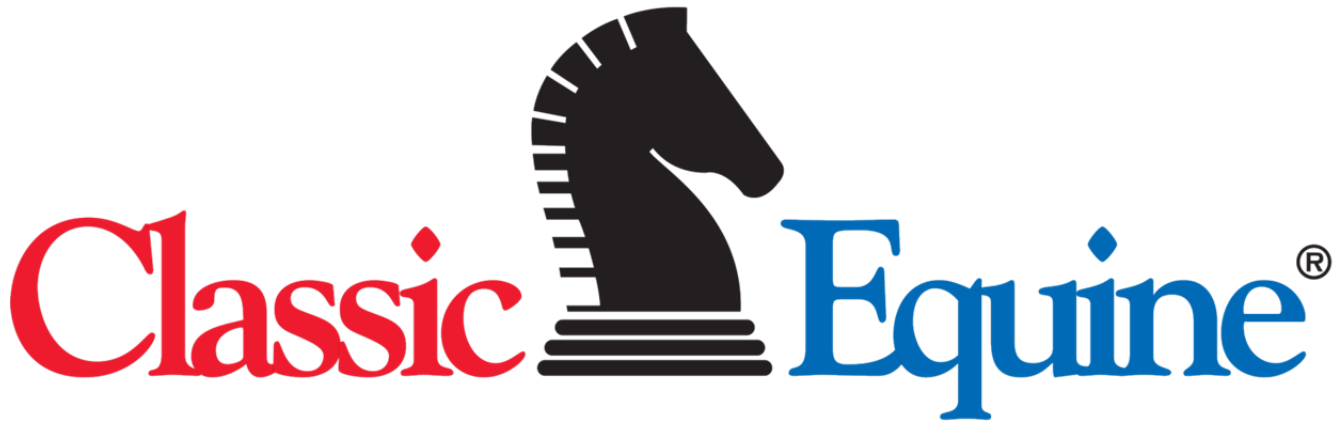


# Installation Instructions

For



P L A Y T O W I N™

## **AUTOFOUNT**

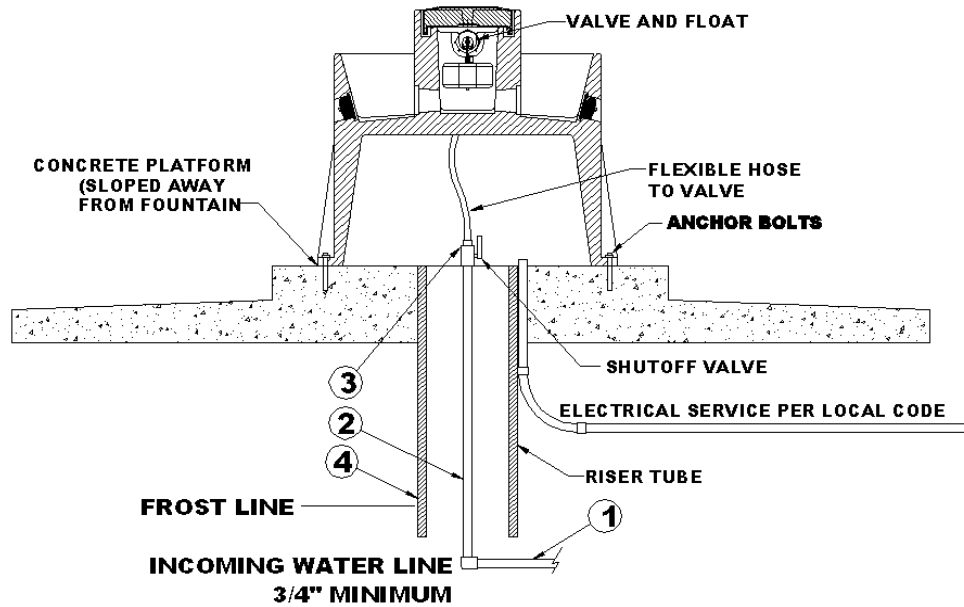
*Congratulations, you have just purchased the finest watering fountain on the market. This unit is built to give you excellent service when properly installed and maintained. Please follow instructions carefully. Read and understand all instructions before installing*



Purchase your  
Ritchie waterers  
and units at  
**PeteCoSupply.com**

Part # 24075  
30 Aug, 2016

# Fountain Installation Instructions



**A. Location** - Installing the fountain in a location that offers protection from the wind will enhance the performance of the unit. Livestock will tend to gather in a protected area, enticing them to drink more. If possible, the side with the access panel should be opposite of prevailing winds for additional protection to the supply line.

**B. Mounting Platform** – A concrete platform (see above) should be provided for all fountains. It should be at least 4” thick and large enough to accommodate the fountain. An additional 4” high step 18” out from each side of the unit will protect the unit from manure handling equipment, as well as discouraging animals from defecating in the fountain. Extending the platform provides animals a place to stand while drinking, consider the size of your animals when determining the dimensions of your platform. Slope the platform away from the fountain for drainage. A rough broom finish on the concrete surface provides better footing for animals.

**C. Water Supply Line** – The horizontal underground water line (#1) should be sized to account for pressure drop, relating to distance, at least 3/4” diameter and 1’ below normal frost depth. A 3/4” vertical supply pipe (#2) is recommended. A shut-off valve (#3) may be installed under the fountain for servicing. For optimum serviceability a stop and waste valve can be installed below frost level to drain water back when the unit is not in use. This can be obtained from your local plumber. Flush water supply line before connecting to fountain. Water supplies with material such as sand, rust, etc. may require a filter to keep valve working properly.

**D. Riser Tube** – Install a riser tube (#4) to provide room for plumbing and to accommodate optional shut-off valve. Ensure that the water supply line is centered in the riser tube. For optimum water line protection, use the recommended insulated Ritchie Thermal Tube. Use a combination of Thermal Tubes to reach at the required depth of 1’ below your frost depth.

Ritchie Thermal Tubes	
18158	1’ top section
16417	2’ top section
16612	4’ top section
16416	2’ extension

**NOTE:** The supply line touching the riser tube is the most common cause of the supply line freezing. Do not surround the supply line with insulation, wood, or other foreign material. Any foreign material in the tube may cause frost to migrate to the supply line causing it to freeze.

E. **Preparing the Bottom** - Apply the provided foam weather stripping to the bottom of the fountain, following along the outside edge of the fountain. **Note: Sealing the bottom of the unit from cold air is an important aspect of the unit's thermal performance.**

F. **Hold-Downs** - Your fountain has either three or four built-in hold-down locations to anchor your unit securely to the concrete pad. The use of 3/8" x 5" stainless steel expansion anchor bolts (not included) is recommended for concrete installations. Anchor bolts are available from Ritchie in a two pack, part # 16555. Fender washers are supplied for use with anchors.

G. **Hose Connection** – Connect hose to customer supplied shutoff valve at the top of the concrete. Cut hose to proper length and slip onto the barb fitting of the valve assembly. Clamps and fittings are furnished to secure the connection.

H. **Drain Plug** – Install pre-assembled drain plugs from inside of trough. Plugs should be pushed in flush to prevent accidental removal by animals. Wetting the plug can aid proper installation.

I. **Float Adjustment** – Adjust float for a water depth of 2 inches below top of trough using the thumbscrew or wing nut.

J. **Electrical Connection** – In many areas, supplemental heat is required, it is easiest to run the electrical line at the same time you lay the waterline for your fountain. **Any electrical service must be installed and maintained by a qualified electrician.**

K. **Supplemental Heat** - Incoming water temperature and pressure will vary, and will affect the performance of your fountain. Well water will be between 45° and 50°, but rural water from a water tower may be substantially cooler.

Immersion Heaters			Self-Regulating Heat Cable		
Part #	Volts	Watts	Part #	Volts	Watts
16311	120	250	16276	120	30
17960	240	250	16713	240	30

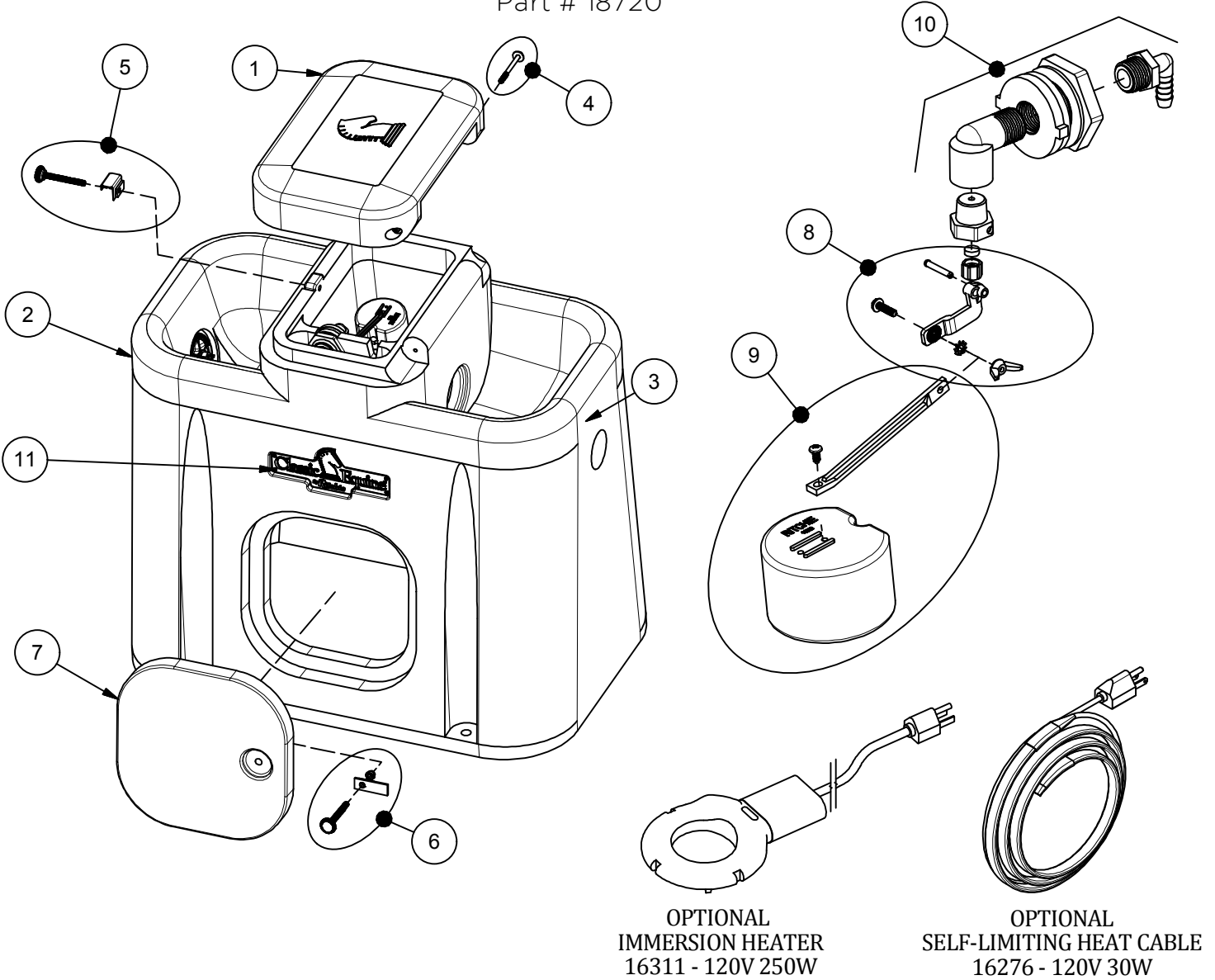
Supplemental heaters and alternate valves are available for these variations. Both the valve chamber and the water supply line should be protected from freezing. To protect the valve chamber, immersion heaters should be placed flat on the bottom of the chamber. Ensure the heater and power cable does not interfere with the motion of the float. Self-regulating heat cables protect the supply line from freezing. Heat cables should wrap around the valve, and follow the supply line down into the riser tube. You may use nylon ties to anchor the cable to the supply line. Both immersion heaters and supply line heaters are thermostatically controlled, using power only when needed. Neither heater will get hot enough to melt the plastic of the fountain.

L. **High Water Pressure** - If water pressure is very high, and the valve does not shut off, a pressure-reducing valve may be needed. Your individual situations may require a change from the standard valve supplied with your fountain.

M. **Cleaning Your Fountain** – To clean your watering fountain you will need a good stiff brush. Open the cover and brush the tank to remove any build-up. Remove the drain plug(s) to drain dirty water and debris out. After trough has been cleaned and drained reinstall the plug(s) and let the tank refill. Now is a good time readjust the float if needed. Close cover and you are done.

# Classic Equine **AUTOFOUNT**

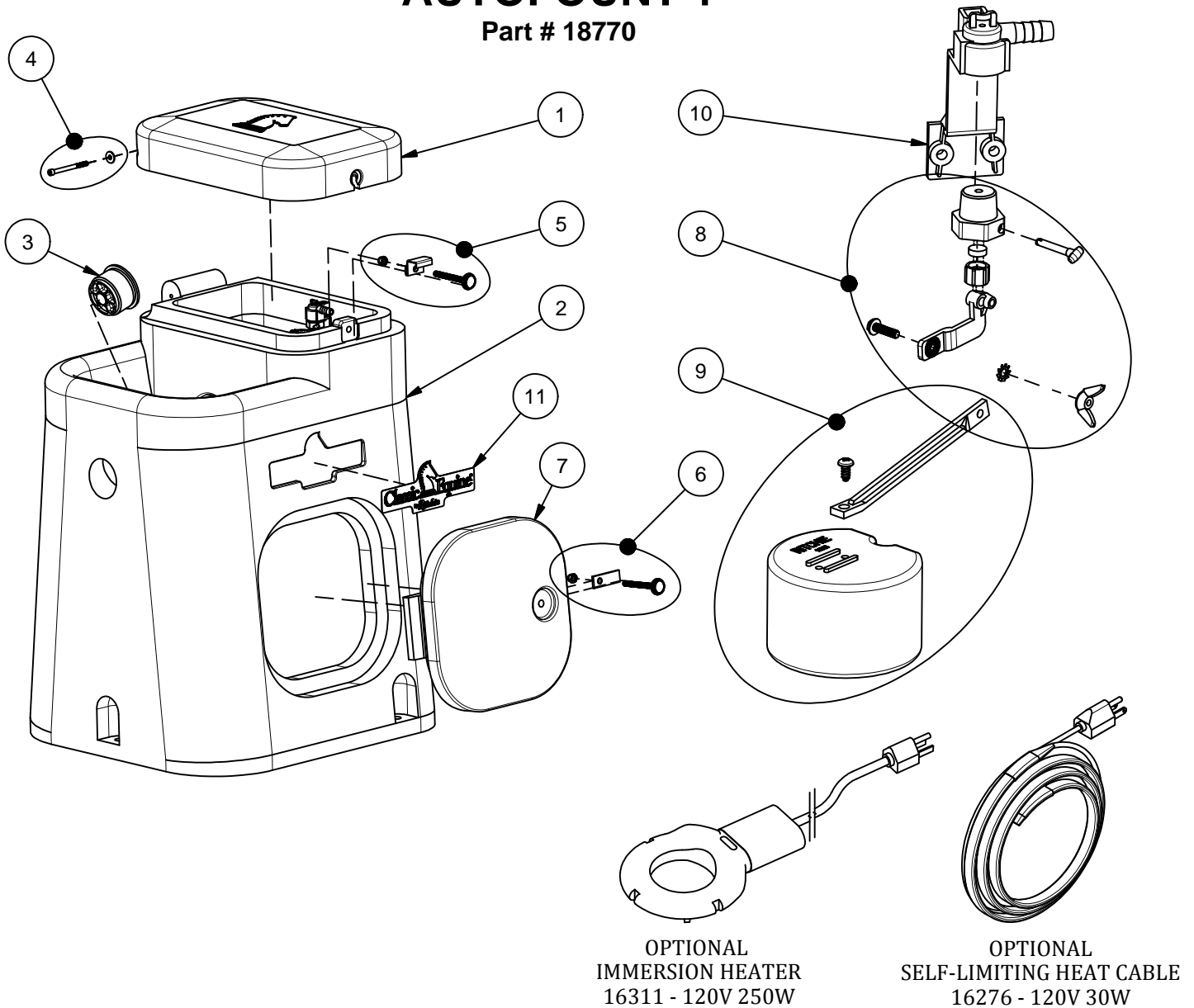
Part # 18720



Item	Part #	Description	Qty	Item	Part #	Description	Qty
1	18712	AUTOFOUNT Cover	1	9	12836	Float with Long Arm pkg	1 pkg
2	18714	AUTOFOUNT Base	1	10	18752	Bulkhead pkg	1 pkg
3	18470	Drain Plug Ritchie 3"	1 pkg	11	18719	Classic Equine Logo pkg (2/pkg)	1 pkg
4	18716	Classic Equine Hinge Bolt Pkg	1 pkg	NS	15930	Hose Clamp 7/8" SS (5/pkg)	1 pkg
5	18718	Cover Latch Hardware pkg	1 pkg	NS	18613	Adapter 1/2" x 3/8" HB	1 pkg
6	18753	Access Panel Hardware Pkg	1 pkg	NS	18739	AUTOFOUNT Accessory pkg	1 pkg
7	18726	Classic Equine Access Panel	1	NS	14866	Seal Foam 10' Roll	1
8	12575	Red Valve 1/2" pkg	1 pkg				

# Classic Equine AUTOFOUNT 1

Part # 18770



OPTIONAL  
IMMERSION HEATER  
16311 - 120V 250W

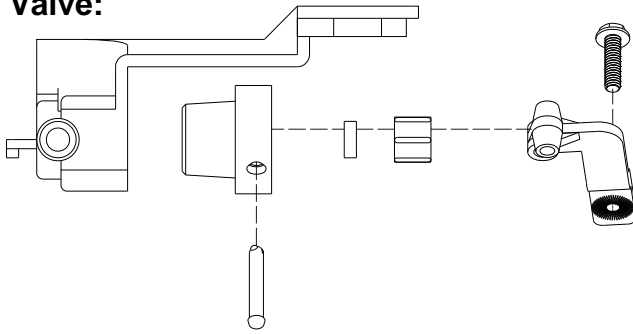
OPTIONAL  
SELF-LIMITING HEAT CABLE  
16276 - 120V 30W

Item	Part #	Description	Qty	Item	Part #	Description	Qty
1	18766	AUTOFOUNT 1 Cover	1	9	12836	Float with Long Arm pkg	1 pkg
2	18768	AUTOFOUNT 1 Base	1	10	11515	Valve Bracket 1/2" w/ Screws pkg	1 pkg
3	18470	Drain Plug Ritchie 3"	1 pkg	11	18719	Classic Equine Logo pkg (2/pkg)	1 pkg
4	18716	Classic Equine Hinge Bolt Pkg	1 pkg	NS	15930	Hose Clamp 7/8" SS (5/pkg)	1 pkg
5	18718	Cover Latch Hardware pkg	1 pkg	NS	18613	Adapter 1/2" x 3/8" HB	1 pkg
6	18753	Access Panel Hardware Pkg	1 pkg	NS	18771	AUTOFOUNT Accessory pkg	1 pkg
7	18726	Classic Equine Access Panel	1	NS	14866	Seal Foam 10' Roll	1
8	12575	Red Valve 1/2" pkg	1 pkg				

## Trouble Shooting

Problem	Solution
Valve won't stop dripping	a) Check float adjustment. Ensure float moves freely.
	b) Disassemble valve and check for sand or scale in valve rubber
	c) Turn valve rubber over and re-assemble. See below.
	d) Check for excessive water system pressure.
Low Water Flow	a) Check that valve inlet is not plugged or supply hose is not kinked.
	b) Check system pressure from supply hose by installing a tee and pressure gauge in front of the valve to check pressure drop when valve is open. A severe pressure drop indicates a restriction or undersized supply system.
	c) Check that shut off valves are fully open.

**1/2" Valve:**



## Ritchie Limited Warranty

Effective September 2012

Ritchie Industries, Inc. warrants its products to be free of defective materials and workmanship. Defective part(s) will be repaired or replaced at the option of Ritchie Industries. **This warranty specifically excludes all labor and shipping charges.**

This warranty does not apply to any appearance items, to any product whose exterior has been damaged or defaced, to any product that has been installed improperly, to any product subjected to misuse, abnormal service or handling, and to any products altered or repaired with other than original equipment or manufacturer's parts.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

All warranty claims must be processed through an Authorized Ritchie Dealer/ Distributor. **Proof of purchase is required. This warranty is not transferable.** The period of warranty begins at original date of purchase as follows:

### Poly Units

#### Base, top and ball closures

10 year limited against manufacturing defect. 100% first five years, then declining 20% per year for the remaining five years.

### Stainless Steel Units

#### Stainless trough and stainless valve chamber frame:

Ten years against manufacturing defect or corrosion. 100% all ten years.

#### Casing and cover:

10 year limited against manufacturing defect. 100% first year, then declining 10% per year for the remaining nine years.

### Component Parts

#### All component parts, such as floats, valves, heating elements:

One year from the date of purchase against manufacturing defect, 100%.

### Hydrants

#### All component parts:

One year from the date of purchase against manufacturing defect, 100%.