/16" lock washers and two 5/16" hex nuts. See figure 2. **Do not tighten at this time.**
- Assemble the ends of the two hitch mount arms together using two 5/16" x 1-1/4" hex bolts, two 5/16" lock washers and two 5/16" hex nuts. See figure 2. **Do not tighten at this time.**
- Assemble the two hitch brackets to the top and bottom of the hitch mount arms using two 5/16" x 2" hex bolts, two 5/16" lock washers and two 5/16" hex nuts. The bolts should pass between the two bolts assembled in previous step. See figure 2. **Tighten all bolts at this time.**

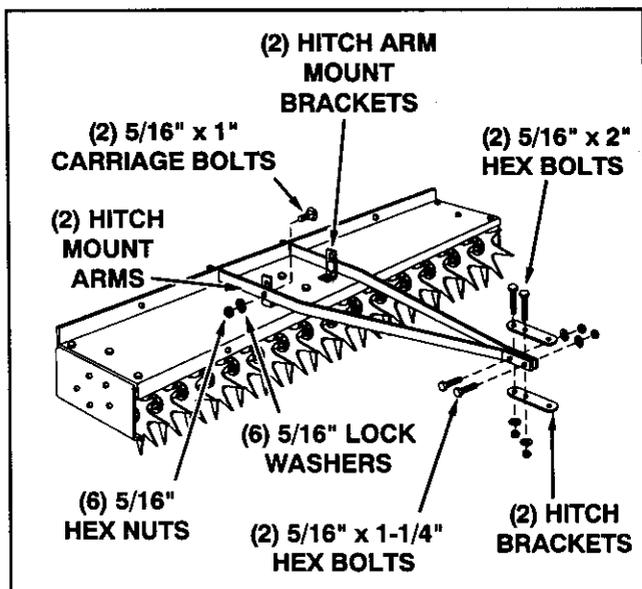


FIGURE 2

- Assemble a bushing to the bottom front hole in each end plate on the spike shield assembly. Use two 5/16" x 1" hex bolts, 5/16" flat washers and 5/16" hex lock nuts. **Tighten securely.** See figure 3.
- Assemble a wheel to the end hole in each transport handle using a 3/8" x 2-1/2" hex bolt, 3/8" flat washer, axle bushing, 3/8" lock washer and 3/8" hex lock nut. **Tighten securely.** See figure 3.
- Install a rubber grip on each transport handle. See figure 3.
- Assemble a transport handle with wheel to the bottom middle hole in each end plate as shown in figure 3. Use a 3/8" x 1" hex bolt and 3/8" hex lock nut. **Tighten**, but do not over tighten; the handle must pivot freely.

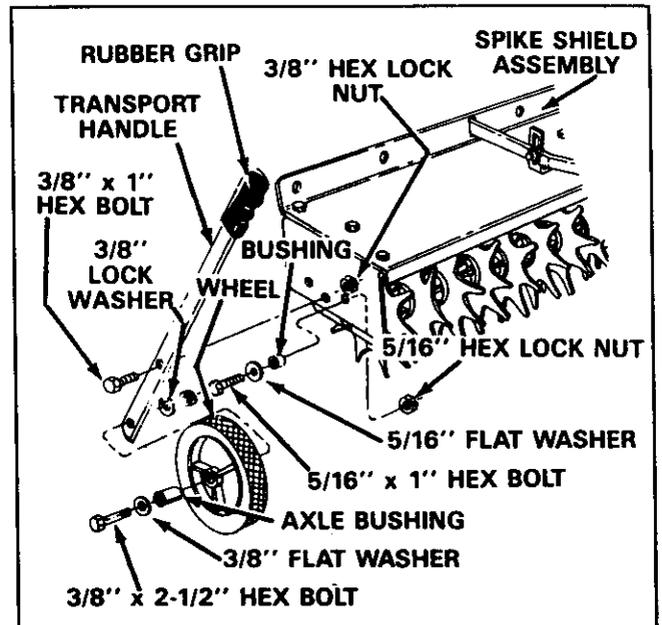


FIGURE 3

- Move each transport handle forward until it rests against the bushing assembled in figure 3. Lock the handle in this position with a clevis pin and a hairpin cotter as shown in figure 4. The aerator is now in the transport mode.
- Move the towing vehicle onto a level surface, such as a driveway or garage floor, and connect the aerator to the vehicle. See figure 4.
- Remove the clevis pins and move the transport handle toward the rear of the aerator shield until the spikes come to rest on the driveway or floor. The aerator is now in the operating mode. See figure 4.
- To level the spike shield, loosen the carriage bolts fastening the hitch mount arms to the brackets. Adjust spike shield as level as possible. See figure 4.
- Tighten the hex nuts on the carriage bolts to lock spike shield in level position. See figure 4.

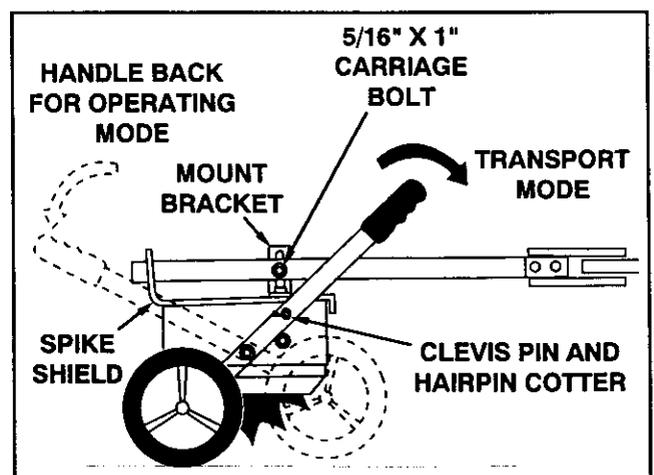


FIGURE 4

OPERATION

KNOW YOUR SPIKE AERATOR

Read this owner's manual and safety rules before operating your spike aerator.

Compare the illustration below with your spike aerator to familiarize yourself with the various controls and their locations.

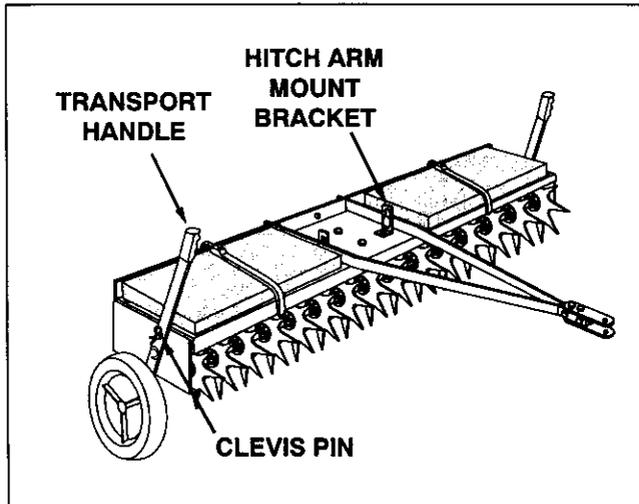


FIGURE 5

HITCH ARM MOUNT BRACKET Allows the aerator to be levelled front to back for different tractor hitches.

TRANSPORT HANDLE Raises the aerator points off the ground for transport.

CLEVIS PIN Locks the transport handle in transport position. Secured with a hair cotter pin.

HOW TO USE YOUR SPIKE AERATOR

Aerating means cutting small holes in the soil to create small reservoirs that will bring oxygen, fertilizer and water down into the root zone. For best performance of the spike aerator, the following preparation and operation is recommended.



CAUTION: Aerator points are sharp. Be careful when servicing or operating the aerator.

- Mow the lawn and remove loose clippings before using the aerator.
- Drive to starting point with aerator in transport mode.
- Lower aerator spikes by pulling the transport handles back.
- Set the tractor throttle at slow speed and engage the shift lever in the lowest possible forward speed. Increase speed as conditions permit.
- Aerate in the straightest line possible, making overlapping passes to increase spike point pattern.
- To avoid damage to your lawn, **DO NOT TURN SHARPLY** with the spike points engaged in the ground.
- On sloped lawns, aerate in an **up and down** direction. **DO NOT** attempt to follow the contour of the ground.
- **DO NOT** attempt to aerate if the ground is too hard and dry or if it is too wet (muddy).

OPERATING TIPS

- To increase spike point depth penetration, add weight to the upper frame as required. The frame holds three concrete blocks or patio blocks at approximately 35 lbs. each. Secure the weights with straps or wire, using the holes in the shield flange. See figure 5 on this page.
- If the ground is extremely hard and dry, it is recommended that it be sprinkled or watered down for one to two hours prior to use of the aerator.

MAINTENANCE

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Read and follow the maintenance schedule and the maintenance procedures listed in this section.

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE Fill in dates as you complete regular service.	Service Dates											
	Before each use	After each use	Every season	Before storage								
Check for loose fasteners	X											
Lubricate wheel bearings			X									
Cleaning		X										

CHECK FOR LOOSE FASTENERS

- Before each use make a thorough visual check of the snow thrower for any bolts and nuts which may have loosened. Retighten any loose bolts and nuts.

LUBRICATION

- Oil the wheel bearings at least once every season. Refer to figure 6.

CLEANING

- Clean off dirt after each use.

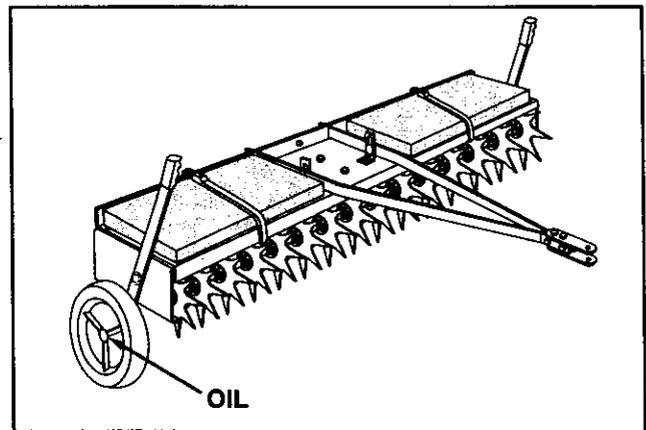


FIGURE 6

SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

SHARPENING SPIKE POINTS

- Spike points can periodically be sharpened with a small grinder to maintain good penetration. The spike disks should be removed from the aerator to sharpen the points.

STORAGE

STORAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Store in a dry area.
- If rust appears on shield or spikes, sand lightly and coat with enamel paint.

REPAIR PARTS FOR MODEL 486.24372 48" SPIKE AERATOR

REF.	PART NO.	QTY.	DESCRIPTION
1	24111	1	Spike Shield - 48"
2	23900	20	Spike Disk
3	45148	20	Spike Disk Hub
4	24113	1	Axle
5	23903	2	End Plate
6	45187	2	Spring Pin, 1/4" x 2" Long
7	43182	8	Hex Head Bolt, 5/16-18 x 3/4" Long *
8	43064	4	Hex Lock Nut, 5/16-18 Thread *
9	43009	4	Flat Washer, 1.59 O.D. x 25/32 I.D.
10	23904	1	Reinforcement Bracket
11	23981	2	Hitch Bracket
12	23905	2	Transport Bar
13	23914	2	Hitch Arm
14	23442	2	Hitch Arm Mounting Bracket
15	44238	2	Wheel
16	43432	2	Hex Bolt, 3/8-16 x 2-1/2" Lg. *
17	43001	2	Hex Bolt, 3/8-16 x 1" Lg. *
18	43003	2	Lock Washer, 3/8"
19	43070	2	Flat Washer, 3/8"
20	43082	4	Hex Lock Nut 3/8-16 Thread *
21	23906	2	Axle Bushing
22	43182	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 3/4" Lg. *
23	43063	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1" Lg. *
24	44326	2	Carriage Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1" Lg. *
25	43086	6	Lock Washer, 5/16" *
26	43083	6	Hex Nut, 5/16-18 Thread *
27	23625	2	Bushing, Short
28	43055	2	Hairpin Cotter 3/32"
29	43943	2	Grip
30	43081	2	Flat Washer, 5/16" *
31	44180	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 2" Lg. *
32	43840	2	Hex Bolt, 5/16-18 x 1-1/4" Lg. *
33	44044	2	Pin, Clevis 3/8" x 3/4" Lg.
34	46497	20	Spacer Tube, 1" O.D. x 1.2" Lg.
35	46584	8	Nut, Whizlock 5/16-18 Thread
	47531	1	Owners Manual

*Purchase common hardware locally.

NOTES

NOTES

For in-home major brand repair service:

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

1-800-4-MY-HOMESM (1-800-469-4663)

Para pedir servicio de reparación a domicilio – 1-800-676-5811

In Canada for all your service and parts needs call – **1-800-665-4455**
Au Canada pour tout le service ou les pièces

For the repair or replacement parts you need:

Call 7 am – 7 pm, 7 days a week

1-800-366-PART (1-800-366-7278)

Para ordenar piezas con entrega a domicilio – 1-800-659-7084

For the location of a Sears Parts and Repair Center in your area:

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

1-800-488-1222

**For information on purchasing a Sears Maintenance Agreement
or to inquire about an existing Agreement:**

Call 9 am – 5 pm, Monday – Saturday

1-800-827-6655



The Service Side of SearsSM