

# Instruction Sheet

## Kit Number: 71516000

### 42 INCH MULCH KIT



**WARNING:** FAILURE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS could result in personal injury and/or damage to unit.

Read, understand, and follow all safety practices in Operator's Manual before beginning.

### Package Contents

Check the contents of your kit for the parts listed below. Also see Figure 1.

Item	Description	Qty	Ariens P/N
1	42" Mulch Baffle	1	05293951
2	5/16"-18 x 3/4" Round Head Square Neck Bolt	3	06200232
3	5/16"-18 Center-Lock Flange Nut	5	06500840
4	21" Mulch Blade	2	05027400

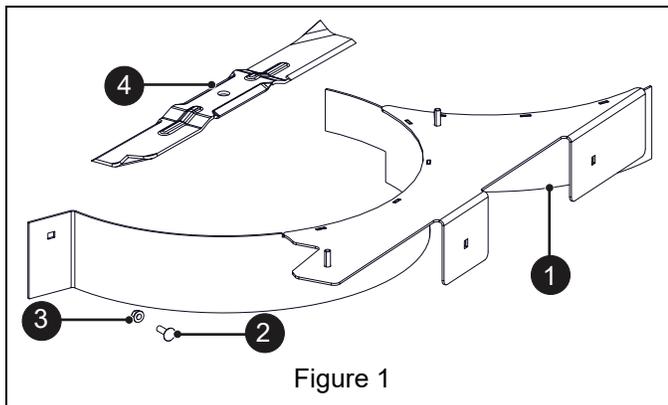


Figure 1

### REMOVAL



**CAUTION:** On multi-blade mowers, rotation of one mower blade will cause all mower blades to rotate.



**WARNING:** Mower blades are sharp and can cut you. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing.

1. Stop engine, remove key and engage parking brake. Wait for moving parts to stop and for hot parts to cool.
2. Disconnect spark plug wire



**WARNING:** ALWAYS chock wheels and know all jack stands are strong and secure and will hold weight of unit during maintenance.

3. Raise the front of the unit to gain access to the underside of the deck. Securely support the unit.
4. Remove two 5/16" locking top flange nuts retaining discharge chute assembly and remove discharge chute. Retain all parts for operation without mulch kit. DO NOT remove chute mounting plate. See Figure 2.

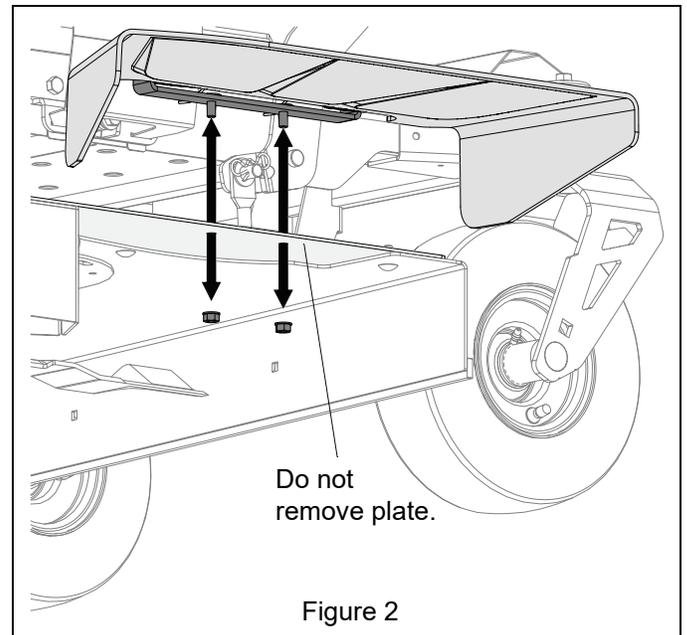
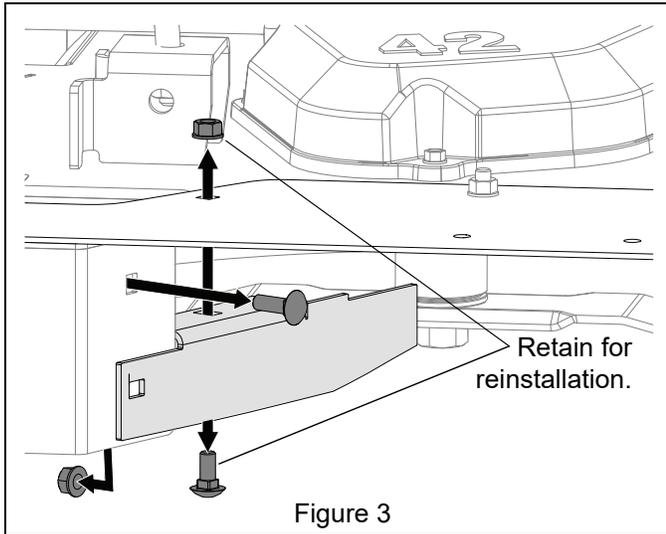
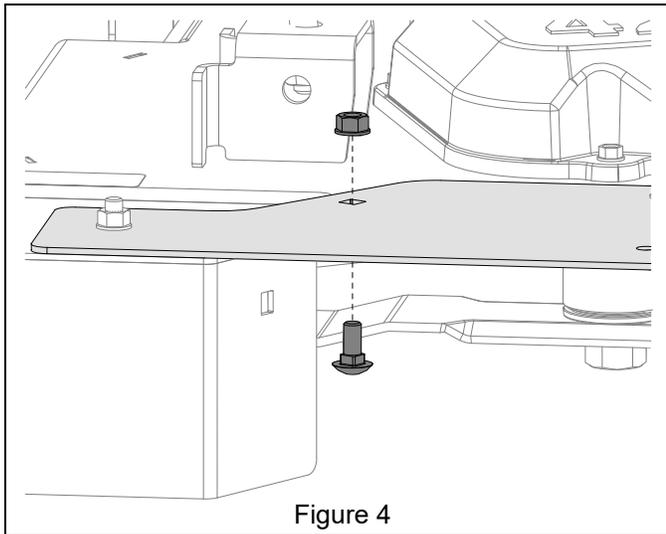


Figure 2

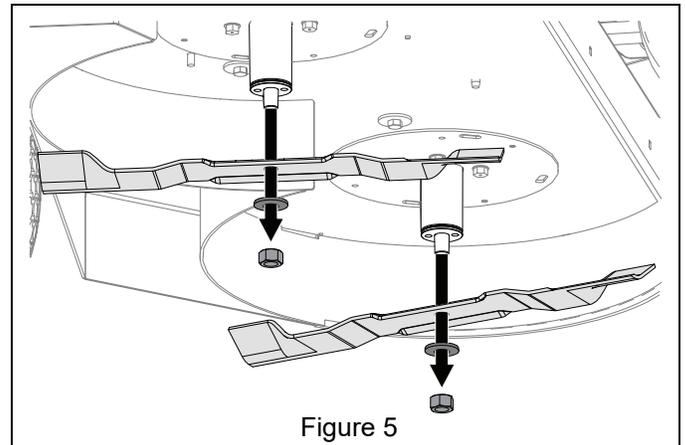
- Remove one 5/16" x 1" and one 5/16" x 3/4" round head square neck bolts and two flange nuts retaining deflector strip and remove deflector strip. Retain deflector strip and 1" bolt and one nut for operation without mulch kit and 3/4" bolt and nut for reinstallation. See Figure 3.



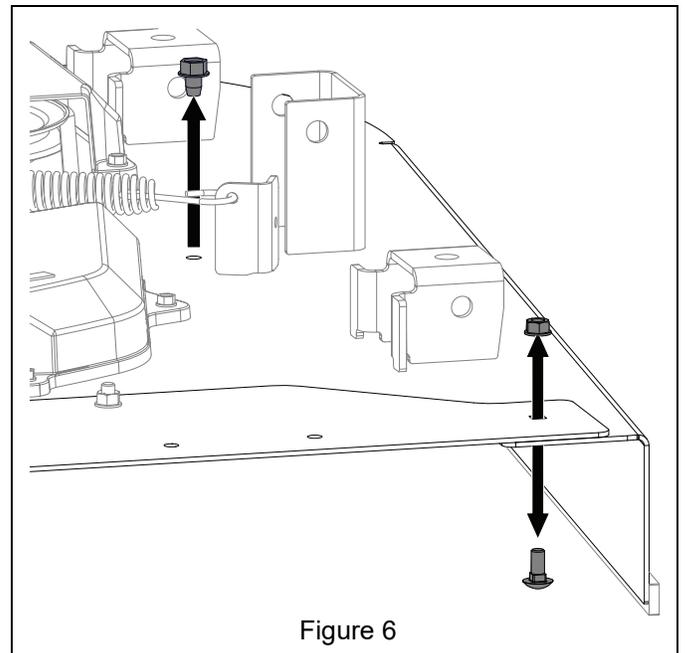
- Reinstall 5/16" x 3/4" round head square neck bolt and flange nut to prevent debris from escaping from cutting chamber. See Figure 4.



- Remove two 5/8" hex nuts and Belleville washers retaining blades and remove blades. Retain blades for operation without mulch kit. Retain nuts and washers for kit installation. See Figure 5.

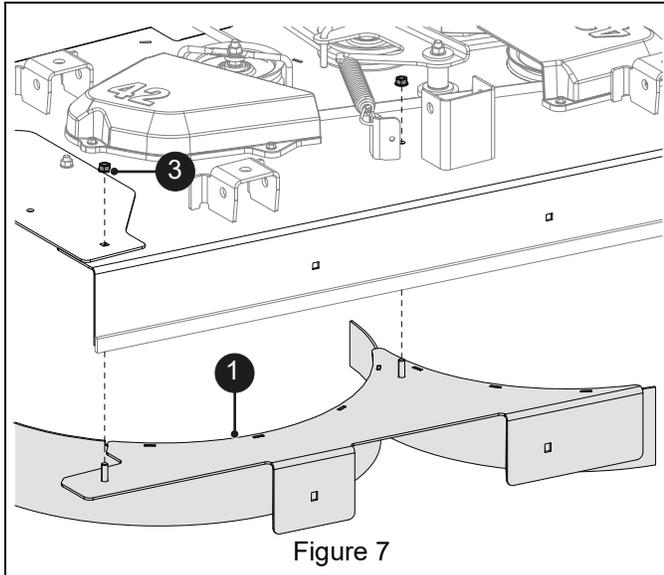


- Remove one 3/8" x 1/2" tapping screw from top of deck and one round head square neck bolt and hex nut from front of chute mounting plate. Retain hardware for operation without mulch kit. See Figure 6.

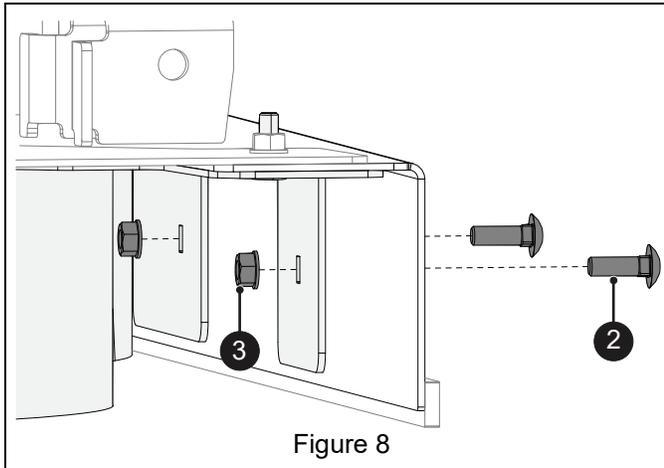


## INSTALLATION

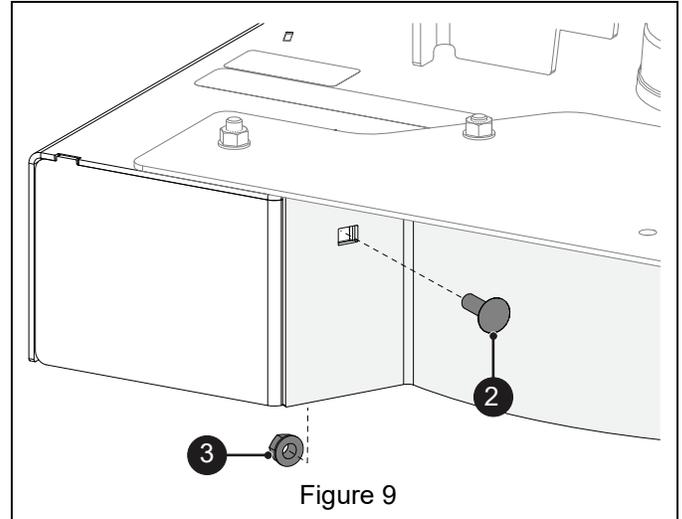
1. Install baffle (item 1) under deck and from top retain with two 5/16" locking flange nuts (item 3). See Figure 7.



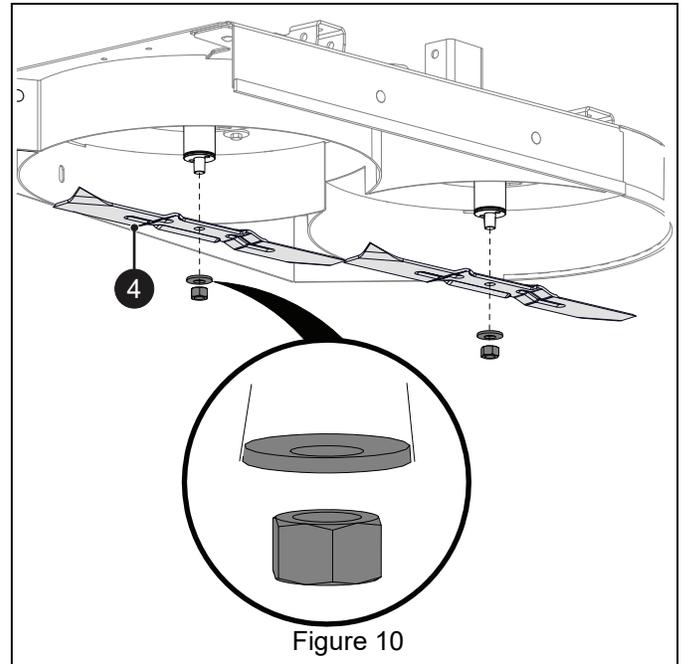
2. Secure baffle to front of deck with two 5/16" x 3/4" round head square neck bolts (item 2) and two 5/16" locking flange nuts (item 3). See Figure 8.



3. Secure baffle to rear of deck with one 5/16" x 3/4" round head square neck bolt (item 2) and one 5/16" locking flange nut (item 3). See Figure 9.



4. Install mulch blades (item 4) with Belleville washers and hex nuts removed earlier. Ensure that cupped faces of washers face blades. Torque blade nuts to 136 N•m – 163 N•m (100 lb-ft – 120 lbf-ft). See Figure 10.



5. Return unit to operating position
6. Connect spark plug wire.

## **MULCHING TIPS**

1. Mow at full throttle.
2. Mow at half speed.
3. Mow dry grass only. Mowing wet grass causes clumping.
4. Keep mower blades sharp.
5. Cut no more than 2.5 cm (1") at a time. For tall grass, mow at a higher cutting height, then make a second or third pass with the deck set to the desired cutting height.
6. Clean the underside of deck after each mowing.
7. DO NOT wash mower with high-pressure sprayer when cleaning deck or mower.