

# 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin Ski Twin Electric 40 Hp Models Service

## 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin 40 HP: Service, Maintenance, and Restoration

The roar of a vintage Evinrude, the spray of saltwater, the thrill of waterskiing – these are the memories associated with the iconic 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin 40 HP. But keeping this classic piece of boating history running smoothly requires dedicated service and maintenance. This article delves into the specifics of servicing your 1971 Evinrude Ski Twin 40 HP outboard motor, covering everything from routine upkeep to more involved restoration projects. We'll explore **parts sourcing, engine diagnostics, winterization, and performance optimization** to help you keep your classic engine purring for years to come.

### Understanding Your 1971 Evinrude Ski Twin 40 HP

The 1971 Evinrude 40 HP, particularly the "Ski Twin" model, represents a significant milestone in outboard motor technology. Known for its robust build and reliable performance, this engine powered many a waterskiing adventure. However, its age necessitates a proactive approach to maintenance and repair. Understanding the engine's specific components and their function is key to effective service. This includes familiarity with the fuel system (carburetors, fuel lines, fuel pump), ignition system (points, condenser, coil), and cooling system (impeller, water pump).

### Routine Maintenance and Service for Your Evinrude 40 HP

Regular maintenance is paramount to prolonging the lifespan and optimal performance of your 1971 Evinrude Ski Twin. This routine should include:

- **Pre-Season Inspection:** Before launching your boat each spring, thoroughly inspect all fuel lines, connectors, and clamps for cracks or leaks. Check the spark plugs for wear and tear, and replace them if necessary. Grease all moving parts, including the steering linkage.
- **Regular Oil Changes:** Use the correct weight and type of oil as specified in your owner's manual. Frequent oil changes are crucial for preventing engine damage. The frequency will depend on usage, but a minimum of once per season is recommended.
- **Fuel System Cleaning:** Clean the fuel filter regularly to remove sediment and debris that can clog the carburetor. Consider using fuel stabilizer to prevent the formation of gum and varnish in the fuel system, particularly during periods of storage.
- **Cooling System Check:** Inspect the impeller for wear and tear. A

damaged impeller can lead to overheating and engine damage. Ensure the water passages are clear and free from obstructions.

- **Carburetor Cleaning and Adjustment:** Carburetor cleaning is a more advanced task, but crucial for maintaining proper fuel-air mixture. If you are not comfortable performing this yourself, consult a qualified marine mechanic specializing in vintage outboards.

## Troubleshooting and Diagnostics: Addressing Common Issues

Even with regular maintenance, problems can arise. Common issues with the 1971 Evinrude 40 HP include:

- **Difficulty Starting:** This could indicate issues with the spark plugs, ignition system, or carburetor. Systematically check each component until the culprit is identified.
- **Poor Performance:** This may be caused by a clogged fuel filter, carburetor problems, or a faulty impeller.
- **Overheating:** Check the cooling system for blockages, inspect the impeller, and ensure the water pump is functioning correctly.

These problems require a methodical approach to diagnosis. Using a reliable diagnostic manual specific to the 1971 Evinrude 40 HP is invaluable. This often involves checking compression, spark strength, and fuel delivery. **Engine repair** and **parts replacement** might be necessary in some cases.

## Sourcing Parts and Restoring Your Evinrude 40 HP

Finding parts for a vintage outboard like the 1971 Evinrude Ski Twin 40 HP can be challenging but not impossible. Online marketplaces, specialized vintage outboard parts suppliers, and forums dedicated to Evinrude enthusiasts are excellent resources. Many parts are still available through remanufacturing or from other vintage Evinrude owners.

Restoring a 1971 Evinrude 40 HP is a rewarding but time-consuming project. This involves stripping the engine down, cleaning each component, replacing worn or damaged parts, and then carefully reassembling the engine. A thorough understanding of the engine's mechanics is necessary for successful restoration, and seeking advice from experienced mechanics is highly recommended. This level of commitment ensures the preservation of a piece of boating history.

## Conclusion

Maintaining your 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin 40 HP requires consistent effort and attention to detail. By following a regular maintenance schedule, addressing problems promptly, and sourcing parts proactively, you can ensure years of reliable performance from this classic outboard motor. Remember, preserving this piece of boating history is not just about functionality; it's about preserving a legacy of boating enjoyment.

## **FAQ**

### **Q1: Where can I find a service manual for my 1971 Evinrude 40 HP Ski Twin?**

A1: Service manuals for vintage Evinrude outboards are often available online through auction sites, specialized outboard parts websites, or forums dedicated to vintage Evinrude engines. You can also check with your local marine repair shops; they may have access to manuals or know where to find them.

### **Q2: How often should I replace the impeller on my 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A2: The impeller should be inspected at the beginning of each boating season and replaced as needed. Signs of wear include cracking, softening, or visible damage to the impeller vanes. It's generally recommended to replace the impeller every 1-2 years, or even more frequently if the engine is used extensively.

### **Q3: What type of oil should I use in my 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A3: Always consult your owner's manual for the specific oil recommendations. The type and weight of oil will depend on the operating conditions and the temperature range. Using the incorrect oil can severely damage your engine.

### **Q4: My 1971 Evinrude 40 HP is hard to start. What could be the problem?**

A4: There are many possible reasons for difficulty starting. Start by checking the spark plugs, the fuel system (checking for fuel delivery and proper carburetor function), and the ignition system (points, condenser, coil). Low compression could also be a contributing factor. A systematic approach is key to troubleshooting this issue.

### **Q5: Can I use modern fuel in my 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A5: While you can use modern fuel, it is crucial to add a fuel stabilizer to prevent the formation of varnish and gum within the carburetor and fuel system. These deposits can clog the fuel system and significantly impact engine performance.

### **Q6: What is the best way to winterize my 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A6: Proper winterization is crucial to prevent damage from freezing. This involves draining the engine's water passages, flushing the cooling system with fresh water, fogging the cylinders, and storing the engine in a dry place. Consult your owner's manual for detailed winterization procedures.

### **Q7: Where can I find parts for a 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A7: Online marketplaces like eBay, specialized vintage outboard parts suppliers, and forums dedicated to Evinrude engines are good starting points. You may also find success contacting marine repair shops specializing in vintage outboards. Local swap meets or boat shows could also be fruitful avenues to explore.

### **Q8: Is it expensive to maintain a 1971 Evinrude 40 HP?**

A8: Maintenance costs can vary depending on the engine's condition and the frequency of service. Regular preventative maintenance can minimize expenses. However, the cost of some parts for a vintage engine can be higher than those for newer models, particularly if parts need to be sourced from specialized suppliers or through restoration projects.

## **Keeping Your Classic 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin Ski Twin Electric 40 HP Model Operating Smoothly: A Comprehensive Service Guide**

The drone of a powerful outboard motor, the spray of saltwater on your face, the excitement of speed – these are the emotions that draw many to the world of boating. Owning a classic outboard motor, such as the 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin Ski Twin Electric 40 HP model, adds a distinct layer of fulfillment, but it also comes with the responsibility of proper care.

This article will serve as your guide to understanding and executing essential service procedures for your vintage Evinrude, ensuring many years of trustworthy performance.

This comprehensive guide covers various aspects of service, ranging from routine checks to more complex repairs. Remember, safety is paramount, so always refer to your owner's manual and consider seeking professional aid if you're uncertain about any procedure.

### **I. Regular Inspection: The Foundation of Longevity**

Avoiding major problems starts with routine attention. This includes:

- **Visual Examination:** Before each application, visually inspect the engine for any signs of wear, loose fastenings, or leaks. Pay particular attention to fuel lines, hoses, and the propeller.
- **Lubrication:** Frequently lubricate moving parts according to the manufacturer's advice. This includes lubricating fittings and examining the condition of the lower unit grease. Using the appropriate type of lubricant is essential for best performance and prolonged lifespan.
- **Fuel System Maintenance:** Keep your fuel system clean. Use clean fuel, and consider using a fuel stabilizer, especially during lengthy periods of storage. Regularly inspect the fuel filter and change it as necessary. A clogged filter can severely reduce fuel flow and damage the engine.
- **Spark Electrodes:** Inspect and replace spark plugs as suggested in your owner's manual. Worn or fouled spark plugs can reduce engine functionality and fuel effectiveness.

### **II. More Intensive Service Procedures:**

As your 1971 Evinrude ages, more detailed service procedures become necessary. These include:

- **Purging the Carburetor:** Carburetors can become clogged with residue, affecting engine performance. Cleaning the carburetor involves taking apart it, purging the parts, and putting back together it carefully. This requires exactness and a thorough understanding of the carburetor's mechanism.

- **Impeller Substitution:** The impeller is a vital component of the water mechanism that moves cooling water through the engine. Over time, impellers break down, and replacement is necessary to prevent overheating and engine harm.
- **Lower Unit Service:** The lower unit houses the gears that transfer power to the propeller. Periodic check and service are essential to ensure smooth operation and avoid costly repairs. This often includes checking gear oil levels and substituting the oil if essential.
- **Electrical System Examination:** The electrical system of your Evinrude includes the starter motor, ignition system, and charging system. Regularly inspect all attachments and cables for wear. A faulty electrical system can lead to difficult starting, loss of power, or even engine failure.

### III. Troubleshooting Common Problems:

Understanding common problems and their causes can help you diagnose issues and carry out necessary repairs effectively. Some common issues include:

- **Engine Won't Start:** Check fuel supply, spark plugs, and the battery.
- **Engine Runs Rough:** Check spark plugs, carburetor, and fuel system.
- **Engine Overheats:** Check impeller, water passages, and thermostat.
- **Engine Loses Power:** Check fuel supply, carburetor, and propeller.

### Conclusion:

Maintaining your 1971 Evinrude Outboard Ski Twin Ski Twin Electric 40 HP model requires resolve, but the benefits are well worth the effort. By following these service guidelines and applying precautionary attention, you can ensure many years of reliable functionality and enjoy the excitement of boating on your classic outboard. Remember, consulting your owner's manual and seeking professional aid when needed will further maximize the lifespan and enjoyment of your beloved motor.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

#### Q1: How often should I inspect my 1971 Evinrude?

A1: The frequency of inspection is reliant on employment and conditions. At a minimum, perform a visual examination before each employment, and schedule more in-depth service yearly or every few hundred hours of operation.

#### Q2: Where can I find replacement parts for my 1971 Evinrude?

A2: Dedicated outboard motor parts vendors, online marketplaces, and classic boat restoration shops are good places to find alternative parts. Your local marine retailer might also be able to assist.

#### Q3: Can I perform all service procedures myself?

A3: Many fundamental maintenance procedures can be executed by a capable DIYer, but more involved tasks necessitate specialized knowledge and tools. It's always best to err on the side of caution and seek professional help if you are unsure.

**Q4: What type of fuel should I use in my 1971 Evinrude?**

A4: Consult your owner's manual for specific fuel suggestions. Generally, unleaded gasoline with a suitable octane rating is recommended. The use of ethanol-blended fuel may require additional attention.

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