

# Service Kit 753-0884

CODE: R-442

DATE: July 10, 2000

SUBJECT: 42 inch Deck Skirt

MODELS AFFECTED: All riding mowers 1997 and after with a 42-inch cutting deck

Service Kit 753-0884 applies to all riding mowers 1997 and after with a 42-inch cutting deck. This kit should be used on an as-needed basis to reduce excess grass clipping blowout when mulching. The contents of the kit are listed below.

REFERENCE LETTER	PART NUMBER	QTY.	DESCRIPTION
A	710-0599	5	Hex Washer Head Self Tap Screw 1/4-20 x .5
B	783-1258A	1	Left Hand Deck Skirt
C	783-1259A	1	Right Hand Deck Skirt

## Installing the Deck Skirt Sections

1. Turn the ignition key to the off position and remove the key. Set the parking brake ON.
2. This service kit can not be installed without removing the cutting deck from the rider. When removing the cutting deck be sure to mark or record how each link or bracket connects to the deck. Also note how the belt routes and where any cables or springs are attached.
3. Remove the mulch plug if present.
4. Position the deck so that the underside is facing up (blades up). Support the deck so that it does not rock or tip when pressure is applied to it.
5. Clean any debris from the Deck Lip. See Figure 1.
6. Lay out the skirt sections in front of the deck. See Figure 1.
7. The holes in the skirt sections should be away from the deck. See Figure 1.

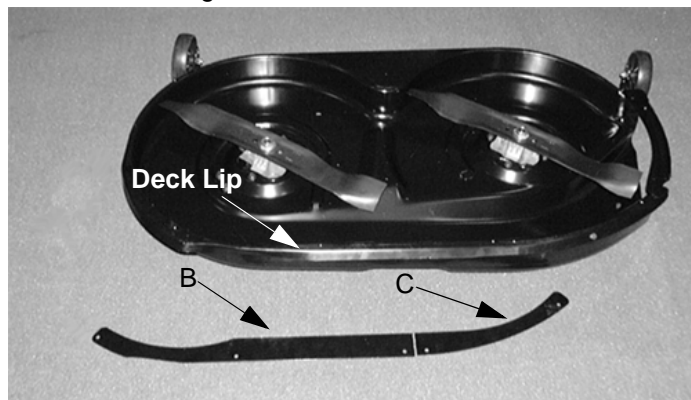


Figure 1

8. Place each skirt section on the Deck Lip (Figure 1). They should be oriented the same way as when they were on the floor. See Figure 2.

9. Position the right edge of skirt section (C) flush against the edge of the Foot Guard Plate. See Figure 2.
10. Adjust both skirt sections so that they butt together. See Figure 2.
11. Position each skirt section so that the holes in it are located on the flat surface of the Deck Lip (Figure 1), not on the curved surfaces. Be sure the ends of the sections stay butted against each other and the Foot Guard Plate. See Figure 2.
12. Once the skirt sections are positioned properly, clamp them in place against the Deck Lip (Figure 1). Use a hammer and a center punch to mark the location of each of the five holes in the skirt sections on the deck lip.

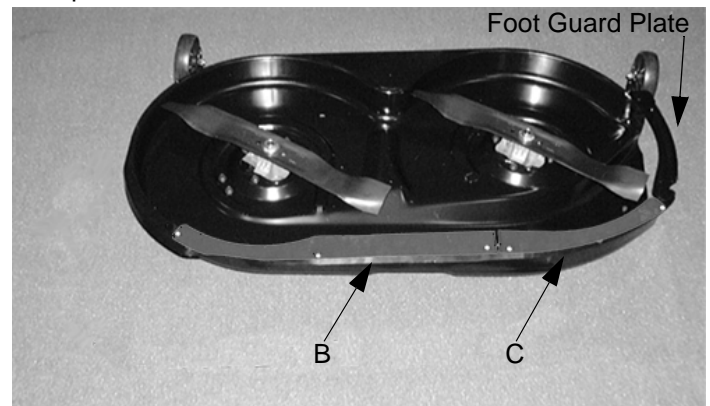
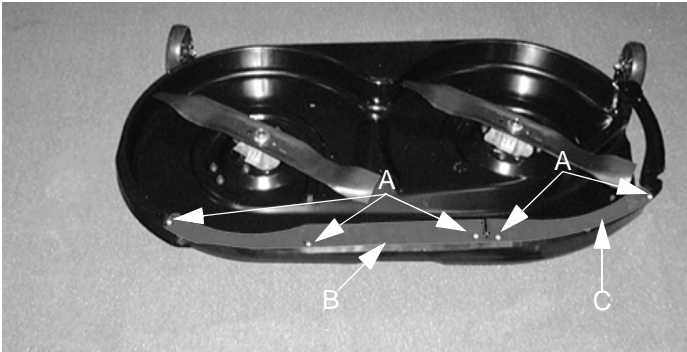


Figure 2

13. Remove the skirt sections and drill all five holes with a 7/32 inch drill bit. Do not enlarge the holes. Any burrs may be removed so long as no hole sizes are altered and the material around the holes is not weakened. If necessary predrill the holes with a 1/8 inch drill bit.

14. Reposition the skirt sections on the Deck Lip (Figure 1). Use a 3/8 inch socket to thread each screw (A) through a hole in a skirt section and into the matching hole drilled in the deck lip. Keep each self-tapping screw straight while putting downward pressure on it and tightening with the socket to allow the screw to cut threads. Start all of the screws (A) first, then tighten them securely. See Figure 3.



**Figure 3**

15. Rotate the blades a few complete turns to ensure that they do not touch any of the skirt sections. If either blade contacts any portion of a skirt section, the cause must be determined and the situation corrected prior to attaching the deck to the rider.
16. If no correction is needed or once one is made, attach the deck to the rider.
17. Reinstall the mulch plug if present.
18. Test the operation of the rider.
19. Place this sheet in the customer's *Operator's Manual* or *Illustrated Parts Book* for future reference.