



WESTERN STATES



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INSTALLATION OF BRIDGE-STYLE BACKING SCREENS

Required Materials:

- Bridge Screen (5 pcs. for 48" baskets) (6 pcs. all other sizes).
 - Rubber gasket material for top and bottom edge, one long strip to be cut as necessary.
 - Black Plastic Plugs (only required for some early 1750 and early ringless baskets).
 - Sharp tin snips or wire cutters (only required if plugs needed).
 - Electric or pneumatic grinder with cut-off wheel.
 - Spreading Tool WSMC Part #068692 (recommended)
1. **DISREGARD THIS STEP IF YOUR BASKET DOES NOT REQUIRE PLUGS.** The black plastic plugs are used to block off the very bottom and very top row of holes in the basket side sheet of some early 1750 and early ringless baskets. If your basket has no holes drilled within ½" of the cap or bottom plate, the plastic plugs are not required. If the holes at the bottom or top are closer than ½" to the bottom plate or cap, plugs will be needed to prevent the rubber gasket from being extruded through the holes. If a hole is too close to the basket bottom plate or top to install the plug, use tin snips to cut off part of the head of the plug, so it can be properly inserted into the hole.
 2. The bridge screen sections are numbered one through five (or six). Install the rubber gasket on the top and bottom sides of each piece of screen and cut the rubber 1/16" to 1/8" longer than the section of screen on each end. This will allow the gasket to be compressed to be sure there are no gaps in the rubber between the screen sections.
 3. Install the sections of screens into the basket, with the gasket attached to the top and bottom of each screen section. The mating edges of each section are identified. The edges of the first section are marked 1 and 2. The edges of the second section are marked 2 and 3. The edges of the third section are marked 3 and 4, etc. The number 2 edge of the first section mates with the number 2 edge of the second section. The number 3 edge of the second section mates with the number 3 edge of the third section, etc. Be sure to install the sections as they are marked.
 4. The sections need to be pushed back against the wall completely before the final section of the screen is marked for trimming. This can be done easily with a spreader tool to apply force to the screen sections, expanding their diameter until they are snug against the basket wall.



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5. The last section of screen will have to be cut to fit. While in the basket, overlap this last section of screen over the first section installed to determine exactly how much bridge screen has to be cut off. Measure and mark the excess, then take the section out of the basket. When trimming the screen to fit you will actually cut off the pins. The last joint in the bridge screen will simply be butted together. Use a grinder with a cut-off wheel. The screen can be cut in a matter of minutes. The gasket will have to be trimmed as in step (2) above.
6. When installing the last section, a line-on-line joint or a slight overlap is desired. If there is a slight overlap, this will usually Spin in. We do not want to have any excessive gaps between the screen segments after installation is complete.
7. Prior to exiting the basket, double check to be sure that the gasket has not rolled off of the screen anywhere, and that all gaps are minimized. Pay particular attention to the gap between the top gasket and the curb top (upper screen land). The top gasket should be pushed up around the full circumference of the basket to close this gap.
8. Run the machine to seat the screen against the basket wall.
9. Stop the machine and inspect the bridge screen and gasket again, as in step (7). If all looks good, install the filter screen. NOTE: Make sure the filter screen tabs are pointing in the direction the machine rotates during discharging. Some machines have reverse discharging and some have forward discharging. Use the tab end of the filter screen as a guide for installation for both types of machines.

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