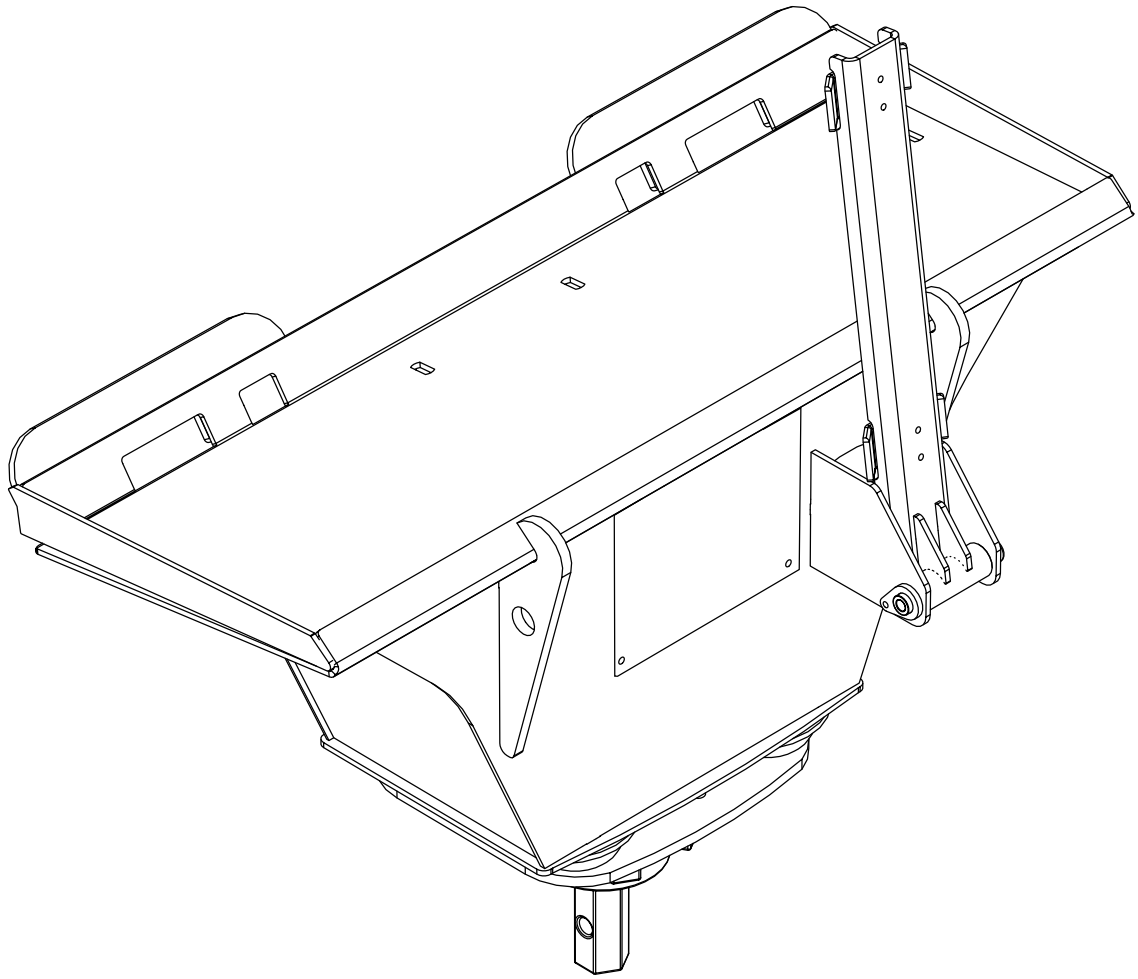
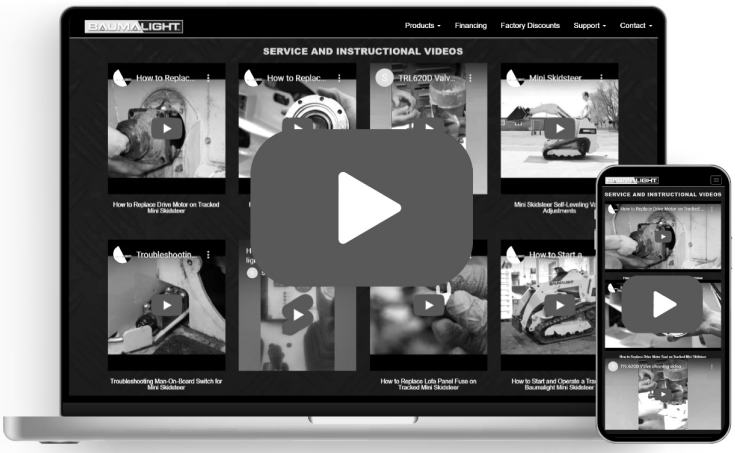


BAUMALIGHT™

RSS380, RSS580 And RSS780
SPLINTER WOOD SPLITTER & PLANER

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

Issue Date: November 2026



Service And Instructional Videos

Find online at baumalight.com/support

Following is a list of videos and documents available on Baumalights website and also on YouTube to help and enhance maintaining the wood splitter and planer. The list below was current at the time this manual was issued. Additional content may be available.

Activity ID Number	Activity Name	Description	Item Available
107	Remove Seal.	Remove Seal On Motor Or Load Adapter.	Video
131	Zero-Leak Relief Valve.	Demonstrating And Troubleshooting Zero-Leak.	Video
140	Replace Motor Shaft Seal.	Replace Shaft Seal On Piston Motor.	Video
317	Hydraulic Motor.	Breaking In Replacement Hydraulic Motor.	Video
278	Skidsteer Case Drain Back-Pressure.	What May Cause Skidsteer Case Drain Back-Pressure.	Video
279	Skidsteer Case Drain Back-Pressure.	Testing Case Drain Back-Pressure With Pressure Gauge.	Video
280	Skidsteer Case Drain Back-Pressure.	Testing Case Drain Back-Pressure With Open Coupler.	Video
475	Communicating Measurements.	Why Not To Send Pictures Of Measuring Tapes To Communicate Measurements.	Video
337	Rubber Mounts	The Purpose Of Rubber Mounts.	Video

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Congratulations on your choice of a Baumalight Splinter to complement your wood clearing operation. This equipment has been designed and manufactured to meet the needs of a discriminating buyer for efficient operation.

The Splinter's power comes from the hydraulically-driven motor mounting on a planetary drive, delivering a high amount of torque to the head.

Skid steer must have suitable safety equipment properly installed.

Safe, efficient and trouble free operation of your Splinter requires that you and anyone else who will be operating or maintaining the Splinter, read and understand the Safety, Operation, Maintenance and Troubleshooting information contained within the Operator's Manual.

This manual covers the Baumalight RSS380, RSS580 and RSS780 Splinter. Use the Table of Contents as a guide to locate required information.

Keep this manual handy for frequent reference and to pass on to new operators or owners. Contact your Baumalight dealer if you need assistance, information or additional copies of the manuals.

OPERATOR ORIENTATION - The directions left, right, front and rear, as mentioned throughout this manual, are as seen from the driver's seat and facing in the direction of travel.

1.2 Intended Use And Foreseeable Misuse

The Splinter is designed to be used by an experienced operator. Operator must be trained in the safe operation of a skid steer and hazards related to using the Splinter and the safe use of the Splinter for the intended purpose. Operators will require personal protective equipment to reduce the risk from some hazards that cannot be completely eliminated or controlled by the design of the Splinter.

Care is required to ensure that the Splinter will not come in contact with metallic objects, stones or other materials.

Splinters are not designed for use in hazardous atmospheres where there is a risk of fire or explosion due to flammable gases or vapors. Use in hazardous, explosive atmospheres is prohibited. Serious injury or death of the operator or bystanders may be caused if Splinter is misused. Misuse may also cause damage to the machine carrying the Splinter.

2 SAFETY

2.1 Safety Alert Symbol and Safety Words

You must read, understand and follow the instructions given by the operating unit manufacturers, as well as the instructions in this manual.

The safety information in this manual is denoted by the safety alert symbol:



This symbol means ATTENTION! BECOME ALERT! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED!

The level of risk is indicated by the following signal words:

DANGER

DANGER - Indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, WILL result in death or serious injury.

WARNING

WARNING - Indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION

CAUTION - Indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE

NOTICE - Indicates a situation that could result in damage to the equipment or other property.

2.2 Operational Hazards

WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death.

Read and understand this manual before operating the Splinter.

Always stop engine and remove key before leaving operators seat.

Never allow anyone near the Splinter during operation.

Travel at a safe speed.

WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death from moving parts.

Moving parts can crush and dismember.

Do not operate without guards and shields in place.

Disconnect and lock out power source before adjusting or servicing.

WARNING

Use the Splinter only for the designed applications.

Any other use may result in personal injury, damage to equipment and may void the warranty.

⚠ WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death.

Verify the Splinter is locked to the skid steer before operation or transport.

⚠ WARNING

Protect from flying debris.

Wear proper safety glasses, goggles, or a face shield to protect from flying debris.

Carefully read all safety messages in this manual and on equipment safety signs. Keep safety signs in good condition and replace missing or damaged safety signs.

New equipment components and repair parts must include the current safety decal.

Learn how to properly operate equipment. NEVER operate or work around this equipment without proper instruction, while fatigued or under the influence of alcohol, prescription or non-prescription medication or if feeling ill.

Keep your equipment in proper working condition. Know the regulations and laws that apply to you and your industry. This manual is not to replace any regulations or laws. Additional information may be found at: www.asae.org or www.osha.gov.

If you do not understand any part of this manual, contact your Baumalight dealer.

Prepare For Emergencies

- Be prepared in case of emergencies.
- Keep a fire extinguisher and first aid kit close to the machine.
- Keep emergency phone numbers close to your phone.
- Know your address so emergency services can locate you if an emergency arises.

Replace Safety Signs

- Replace missing or damaged safety signs.
- Safety signs are identified in Section 3 of this manual.
- Replacement safety signs are available from your Baumalight dealer.

Do Not Allow Riders

- NEVER lift or carry anyone on the Splinter.
- NEVER use Splinter as a work platform.
- NEVER allow passengers on the Splinter.

Lower Operating Speed

Keep Splinter low and move at slow speeds on rough or uneven terrain.

Lower operating speed while traveling in heavy conditions.

Avoid Rollover

The equipment may rollover, resulting in death or serious injury. To help prevent rollover:

- Travel at a slow speed.
- Avoid sharp turns & sudden movement on slopes.
- Carry Splinter close to the ground.
- Avoid holes, ditches and other obstructions which may cause equipment to rollover.
- Balance load so weight is evenly distributed and load is stable.
- Use caution when operating on slopes and do not operate on excessively steep slopes.
- Do not exceed load capacity of equipment.

Avoid Powerlines & Underground Utilities

⚠ DANGER

Prevent electrocution.

Death or serious injury can result if equipment comes near or contacts power lines.

Electrocution can occur without direct contact.

- Check clearance before raising equipment.
- Have local utilities locate and mark under ground wires, cables, pipelines and other hazards before operation.

DO NOT leave the operator's seat if any part of the equipment contacts electric lines or cables.

Detach Splinter Safely

Detach splinter on a firm and level surface. Splinter may fall over if detached on unlevel or soft surface. Be sure people, livestock and pets are clear of machinery.

Raised Attachment

⚠ WARNING

Crushing hazard.

Raised, unsupported Splinter can fall, resulting in death or serious injury.

Never enter the area under a raised Splinter.

A raised Splinter can lower unexpectedly, resulting in death or serious injury.

NEVER enter area under a raised Splinter.

Lower Splinter to ground, engage parking brake, shut off engine and remove key before servicing.

Hazards From Modifying Equipment

Do not make any alterations to your Splitter. Altering may cause your equipment to be unsafe and may void the manufacturers' warranty.

Avoid Loud Noise

WARNING

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs or earplugs to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noises.

Stay Clear Of Moving Parts

WARNING

Moving parts can cause serious injury or death.

Keep shields and guards in place at all times. DO NOT operate without shields and guards.

DO NOT wear loose fitting clothing.

Avoid Wood Dust Inhalation

WARNING

Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer.

Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.

WARNING

Wear an approved dust mask or respirator.

Follow local, state and federal regulations.

2.3 Maintenance Hazards

Before servicing, park machine on a firm and level surface, set parking brake and place a “Do Not Operate” tag on control panel. Read and understand this manual. If you do not understand any part of the manual, contact your Baumalight dealer.

Always wear face and/or eye protection, safety shoes, and other protective equipment appropriate for the job.

Do not make unauthorized modifications. Contact your Baumalight dealer before you weld, cut/drill holes, or make any other modifications.

⚠ WARNING

Moving parts can entangle and cut.

Keep clear of moving components.

Follow lockout procedure before servicing.

⚠ WARNING

Crushing hazard.

Before performing inspections, service or maintenance:

Park machine on firm, level surface.

Engage parking brake.

Turn engine off and remove key.

Place “Do Not Operate” tag on control panel.

⚠ WARNING

Entanglement hazard.

Keep clear of moving components.

Wear proper protective equipment appropriate for the job.

⚠ WARNING

Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer.

Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.

⚠ WARNING

Wear an approved dust mask or respirator.

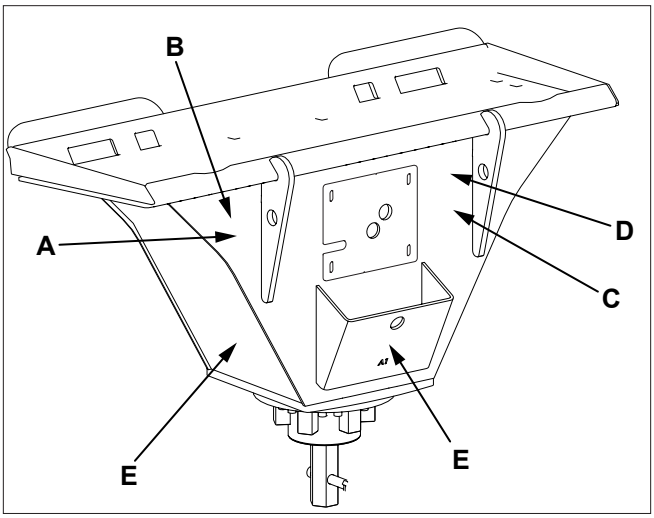
Follow local, state and federal regulations.

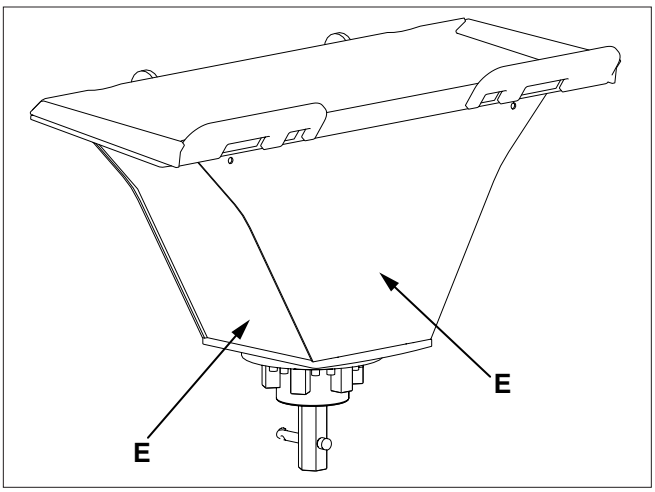
3 SAFETY SIGNS

3.1 Safety Signs - RSS380

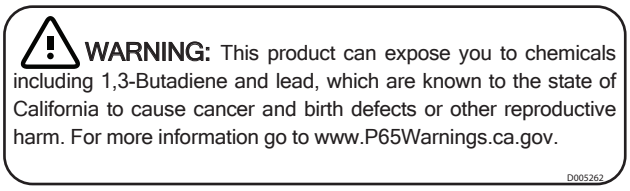
The two and four panel safety decals are pictorial and have a yellow background. The panel with a triangle indicates the potential hazard. The panel without a triangle indicates how to avoid the hazard.

If any of the decals are missing, are damaged, or if you do not understand the decal, please contact your dealer.





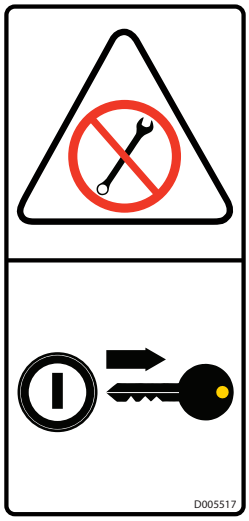
A. D005262 ⚠ WARNING - P65 warning information.



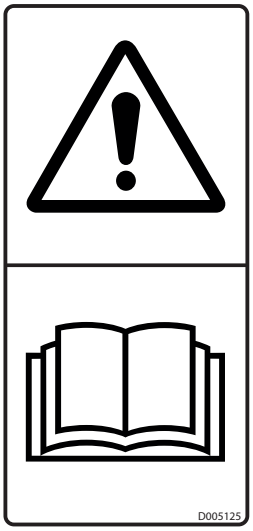
B. D005126 ⚠ WARNING - Pressurized fluid hazard. Keep away from machine.



C. D005517 ⚠ WARNING - Remove key before servicing.



D. D005125 ⚠ WARNING - Read and understand safety signs on the machine and operating instructions in this manual before operating machine.



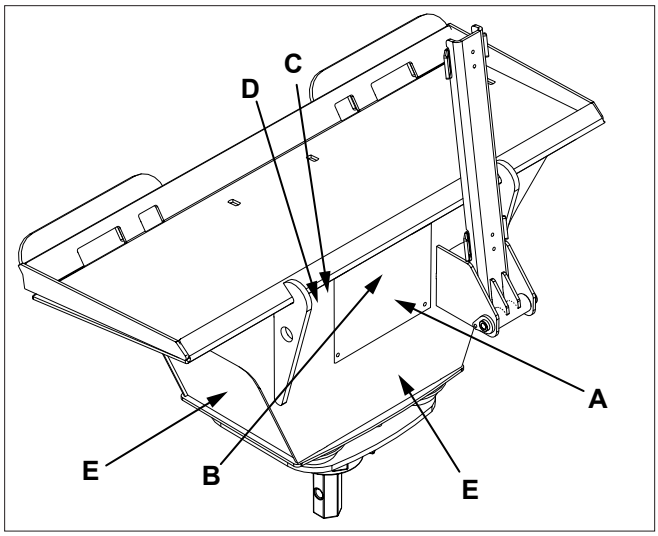
E. D005128 ⚠ WARNING - Rotating auger hazard. Keep back while machine is operating.

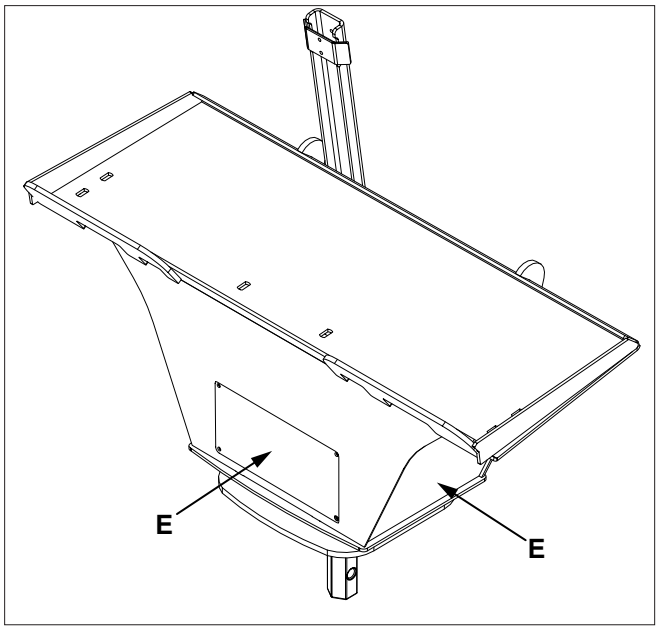


3.2 Safety Signs - RSS580

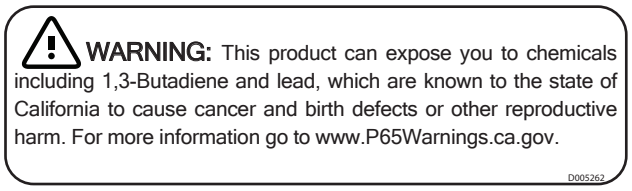
The two and four panel safety decals are pictorial and have a yellow background. The panel with a triangle indicates the potential hazard. The panel without a triangle indicates how to avoid the hazard.

If any of the decals are missing, are damaged, or if you do not understand the decal, please contact your dealer.





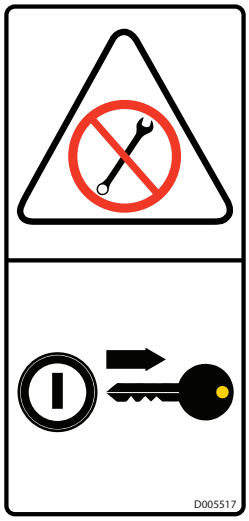
A. D005262 ⚠ WARNING - P65 warning information.



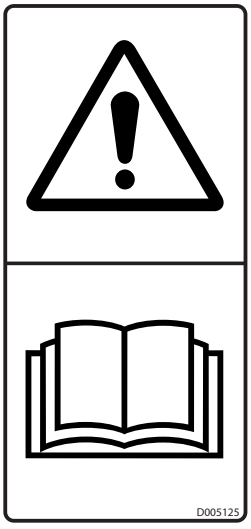
B. D005126 ⚠ WARNING - Pressurized fluid hazard. Keep away from machine.



C. D005517 ⚠ WARNING - Remove key before servicing.



D. D005125 ⚠ WARNING - Read and understand safety signs on the machine and operating instructions in this manual before operating machine.



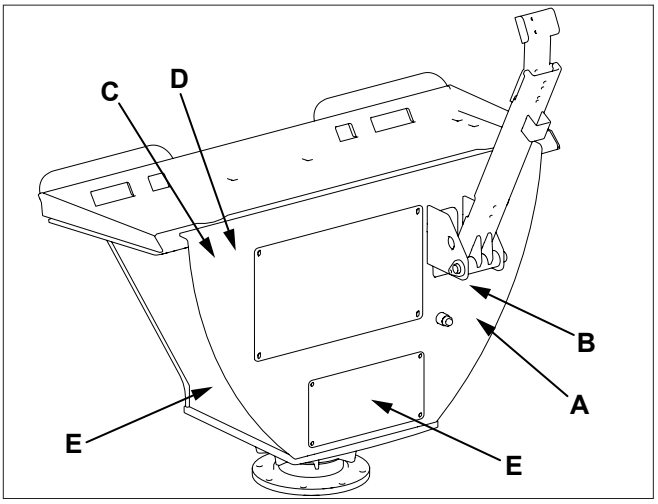
E. D005128 ⚠ WARNING - Rotating auger hazard. Keep back while machine is operating.

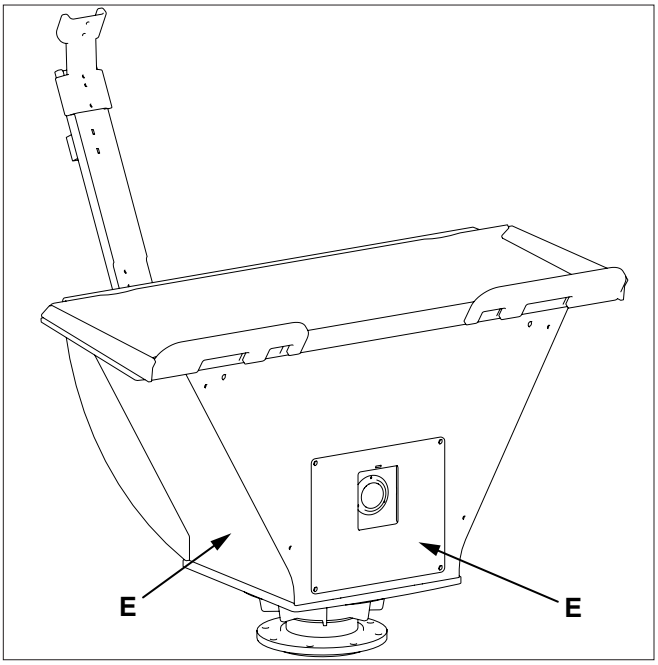


3.3 Safety Signs - RSS780

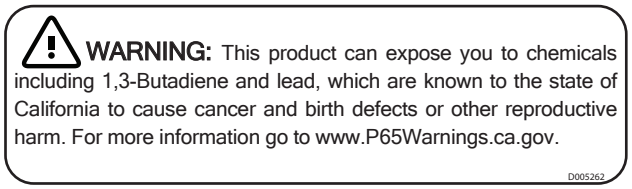
The two and four panel safety decals are pictorial and have a yellow background. The panel with a triangle indicates the potential hazard. The panel without a triangle indicates how to avoid the hazard.

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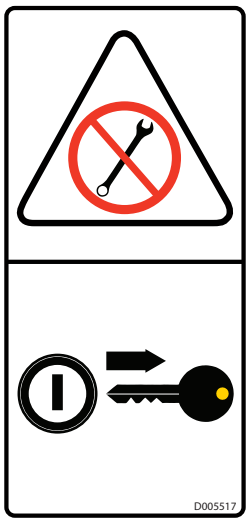
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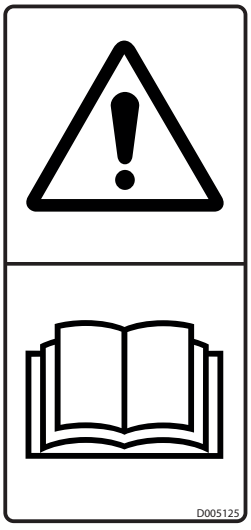
B. D005126 ⚠ WARNING - Pressurized fluid hazard. Keep away from machine.



C. D005517 ⚠ WARNING - Remove key before servicing.



D. D005125 ⚠ WARNING - Read and understand safety signs on the machine and operating instructions in this manual before operating machine.



E. D005128 ⚠ WARNING - Rotating auger hazard. Keep back while machine is operating.



4 OPERATION

4.1 Machine Components

A. Skid Steer Quick Attach Mounting Plate

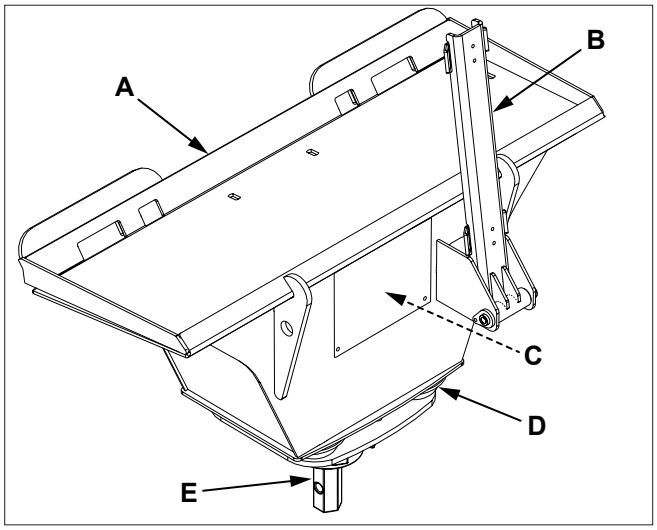
B. Hydraulic Hose Holder

C. Hydraulic Motor

D. Vibro-Isolator Rubber Mounts*

E. Gearbox Shaft

* The rubber mounts help to soften the impact and side leverage on the drive shaft and are also designed to fail to help protect the drive shaft from breaking.



4.2 Preparation for Use

Although the Splinter has been carefully inspected and checked prior to shipment from manufacturer, it is recommended that the unit be thoroughly inspected.

Check all bolts for tightness and remove all shipping tags, bags, skids, and blocking.

Remove any masking materials affixed during painting. Inspect equipment to verify that nameplates and all safety warning, caution signs and decals provided with the equipment are in place and clearly visible.

Visually inspect the Splinter before each start up. Check for loose or missing parts and any damage that may have occurred during moving or shipping.

Review all skid steer pre-start instructions, and verify that all recommended steps and procedures have been followed.

4.3 Hydraulic Connections

⚠ WARNING

Pressurized fluids can penetrate the skin.

Disconnect and lock out power source before disconnecting and/or connecting hydraulic hoses.

The RSS Splinters are equipped with hoses that are connected to the hydraulic motor. You must install your couplers to these hoses.

Install your couplers to the hoses listed in the table below.

Fitting Size	Hose Size	Hose Description	Qty.
3/4 JIC FM	3/4 inch	Pressure & Return	2
1/2 JIC FM	1/2 inch	Case Drain	1

RSS780: The case drain hose must be connected to the skid steer return to sump/reservoir coupler.

RSS380 & RSS580: If carrier hydraulic pressure is below 3000 psi (20684 kPa), a case drain is recommended. If carrier hydraulic pressure is at or above 3000 psi (20684 kPa), a case drain is required. Connect case drain hose on Splinter to skid steer return to sump/reservoir coupler.

Identify the pressure, return and case drain hoses (if equipped). Connect these hoses to the skid steer couplers.

Starting with model year 2022, models that require a case drain will be equipped with a zero leak relief valve plumbed into the T fitting on the motor case drain port.

If the case drain line is not connected or becomes obstructed, the zero leak relief valve will vent the pressurized hydraulic fluid to the atmosphere, protecting the motor from damage.

The zero leak relief valve will self reset after hydraulic pressure in the case drain line is reduced. Do not alter the plumbing circuit to the zero leak relief valve.

4.4 Attach To Skid Steer

⚠ WARNING

To prevent injury or machine damage put transmission in "Park".

Never position yourself between skid steer and Splinter.

Only experienced and properly trained operator's should operate skid steer and Splinter.

1. Read and follow all safety instructions.
2. Attach skid steer to Splinter. See skid steer Operator's Manual.
3. Connect hydraulic hoses. Verify hydraulic hoses are clear of pinch areas and moving parts.
4. Move to a clear open area to test functions.

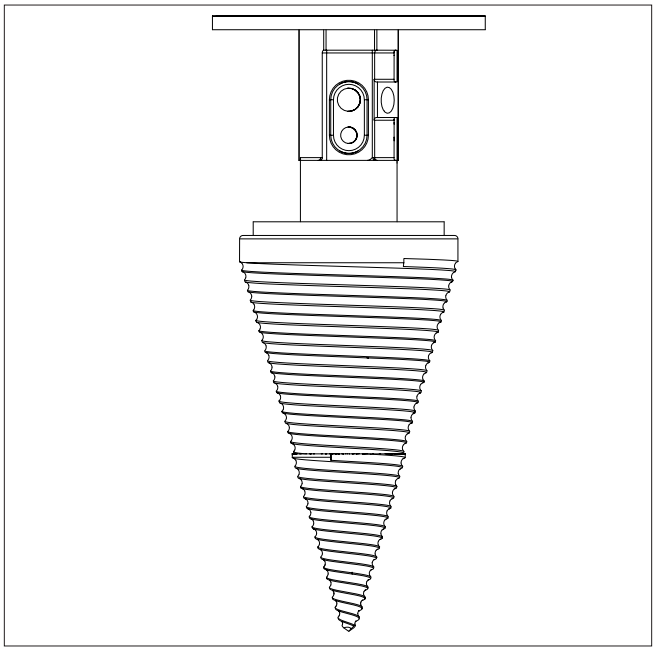
4.5 Attachments

⚠ WARNING

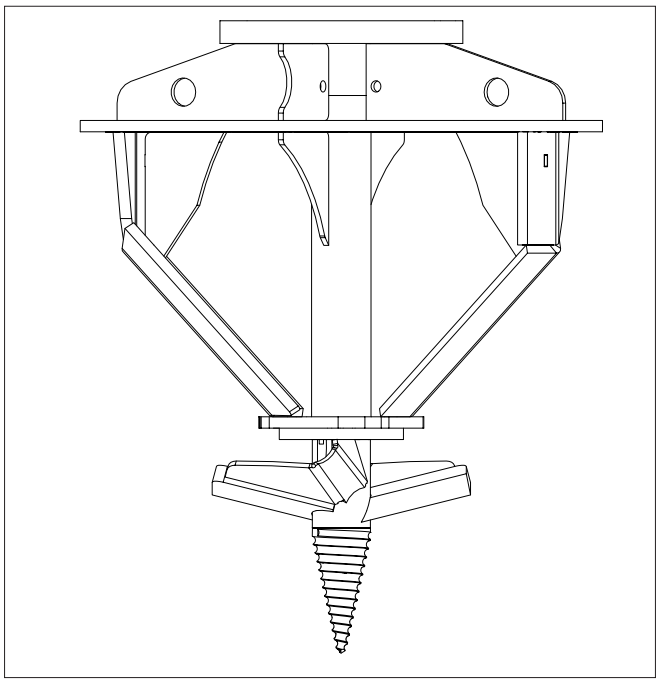
Prevent serious injury or death caused by unexpected movement:

1. **Park on a level surface.**
2. **Lower Splinter close to ground.**
3. **Engage parking brake.**
4. **Shut off engine and remove key.**

1. Attach splinter screw or planer to gearbox.



Splitter Screw



Planer

4.6 Transporting

1. Verify all reflectors and Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) sign are visible.
2. Verify hydraulics to Splinter are disengaged.
3. Raise Splinter slightly off the ground.
4. Travel at a reasonable and safe speed.

4.7 First Time User Tips

Operate all functions in a clear area at low speed to get a good feel for the controls.

Move Splinter into wood slowly until you have a better feel how much the unit can take.

Each operator must experiment to find a technique that works for them in their application.

⚠ WARNING

Always stop engine and remove key before leaving operators seat.

4.8 Field Operation

⚠ WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death caused by unexpected movement:

1. **Park on a level surface.**
2. **Lower Splinter to ground.**
3. **Engage parking brake.**
4. **Shut off engine and remove key.**

⚠ WARNING

Keep shields and guards in place at all times. Do not operate without shield and guards.

Do not wear loose fitting clothing.

⚠ WARNING

Never operate Splinter when other people are in the vicinity.

Debris can be thrown from cutting area.

Do not allow riders.

⚠ WARNING

Clean machine thoroughly before service or maintenance procedures.

The health effects from exposure to wood dust are due to chemicals or chemical substances in the wood created by bacteria, fungi, or molds.

Inspect work area to verify there are no rocks, metal or other debris before cutting.

Attach Splinter to skid steer.

4.8.1 Splitter Screw Operation

1. Set engine speed to low idle and engage hydraulics.
2. Verify splitter is turning in forward direction.
3. Slowly increase engine speed to high idle.
4. Verify splitter is operating smoothly and move splitter into log.
5. Slowly push splitter into wood. If wood does not split, reverse hydraulic flow to back splitter out of wood.
6. Move to another location and repeat step 4-5.

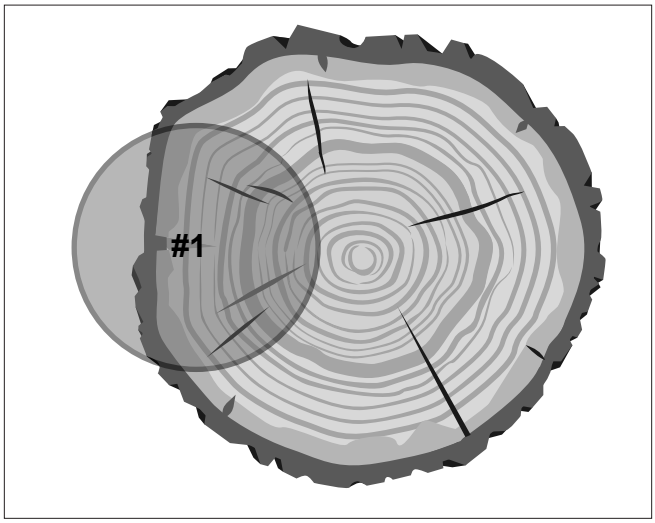


4.8.2 Planer Operation

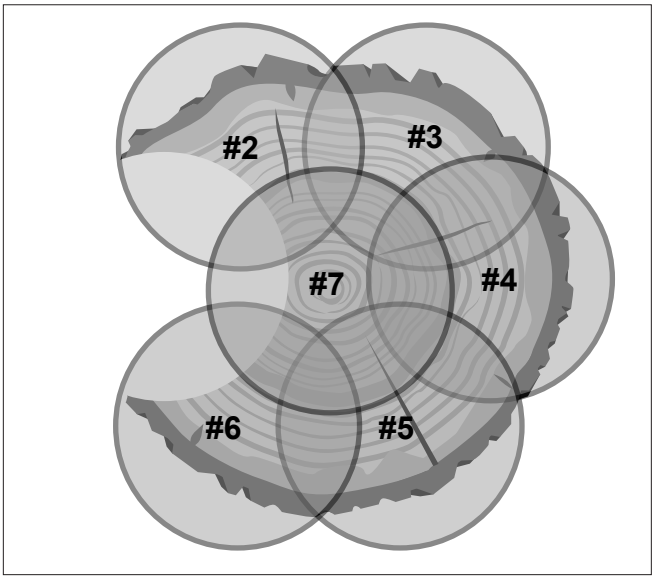
1. Set engine speed to low idle and engage hydraulics.
2. Verify planer is turning in forward direction.
3. Slowly increase engine speed to high idle.
4. Verify planer is operating smoothly and move planer into stump.

Note: *Beginning from the center of a large stump will leave a ridge around the outer edge that will not allow the blades to cut efficiently, and will end up breaking off chunks.*

5. When positioning the planer on a stump that is larger than the large blade diameter, It is important to begin cutting from one side, rather than center. Begin at one side, shearing down to the desired level.



6. Move around the perimeter, ensuring that there are no outer ridges being left behind.
7. Once the center area is smaller than the diameter of the large blades, a center cut can be made to finish the job.



⚠ WARNING

Moving parts can crush and cut.

Keep clear of moving components.

Lockout skid steer before clearing jams.

8. If planer stalls, stop movement, raise slightly and allow planer to regain speed. Slow movement into stump to prevent further stalling.

4.9 Detach From Skid Steer

⚠ WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death caused by unexpected movement:

1. **Park on a level surface.**
2. **Lower Splinter to ground.**
3. **Engage parking brake.**
4. **Shut off engine and remove key.**

1. Park skid steer on a level surface.
2. Lower Splinter to the ground and lay on side.
3. Shut off engine and remove key.
4. Disconnect hydraulic hoses.
5. Detach skid steer from Splinter. See skid steer Operator's Manual.

5 SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

We design many of our products using industry-standard parts that are widely available from local supply stores.

Many replacement parts such as bearings, belts, seals, touch-up paint and cutting teeth can often be found through local suppliers, not just from Baumalight.



5.1 Daily

⚠ WARNING

Prevent serious injury or death caused by unexpected movement:

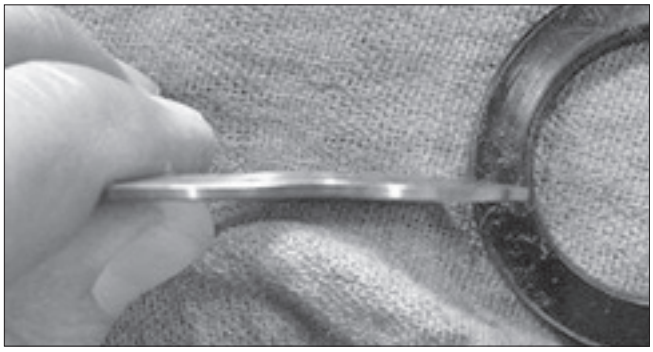
1. **Park on a level surface.**
2. **Lower Splinter to ground.**
3. **Engage parking brake.**
4. **Shut off engine and remove key.**

Inspect the unit for buildup of dirt and debris. Clean out as needed.

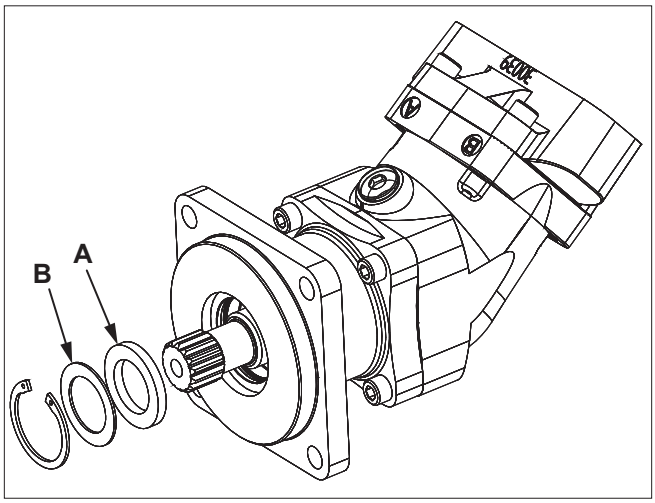
5.2 Motor Shaft Seal - RSS780 Only

To prevent hydraulic motor damage, the motor shaft seal is designed to fail if case pressure exceeds 100 psi (689 kPa).

If motor shaft seal (A) has failed, verify case drain line is free flow to sump or reservoir. Also check drain line for blockage. Correct any problems before replacing shaft seal.



Over-Pressurized Damaged Washer (B)



Order replacement seal kit from Baumalight and follow instructions provided with kit.

Motor Shaft Seal Replacement manual can be found at www.baumalight.com/support

Note: *Parts breakdown can be found on Baumalight's website.* **www.baumalight.com**

5.3 Zero Leak Case Drain Relief - RSS780 Only

The machine is equipped with a case drain port. If a case drain hose is required or recommended, you must connect a case drain hose to the case drain port and route to the skid steer hydraulic reservoir.

It is normal for a hydraulic motor to have a slight amount of internal leakage.

The case drain line will allow this internal leakage to be returned to the reservoir, preventing excessive pressure on the motor seal.

Starting with model year 2022, splinters and planers (if required) will be equipped with a zero leak relief valve installed in the case drain line.

If the case drain line is not connected or becomes obstructed, the zero leak relief valve will vent the pressurized hydraulic fluid to the atmosphere. The zero leak relief valve will self reset after hydraulic pressure reduced.

⚠ WARNING

Pressurized fluids can penetrate the skin.

Keep bystanders away from machine during operation.

A tiny, almost invisible leak can penetrate the skin, thereby requiring immediate medical attention.

If hydraulic fluid is coming out of the zero leak relief valve, shut down machine immediately. Inspect the case drain line connection and lines. Contact your dealer if case drain lines and connection are good.

NOTICE

Environmental hazard.

Clean up any spilled hydraulic fluid immediately.

A properly installed case drain protected by a zero leak relief valve will save the work of replacing the motor shaft seal and also improve the efficiency of your hydraulic system.

6 TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	CHECK	SOLUTION
Bit does not spin.	Bit jammed.	Remove material from bit.
	Verify hydraulic hoses are connected.	Connect hoses.
Skid steer is not able to lift Splinter.	Skid steer is too small.	Use proper size skid steer.

7 STORAGE

7.1 Storing Splinter

1. Store Splinter in a dry place.
2. Clean Splinter thoroughly. Dirt and wood chips will draw moisture and cause rust.
3. Check for loose or missing hardware.
4. Paint parts as necessary.

7.2 Remove From Storage

1. Review Operator's manual and check adjustments.
2. If parts have been replaced, verify they run properly.

8 WARRANTY

To view the warranty, scan the QR Code below, or go to Baumalight.com. From the Support drop down, click on Support, then select Screw Splitters. Select Product Warranty.

For parts, specifications and the latest machine information please visit our website.

www.baumalight.com

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