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Owner's Manual

CRAFTSMAN®

ROTARY LAWN MOWER

6.5 HorsepowerPower-Propelled21" Rear Discharge

Model No. **944.362321**



CAUTION:

Read and follow all Safety Rules and Instructions before operating this equipment

Sears Canada, Inc., Toronto, Ontario M5B 2B8

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Safety Rules	Product Specifications 10 Service and Adjustments 12-13 Storage 14-15 Troubleshooting 15-16
Maintenance Schedule 9	Repair Parts17-26
viaintenance9-12	Sears Service Back Cover

WARRANTY

LIMITED TWO YEAR WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN POWER MOWER

For Two years from date of purchase Sears Canada, Inc. will repair or replace at Sears option free of charge parts which are defective as a result of material or workmanship.

COMMERCIAL OR RENTAL USE:

Warranty on Power Mower (Gas) will be ninety (90) days from date of purchase if used for commercial or rental purposes.

This Warranty does NOT cover:

- Pre-delivery set-up.
- Expendable items which become worn during normal use, such as rotary mower blades, blade adapters, belts, air cleaners and spark plug.
- Repairs necessary because of operator abuse or negligence, including bent crankshafts and the failure to maintain the equipment according to the instructions contained in the owner's manual.

Warranty service is available by returning the Craftsman Power Mower to the nearest Sears Service Centre/Department in Canada. This warranty applies only while this product is used in Canada.

This warranty is in addition to any statutory warranty and does not exclude or limit legal rights you may have but shall run concurrently with applicable provincial legislation. Furthermore, some provinces do NOT allow limitation on how long an implied warranty will last so the above limitations may not apply to you.

SEARS CANADA, INC., TORONTO, ONTARIO M5B 2B8

SAFETY RULES

IMPORTANT: This cutting machine is capable of amputating hands and feet and throwing objects. Failure to observe the following safety instructions could result in serious injury or death.

▲ Look for this symbol to point out important safety precautions. It means CAUTION!!! BECOME ALERT!!! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED.

★ CAUTION: Always disconnect spark plug wire and place wire where it cannot contact spark plug in order to prevent accidental starting when setting up, transporting, adjusting or making repairs.

♠ CAUTION: Muffler and other engine parts become extremely hot during operation and remain hot after engine has stopped. To avoid severe burns on contact, stay away from these areas.



I. GENERAL OPERATION

- Read, understand, and follow all instructions on the machine and in the manual(s) before starting. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and the proper use of the machine before starting.
- Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times.
- Only allow responsible individuals, who are familiar with the instructions, to operate the machine.
- Clear the area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, bones, sticks, etc., which could be picked up and thrown by the blade
- Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.

SERVICE NOTES

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
.10.	110.	DEGGIII HON	.10.		DEGGINF HON
29	499424	Rod, Connecting	455	691219	Cup, Flywheel
32	691664	Screw, Connecting Rod	456	692299	Plate, Pawl Friction
32A	695759	Screw, Connecting Rod	459	281505	Pawl, Ratchet
33	262651	Valve, Exhaust	505	231082	Nut, Governor Control Lever
34	262652 691270	Valve, Intake	523	495264	Dipstick
35 36	691270	Spring, Valve, Intake Spring, Valve, Exhaust	524 525	692296 • 495265	Seal, Dipstick Tube Tube, Dipstick
37	694086	Guard, Flywheel	529	691923	Grommet
40	692194	Retainer, Valve	562	92613	Bolt, Governor Control Lever
43	691997	Slinger, Governor/Oil	584	692342	Cover, Breather Passage
45	690548	Tappet, Valve	585		Gasket, Breather Passage
46	691449	Camshaft	592	690800	Nut, Rewind Starter
48	498826	Short Block (Replacement Engine,	597	691696	Screw, Pawl Friction Plate
		Model Number 123K02-0015-E1)	601	95162	Clamp, Hose
50	497465	Manifold, Intake	608	497680	Starter, Rewind
51		Gasket, Intake	613	691340	Screw, Muffler
54	691650	Screw, Intake Manifold	615	690340	Retainer, Governor Shaft
55	691421	Housing, Rewind Starter	616	691308	Crank, Governor
58	692259	Rope, Starter (Cut to Length)	617		Seal, O-Ring, Intake Manifold
60 65	281434 690837	Grip, Starter Rope Screw, Rewind Starter	621 633	692310	Switch, Stop Seal, Throttle Shaft
78	691108	Screw, Flywheel Guard	635	66538	Boot, Spark Plug
81	691740	Lock, Muffler Screw	668		Spacer (Includes 2)
95	691636	Screw, Throttle Valve	670	692294	Spacer, Fuel Tank
97	696565	Shaft, Throttle	684	690345	Screw, Breather Passage Cover
104	691242	Ø Pin, Float Hinge	689	691855	Spring, Friction
117	498978	Jet, Main, Standard	718	690959	Pin, Locating
118	497466	Jet, Main, High Altitude	741	691830	Gear, Timing
121	498260	Kit, Carburetor Overhaul	745	691648	Screw, Brake
125	498170	Carburetor	842		Seal, O-Ring, Dipstick Tube
127	694468	Ø Plug, Welch	847	692017	Assembly, Dipstick/Tube
130	696564	Valve, Throttle	851	493880	Terminal, Spark Plug
133	398187	Float, Carburetor	868	697338	Seal, Valve
134	398188	Ø Valve, Needle/Seat	869	691155	Seat, Valve, Intake
137 146	690979	؇ Gasket-Float Bowl Key, Timing	870 871	690380 262001	Seat, Valve, Exhaust
159	691753	Bracket, Air Cleaner Primer	071	63709	Bushing, Guide, Exhaust Bushing, Guide, Intake
163		؇ Gasket, Air Cleaner	921	697343	Cover, Blower Housing
187	691050	Line, Fuel (Cut to Required Length)	922	692135	Spring, Brake
188	693399	Screw, Control Bracket	923	695891	Brake
190	690940	Screw, Fuel Tank	957	397974	Cap, Fuel Tank
202	691829	Link, Mechanical Governor	966	496116	Base, Air Cleaner Primer
209	690319	Spring, Governor	968	692298	Cover, Air Cleaner
222	692031	Bracket, Control	969	690700	Screw, Blower Housing Cover
227	690783	Control Lever-Governor	970	691669	Screw, Air Cleaner Primer Bracket
276		؇ Sealing Washer	972	495224	Tank, Fuel
287	690940	Screw (Dipstick Tube	975	493640	Bowl, Float
300 304	692038 695892	Muffler	976 977	694395 498261	Primer, Carburetor Set, Carburetor Gasket
305	691108	Housing, Blower Screw, Blower Housing		494256	Kit, Label
306	690450	Shield, Cylinder		697456	Label, Emissions
307	690345	Screw, Cylinder Shield		692311	Kit, Screw/Washer
332	690662	Nut, Flywheel		498144	Assembly, Pulley/Spring (Pulley)
333	802574	Armature, Magneto		498144	Assembly, Pulley/Spring (Spring)
334	691061	Screw, Armature			3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3,
337	802592	Spark Plug	RPM	Settings:	Low Speed: 1900-2100
356	692390	Wire, Stop			High Speed: 3000-3200
358	497316	Engine Gasket Set			
363	19069	Flywheel Puller	 Inc 	cluded in Eng	gine Gasket Set, Key #358
365	692524	Screw, Carburetor	~ .		
383	89838	Wrench, Spark Plug	Ø Ind	ciuded in Car	buretor Overhaul Kit, Key #121
404	690272	Washer, Governor Crank	+ 1	dudad in O-	burster Cooket Cot Ver #077
425 443	690670 692523	Screw, Air Cleaner Cover Screw, Air Cleaner Primer Base	+ IU(nuded in Car	buretor Gasket Set, Key #977
445	491588	Filter, Air Cleaner Cartridge	NOTE	E: All compo 1 inch = 25	nent dimensions given in U.S. inches 5.4 mm

- Do not operate the mower when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial foot wear.
- Do not pull mower backwards unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while moving backwards.
- Do not operate the mower without proper guards, plates, grass catcher or other safety protective devices in place.
- See manufacturer's instructions for proper operation and installation of accessories. Only use accessories approved by the manufacturer.
- Stop the blade(s) when crossing gravel drives, walks, or roads.
- Stop the engine (motor) whenever you leave the equipment, before cleaning the mower or unclogging the chute.
- Shut the engine (motor) off and wait until the blade comes to complete stop before removing grass catcher.
- Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
- Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Never operate machine in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing: keep a firm hold on the handle and walk; never run.
- Disengage the self-propelled mechanism or drive clutch on mowers so equipped before starting the engine (motor).
- If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine (motor) and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
- Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields when operating mower.

II. SLOPE OPERATION

Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents which can result in severe injury. All slopes require extra caution. If you feel uneasy on a slope, do not mow it.

- Mow across the face of slopes: never up and down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.
- Remove obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc.
- Watch for holes, ruts, or bumps. Tall grass can hide obstacles.

DO NOT:

- Do not trim near drop-offs, ditches or embankments. The operator could lose footing or balance.
- Do not trim excessively steep slopes.
- Do not mow on wet grass. Reduced footing could cause slipping.

III. CHILDREN

Tragic accidents can occur if the operator is not alert to the presence of children. Children are often attracted to the machine and the mowing activity. *Never* assume that children will remain where you last saw them.

- Keep children out of the trimming area and under the watchful care of another responsible adult.
- Be alert and turn machine off if children enter the area.
- Before and while walking backwards, look behind and down for small children.
- Neverallowchildrentooperatethemachine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.

IV. SERVICE

- Use extra care in handling gasoline and other fuels. They are flammable and vapors are explosive.
 - Use only an approved container.
 - Never remove gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow engine to cool before refueling. Do not smoke.
 - Never refuel the machine indoors.
 - Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, such as a water heater.
- Never run a machine inside a closed area.
- Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine (motor) running. Disconnect the spark plug wire, and keep the wire away from the plug to prevent accidental starting.
- Keep nuts and bolts, especially blade attachment bolts, tight and keep equipment in good condition.
- Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.
- Keep machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean oil or fuel spillage. Allow machine to cool before storing.
- Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair, if necessary, before restarting.
- Never attempt to make wheel height adjustments while the engine (motor) is running.
- Grass catcher components are subject to wear, damage, and deterioration, which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. Frequently check components and replace with manufacturer's recommended parts, when necessary.
- Mower blades are sharp and can cut.
 Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.
- Do not change the engine governor setting or overspeed the engine.

26

ASSEMBLY / PRE-OPERATION

Read these instructions and this manual in its entirety before you attempt to assemble or operate your new lawn mower.

IMPORTANT: This lawn mower is shipped WITHOUT OIL OR GASOLINE in the engine. Your new lawn mower has been assembled at the factory with the exception of those parts left unassembled for shipping purposes. All parts such as nuts, washers, bolts, etc., necessary to complete the assembly have been placed in the parts bag. To ensure safe and proper operation of your lawn mower, all parts and hardware you assemble must be tightened securely. Use the correct tools as necessary to ensure proper tightness.

TO REMOVE LAWN MOWER FROM CARTON

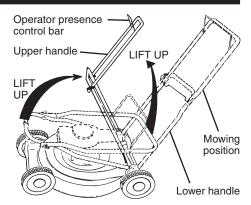
- 1. Remove loose parts included with mower.
- 2. Cut down two end corners of carton and lay end panel down flat.
- Remove all packing materials except padding between upper and lower handle and padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.
- Roll lawn mower out of carton and check carton thoroughly for additional loose parts.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR LAWN MOWER

TO UNFOLD HANDLE

IMPORTANT: Unfold handle carefully so as not to pinch or damage control cables.

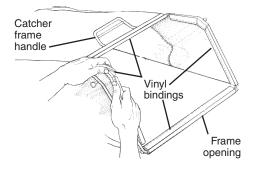
- Raise handles until lower handle section locks into place in mowing position.
- Remove protective padding, raise upper handle section into place on lower handle and tighten both handle knobs.
- Remove handle padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.
 Your lawn mower handle can be adjusted for your mowing comfort. Refer to "AD-JUST HANDLE" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.



TO ASSEMBLE GRASS CATCHER

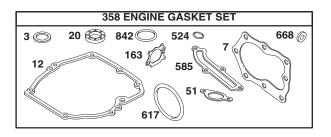
- Put grass catcher frame into grass bag with rigid part of bag on the bottom. Make sure the frame handle is outside of the bag top.
- Slip vinyl bindings over frame.
 NOTE: If vinyl bindings are too sti

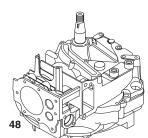
NOTE: If vinyl bindings are too stiff, hold them in warm water for a few minutes. If bag gets wet, let it dry before using.

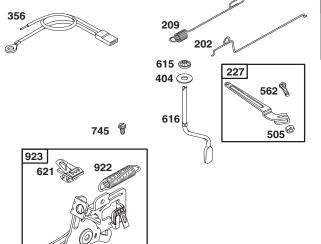


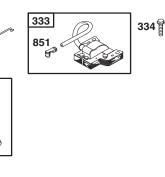
TO INSTALL ATTACHMENTS

Your lawn mower was shipped ready to be used as a mulcher. To convert to bagging, see "TO CONVERT MOWER" in the Operation section of this manual.









8 695250 Breather Ássembly 697341 Piston Assembly, .020" Oversize 9 696125 Gasket, Breather 697342 Piston Assembly, .030" Oversize 10 691125 Screw, Breather Assembly 26 499425 Ring Set, Piston, Standard 11 691781 Tube, Breather 499426 Ring Set, Piston, .010" Oversize 12 692232 Gasket, Crankcase 499427 Ring Set, Piston, .020" Oversize	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
	3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	399269 299819 493279 691160 692249 695250 696125 691125 691781 692232 690912 691680	Kit, Bushing/Seal Seal, Oil, Magneto Side Sump, Engine Head, Cylinder Gasket, Cylinder Head Breather Assembly Gasket, Breather Screw, Breather Assembly Tube, Breather Gasket, Crankcase Screw, Cylinder Head Plug, Oil Drain	22 23 24 25 26	691092 692315 222698 697339 697340 697341 697342 499425 499426 499427 499428 691866	Screw, Engine Sump Flywheel Key, Flywheel Piston Assembly, Standard Piston Assembly, .010" Oversize Piston Assembly, .030" Oversize Ring Set, Piston, Standard Ring Set, Piston, .010" Oversize Ring Set, Piston, .020" Oversize Ring Set, Piston, .030" Oversize Lock, Piston Pin

OPERATION

KNOW YOUR LAWN MOWER

READ THIS OWNER'S MANUAL AND ALL SAFETY RULES BEFORE OPERATING YOUR LAWN MOWER. Compare the illustrations with your lawn mower to familiarize yourself with the location of various controls and adjustments. Save this manual for future reference.

These symbols may appear on your lawn mower or in literature supplied with the product. Learn and understand their meaning.











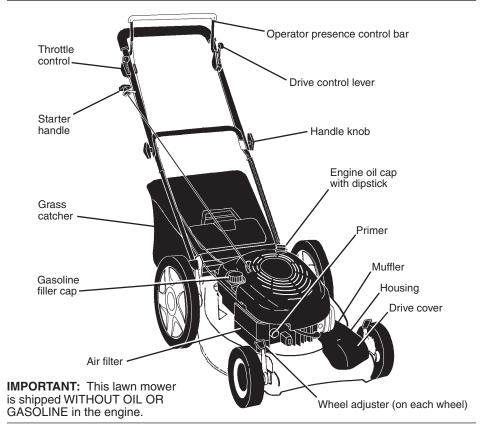








ENGINE **ENGINE** DANGER, KEEP HANDS OR WARNING ON OFF AND FEET AWAY



MEETS CPSC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

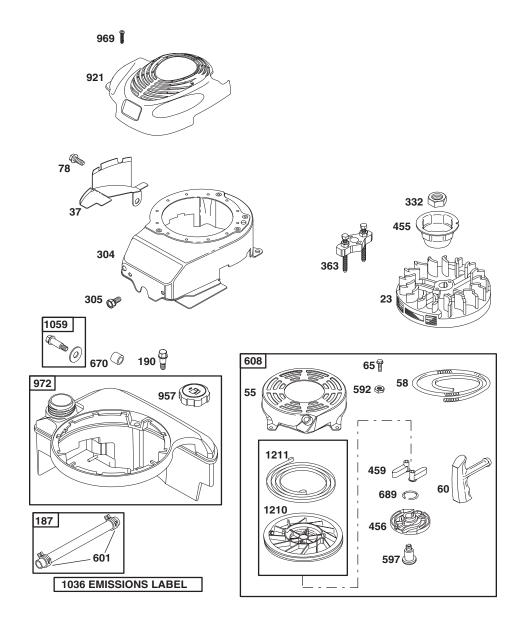
Sears rotary walk-behind power lawn mowers conform to the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. The blade turns when the engine is running.

Operator presence control bar - must be held down to the handle to start the engine. Release to stop the engine. **Primer** – pumps additional fuel from the carburetor to the cylinder for use when starting a cold engine.

Starter handle – used for starting engine. 5

Drive control lever – used to engage power-propelled forward motion of lawn mower.

Throttle control – used for starting the engine and allows you to select either FAST or SLOW engine speed.





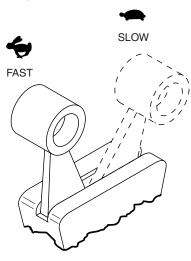
The operation of any lawn mower can result in foreign objects thrown into the eyes, which can result in severe eye damage. Always

wear safety glasses or eye shields while operating your lawn mower or performing any adjustments or repairs. We recommend standard safety glasses or a wide vision safety mask worn over spectacles.

HOW TO USE YOUR LAWN MOWER

ENGINE SPEED

The engine speed is controlled by a throttle control located on the side of the upper handle. FAST position is for starting, normal cutting, trimming and better grass bagging. SLOW position is for light cutting, trimming and fuel economy.



ENGINE ZONE CONTROL

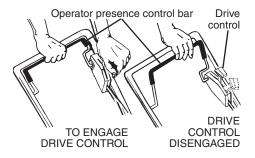
ACAUTION: Federal regulations require an engine control to be installed on this lawn mower in order to minimize the risk of blade contact injury. Do not under any circumstances attempt to defeat the function of the operator control. The blade turns when the engine is running.

 Your lawn mower is equipped with an operator presence control bar which requires the operator to be positioned behind the lawn mower handle to start and operate the lawn mower.

6

DRIVE CONTROL

- Self-propelling is controlled by holding the operator presence control bar down to the handle and pushing the drive control lever forward until it clicks; then releasing the lever.
- Forward motion will stop when the operator presence control bar is released. To stop forward motion without stopping engine, release the operator presence control bar slightly until the drive control disengages. Hold operator presence control bar down against handle to continue mowing without self-propelling.
- To keep drive control engaged when turning corners, push down on handle and lift front wheels off ground while turning lawn mower.

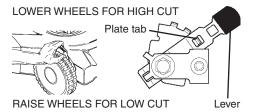


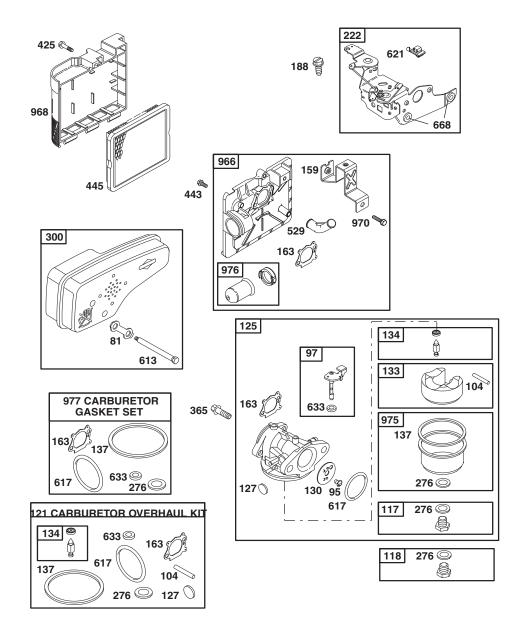
TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT

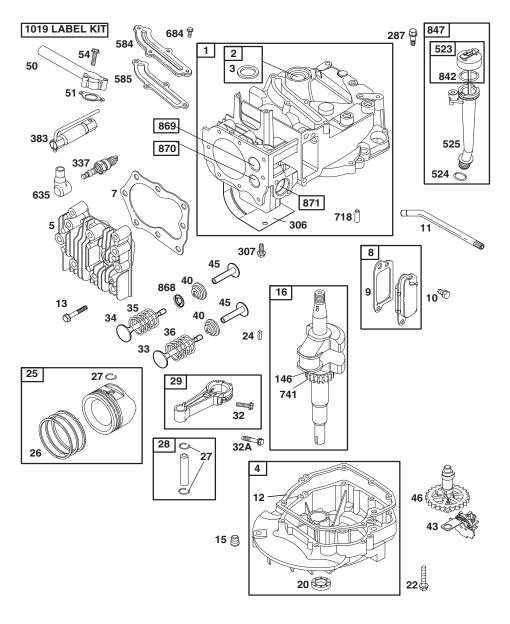
Raise wheels for low cut and lower wheels for high cut, adjust cutting height to suit your requirements. Medium position is best for most lawns.

To change cutting height, squeeze adjuster lever toward wheel. Move wheel up or down to suit your requirements. Be sure all wheels are in the same setting.

NOTE: Adjuster is properly positioned when plate tab inserts into hole in lever. Also, 9-position adjusters (if so equipped) allow lever to be positioned between the plate tabs.





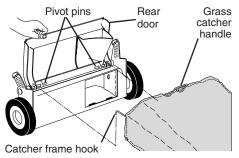


TO CONVERT MOWER

Your lawn mower was shipped ready to be used as a mulcher. To convert to bagging:

- Lift rear door of the lawn mower and place the grass catcher frame hooks onto the door pivot pins.
- To convert to mulching operation, remove grass catcher and close rear door. **ACAUTION:** Do not run your lawn mower

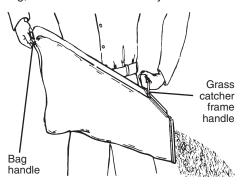
without rear door closed or approved grass catcher in place. Never attempt to operate the lawn mower with the rear door removed or propped open.



TO EMPTY GRASS CATCHER

- 1. Lift up on grass catcher using the frame handle.
- Remove grass catcher with clippings from under lawn mower handle.
- 3. Empty clippings from bag using both frame handle and bag handle.

NOTE: Do not drag the bag when emptying; it will cause unnecessary wear.



BEFORE STARTING ENGINE

ADD OIL

Your lawnmower is shipped without oil in the engine. For type and grade of oil to use, see "ENGINE" in the Maintenance section of this manual.

A CAUTION: DO NOT overfill engine with oil, or it will smoke on startup.

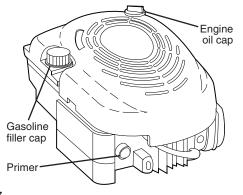
- 1. Be sure lawnmower is level and area around oil fill is clean.
- 2. Remove oil dipstick from oil fill spout. Make sure that rim of spout is clean.
- 3. You receive a container of oil with the unit. Slowly pour the entire container down the oil fill spout into the engine.
- 4. Wait one minute to allow oil to settle. Insert and tighten dipstick, then remove it to check oil level.
- 5. Always be sure to retighten oil dipstick before starting engine.
- · Check oil level before each use. Add oil if needed. Fill to full line on dipstick.
- · Change the oil after every 25 hours of operation or each season. You may need to change the oil more often under dusty, dirty conditions.

ADD GASOLINE

• Fill fuel tank to bottom of tank filler neck. Do not overfill. Use fresh, clean, regular unleaded gasoline with a minimum of 87 octane. Do not mix oil with gasoline. Purchase fuel in quantities that can be used within 30 days to assure fuel fresh-

A CAUTION: Wipe off any spilled oil or fuel. Do not store, spill or use gasoline near an open flame.

A CAUTION: Alcohol blended fuels (called gasohol or using ethanol or methanol) can attract moisture which leads to separation and formation of acids during storage. Acidic gas can damage the fuel system of an engine while in storage. To avoid engine problems, the fuel system should be emptied before storage of 30 days or longer. Drain the gas tank, start the engine and let it run until the fuel lines and carburetor are empty. Use fresh fuel next season. See Storage Instructions for additional information. Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in the fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.



TO START ENGINE

NOTE: Due to protective coatings on the engine, a small amount of smoke may be present during the initial use of the product and should be considered normal.

- To start a cold engine, push primer three (3) times before trying to start. Use a firm push. This step is not usually necessary when starting an engine which has already run for a few minutes.
- 2. Move throttle control lever to FAST position.
- Hold operator presence control bar down to the handle and pull starter handle quickly. Do not allow starter rope to snap back.

TO STOP ENGINE

To stop engine, release operator presence control bar.

NOTE: In cooler weather it may be necessary to repeat priming steps. In warmer weather over priming may cause flooding and engine will not start. If you do flood engine, wait a few minutes before attempting to start and do not repeat priming steps.

MOWING TIPS

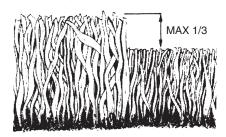
- Under certain conditions, such as very tall grass, it may be necessary to raise the height of cut to reduce pushing effort and to keep from overloading the engine and leaving clumps of grass clippings. It may also be necessary to reduce ground speed and/or run the lawn mower over the area a second time.
- For extremely heavy cutting, reduce the width of cut by overlapping previously cut path and mow slowly.
- For better grass bagging and most cutting conditions, the engine speed should be set in the FAST position.
- When using a rear discharge lawn mower in moist, heavy grass, clumps of cut grass may not enter the grass catcher. Reduce ground speed (pushing speed) and/or run the lawn mower over the area a second time.
- If a trail of clippings is left on the right side of a rear discharge mower, mow in a clockwise direction with a small overlap to collect the clippings on the next pass.
- Pores in cloth grass catchers can become filled with dirt and dust with use and catchers will collect less grass. To prevent this, regularly hose catcher off with water and let dry before using.

 Keep top of engine around starter clear and clean of grass clippings and chaff. This will help engine air flow and extend engine life.

MULCHING MOWING TIPS

IMPORTANT: For best performance, keep mower housing free of built-up grass and trash. See "CLEANING" in the Maintenance section of this manual.

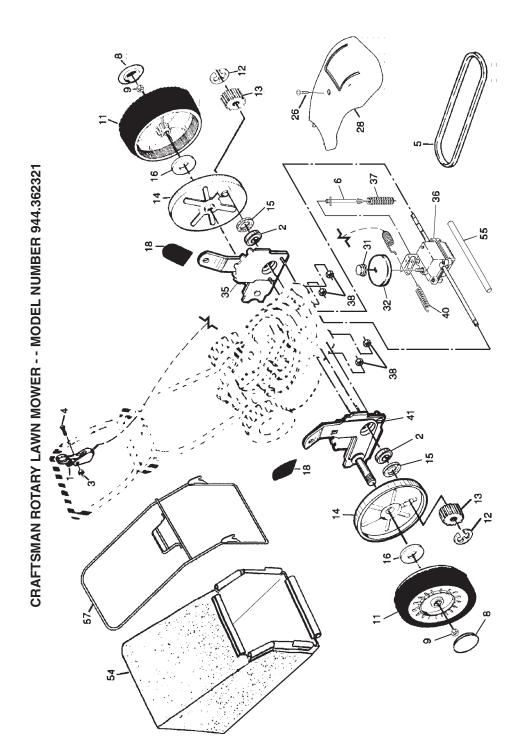
- The special mulching blade will recut
 the grass clippings many times and
 reduce them in size so that as they fall
 onto the lawn they will disperse into
 the grass and not be noticed. Also, the
 mulched grass will biodegrade quickly
 to provide nutrients for the lawn. Always
 mulch with your highest engine (blade)
 speed as this will provide the best recutting action of the blades.
- Avoid cutting your lawn when it is wet.
 Wet grass tends to form clumps and
 interferes with the mulching action. The
 best time to mow your lawn is the early
 afternoon. At this time the grass has
 dried and the newly cut area will not be
 exposed to the direct sun.
- For best results, adjust the lawn mower cutting height so that the lawn mower cuts off only the top one-third of the grass blades. If the lawn is overgrown it will be necessary to raise the height of cut to reduce pushing effort and to keep from overloading the engine and leaving clumps of mulched grass. For extremely heavy grass, reduce your width of cut by overlapping previously cut path and mow slowly.



- Certain types of grass and grass conditions may require that an area be mulched a second time to completely hide the clippings. When doing a second cut, mow across or perpendicular to the first cut path.
- Change your cutting pattern from week to week. Mow north to south one week then change to east to west the next week. This will help prevent matting and graining of the lawn.

CRAFTSMAN ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NUMBER 944.362321

DESCRIPTION	28 178843 Drive Cover 31 132010 Hex Flange Nut 32 137052 Drive Pulley 35 151521 Kit, Wheel Adjuster, LH 36 175258 Gear Case Assembly 37 137090 Spring 40 75192 Spring 41 151520 Kit, Wheel Adjuster, RH 41 151520 Kit, Wheel Adjuster, RH 54 181372 Grassbag Assembly 55 175739 Driveshaft Cover 57 175058 Frame NOTE: All component dimensions given in U.S. inches.	4 mm
PART NO.	178843 132010 137052 151521 175258 137090 63601 75192 151520 181372 175739 175739 175739	1 inch = 25.4 mm
KEY NO.	28 32 32 32 33 34 40 40 57 57 57 ON	
DESCRIPTION	Control Cable Assembly Bearing, Wheel Adjuster Locknut #10-24 Hax Washer Head Screw 1/4-20 x 2.12 V-Belt Spring Retainer Hubcap Locknut Wheel & Tire Assembly E-Ring Pining Pining Pining Pisitor Dust Cover Felt Washer Washer 1/2 x 1-1/2 x .134 Selector Knob Pan Head Tapping Screw #10-24 x 2-3/4	
PART NO.	184586 167387 751152 751152 158755 175436 150495 160025 145212 180775 12000058 137064 180775 137064 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 170004 180775 180504	
KEY NO.	- 0 6 4 5 0 8 6 1 1 2 5 4 5 9 8 9 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	



MAINTENANCE

M	IAINTENANCE SCH	EDU	JLE	/	HUSEUS	OURS	NPS AS	ONJOUR	ORAG	E	
AS	LL IN DATES SYOU COMPLETE EGULAR SERVICE	/	BEFO	AFTER AFTER	HUSE USE EACH 10 P EVERY 10 P	REVER REVER	VERY N	ON HOURS	SI	ERVI DAT	CE ES
MOWER	Check for Loose Fasteners Clean/Inspect Grass Catcher (If Equipped) Clean Lawn Mower Clean Under Drive Cover (Power-Propelled Mowers) Check drive belt/pulleys (Power-Propelled Mowers) Check/Sharpen/Replace Blade Lubrication Chart Clean Battery/Recharge (Electric Start Mowers)	\(\sqrt{1} \)	<i>y</i>	<i>V</i>	V 3 V		V V V				
ENG-NE	Check Engine Oil Level Change Engine Oil Clean Air Filter Inspect Muffler Clean or Replace Spark Plug Replace Air Filter Paper Cartridge	V			V _{1,2} V ₂ V	✓ 2					

- 1 Change more often when operating under a heavy load or in high ambient temperatures.
- 2 Service more often when operating in dirty or dusty conditions.
- 3 Replace blades more often when mowing in sandy soil.
- 4 Charge 48 hours at end of season.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The warranty on this lawn mower does not cover items that have been subjected to operator abuse or negligence. To receive full value from the warranty, operator must maintain mower as instructed in this manual.

Some adjustments will need to be made periodically to properly maintain your unit. All adjustments in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual should be checked at least once each season.

- Once a year, replace the spark plug, replace air filter element and check blade for wear. A new spark plug and clean/new air filter element assure proper air-fuel mixture and help your engine run better and last longer.
- Follow the maintenance schedule in this manual.

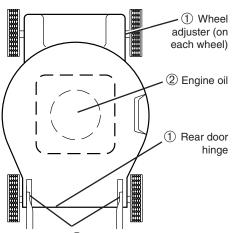
BEFORE EACH USE

- Check engine oil level.
- · Check for loose fasteners.

LUBRICATION

Keep unit well lubricated (See "LUBRICATION CHART").

LUBRICATION CHART



- 1) Handle bracket mounting pins
- 1 Spray lubricant
- ② See "ENGINE" in Maintenance section.

 IMPORTANT: Do not oil or grease plastic wheel bearings. Viscous lubricants will attract dust and dirt that will shorten the life of the self-lubricating bearings. If you feel they must be lubricated, use only a dry, powdered graphite type lubricant sparingly.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

	11 107 11 10 110
Serial Number:	
Date of Purchase:	
Gasoline Capacity / Type:	1,5 Liters (Unleaded Regular)
Oil Type (API-SF-SJ):	SAE 30 (above 32°F/0°C); SAE 5W-30 (below 32°F/0°C)
Oil Capacity:	0,58 Liters
Spark Plug:	Champion RJ19LM (Gap: 0,76 mm)
Blade Bolt Torque:	35-40 ft. lbs. / 47-54 N-m
The model and serial nun	nhers will be found on a decal on the rear of the mower

 The model and serial numbers will be found on a decal on the rear of the mower housing. Record both serial number and date of purchase in space provided above.

LAWN MOWER

Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

TIRES

- Keep tires free of gasoline, oil, or insect control chemicals which can harm rubber.
- Avoid stumps, stones, deep ruts, sharp objects and other hazards that may cause tire damage.

BLADE CARE

For best results, mower blade must be kept sharp. Replace bent or damaged blades.

TO REMOVE BLADE

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with spark plug.
- 2. Turn lawn mower on its side. Make sure air filter and carburetor are up.
- Use a wood block between blade and mower housing to prevent blade from turning when removing blade bolt.

NOTE: Protect your hands with gloves and/or wrap blade with heavy cloth.

- Remove blade bolt by turning counterclockwise.
- Remove blade and attaching hardware (bolt, lock washer and hardened washer).

NOTE: Remove the blade adapter and check the key inside hub of blade adapter. The key must be in good condition to work properly. Replace adapter if damaged.

TO REPLACE BLADE

- Position the blade adapter on the engine crankshaft. Be sure key in adapter and crankshaft keyway are aligned.
- Position blade on the blade adapter aligning the two (2) holes in the blade with the raised lugs on the adapter.
- 3. Be sure the trailing edge of blade (opposite sharp edge) is up toward the engine.

- Install the blade bolt with the lock washer and hardened washer into blade adapter and crankshaft.
- Use block of wood between blade and lawn mower housing and tighten the blade bolt, turning clockwise.
- The recommended tightening torque is 35-40 ft. lbs.

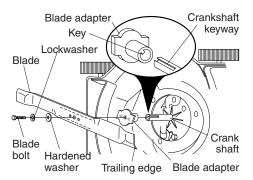
IMPORTANT: Blade bolt is grade 8 heat treated.

TO SHARPEN BLADE

NOTE: We do not recommend sharpening blade - but if you do, be sure the blade is balanced.

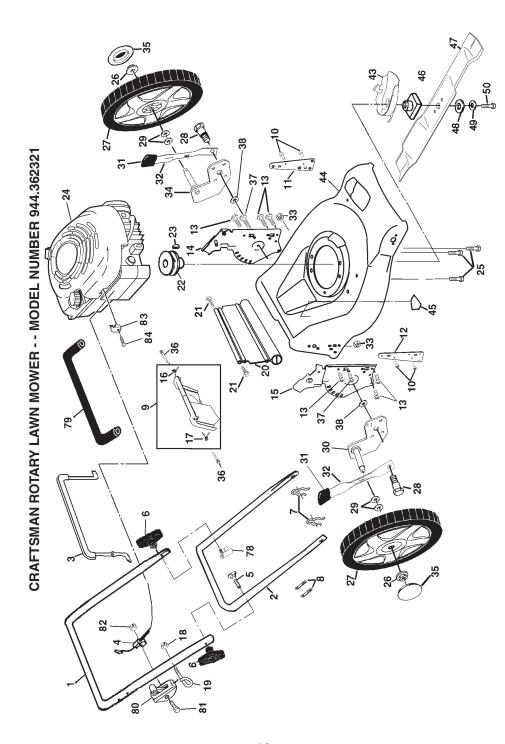
Care should be taken to keep the blade balanced. An unbalanced blade will cause eventual damage to lawn mower or engine.

- The blade can be sharpened with a file or on a grinding wheel. Do not attempt to sharpen while on the mower.
- To check blade balance, drive a nail into a beam or wall. Leave about one inch of the straight nail exposed. Place center hole of blade over the head of the nail. If blade is balanced, it should remain in a horizontal position. If either end of the blade moves downward, sharpen the heavy end until the blade is balanced.



MODEL NUMBER 944.362321 : **CRAFTSMAN ROTARY LAWN MOWER**

DESCRIPTION	Axle Arm Assembly RR Selector Knob	Selector Spring	Nut 5/16-18	Axle Arm Assembly LR	Hubcap	Bolt	Thread Cutting Screw w/Sems 5/16-18 x 3/4	Washer	Bottom Belt Cover	Lawn Mower Housing (Incl. Key #10, 11, 12& 45)	Danger Deal	Blade Adapter	Blade 21"	Hardened Washer	Helical Washer 3/8-24 x 1-3/8 Gr. 8	Hex Head Machine Screw 3/8-24 x 1-3/8 Gr. 8	Bracket, Anti-Fold	Handle Grip, Foam	Throttle Control	Screw, Hex Washer Head 1/4 x 2.12	Nut, Hex 1/4-20	Clamp, Cable	Screw #10 x 5/8	Warning Decal (Not Shown)	Owner's Manual (English)	Owner's Manual (French)		NOTE: All component dimensions given in U.S. inches. 1 inch = 25.4 mm
Y PART NO.	175574X004 161961	175053X004	63124	175575X004	180620	184193	150078	19112206	175083	181991	107339X	851514	175064	851074	850263	851084	165108	183684	700417	144929	132004	111190X	83816	162300	183516	183517		TE: All component di 1 inch = 25.4 mm
KEY NO.	30	32	33	34	32	36	37	38	43	4	45	46	47	48	49	20	78	79	8	8	82	83	84	;	;	;		8
DESCRIPTION	Upper Handle (with Grip) Lower Handle	Control Bar	Engine Zone Control Cable	Handle Bolt	Handle Knob	Hairpin Cotter	Wire Tie	Rear Door Kit (Incl. Key #16 & 17)	Pop Rivet	Support Bracket LH	Support Bracket RH	Screw 14-20 x 5/8	Handle Bracket Assembly (Left)	Handle Bracket Assembly (Right)	Spring LH	Spring RH	Keps Locknut 1/4-20	Rope Guide	Rear Skirt	Hinge Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4	Engine Pulley	Hi-Pro Key #505	Engine, Briggs & Stratton, Model Number	123K02-0183-E1 (See Breakdown)	Hex Head Thread Rolling Srew 3/8-16 x 1-1/8	Hex Flange Nut	Wheel	Shoulder Bolt 5/16-18 x .33 Wave Washer
KEY PART NO. NO. DESCRIPTION	183485 Upper Handle (with Grip) 151721X479 Lower Handle	Ŭ		131959 Handle Bolt	_	51793 Hairpin Cotter	66426 Wire Tie	_			175070X479 Support Bracket RH		175576X479 Handle Bracket Assembly (Left)	175577X479 Handle Bracket Assembly (Right)		180072 Spring RH			178398 Rear Skirt	_	84596 Engine Pulley	87677 Hi-Pro Key #505	Engine, Briggs & Stratton, Model Number	123K02-0183-E1 (See Breakdown)	150406 Hex Head Thread Rolling Srew 3/8-16 x 1-1/8	_	180553 Wheel	160828 Shoulder Bolt 5/16-18 x .33 57143 Wave Washer



GRASS CATCHER

- The grass catcher may be hosed with water, but must be dry when used.
- Check your grass catcher often for damage or deterioration. Through normal use it will wear. If catcher needs replacing, replace only with a manufacturer approved replacement catcher. Give the lawn mower model number when ordering.

DRIVE WHEELS

Check front drive wheels each time before you mow to be sure they move freely. The wheels not turning freely means trash, grass cuttings, etc. are in the drive wheel area and must be cleaned to free drive wheels.

If necessary to clean the drive wheels, be sure to clean both front wheels.

- Remove hubcaps, hairpin cotters and washers.
- Remove wheels from wheel adjusters.
- Remove any trash or grass cuttings from inside the dust cover, pinion and/ or drive wheel gear teeth.
- 4. Put wheels back in place.

NOTE: If after cleaning, the drive wheels do not turn freely, contact a Sears or other qualified service center.

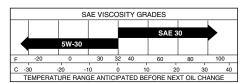
GEAR CASE

- To keep your drive system working properly, the gear case and area around the drive should be kept clean and free of trash build-up. Clean under the drive cover twice a season.
- The gear case is filled with lubricant to the proper level at the factory. The only time the lubricant needs attention is if service has been performed on the gear case.
- If lubricant is required, use only Texaco Starplex Premium 1 Grease, Part No. 750369. Do not substitute.

ENGINE

LUBRICATION

Use only high quality detergent oil rated with API service classification SF-SJ. Select the oil's SAE viscosity grade according to your expected operating temperature.



NOTE: Although multi-viscosity oils (5W30, 10W30 etc.) improve starting in cold weather, these multi-viscosity oils will result in increased oil consumption when used above 32°F. Check your engine oil level more frequently to avoid possible engine damage from running low on oil. Change the oil after every 25 hours of operation or at least once a year if the lawn mower is not used for 25 hours in one year. Check the crankcase oil level before starting the engine and after each five (5) hours of continuous use. Tighten oil plug securely each time you check the oil level.

TO CHANGE ENGINE OIL

NOTE: Before tipping lawn mower to drain oil, drain fuel tank by running engine until fuel tank is empty.

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with spark plug.
- Remove engine oil cap; lay aside on a clean surface.
- Tip lawn mower on its side as shown and drain oil into a suitable container. Rock lawn mower back and forth to remove any oil trapped inside of engine.
- 4. Wipe off any spilled oil from lawn mower or side of engine.
- 5. Fill engine with oil. The engine oil capacity is 20 oz. If oil is not completely drained from engine, you may not need the entire container of a 20 oz. bottle of oil. Slowly pour 3/4 of the oil from the container down the oil fill spout into the engine.
- Wait one minute to allow oil to settle. Insert and tighten dipstick, then remove it to check oil level.
- Continue adding small amounts of oil and rechecking the dipstick until it reads full. DO NOT overfill, or engine will smoke on startup.
- 8. Always be sure to retighten oil dipstick before starting engine.
- 9. Reconnect spark plug wire to spark plug.



AIR FILTER

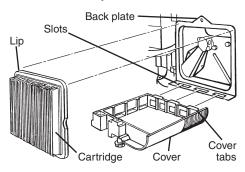
Your engine will not run properly and may be damaged by using a dirty air filter. Replace the air filter every 100 hours of operation or every season, whichever occurs first. Service air cleaner more often under dusty conditions.

TO CLEAN AIR FILTER

- 1. Loosen screw and tilt cover to remove.
- 2. Carefully remove cartridge.
- 3. Clean by gently tapping on a flat surface. If very dirty, replace cartridge.

ACAUTION: Petroleum solvents, such as kerosene, are not to be used to clean cartridge. They may cause deterioration of the cartridge. Do not oil cartridge. Do not use pressurized air to clean or dry cartridge.

 Install cartridge, then replace cover making sure the tabs are aligned with the slots in the back plate. Fasten screw securely.



MUFFLER

Inspect and replace corroded muffler as it could create a fire hazard and/or damage.

SPARK PLUG

Replace spark plug at the beginning of each mowing season or after every 100 hours of operation, whichever occurs first. Spark plug type and gap setting are shown in "PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS" in Maintenance section of this manual.

CLEANING

IMPORTANT: For best performance, keep mower housing free of built-up grass and trash. Clean the underside of your mower after each use.

ACAUTION: Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with the spark plug.

- Clean the underside of your lawn mower by scraping to remove build-up of grass and trash.
- Clean engine often to keep trash from accumulating. A clogged engine runs hotter and shortens engine life.
- Keep finished surfaces and wheels free of all gasoline, oil, etc.
- We do not recommend using a garden hose to clean lawn mower unless the electrical system, muffler, air filter and carburetor are covered to keep water out. Water in engine can result in shortened engine life.

CLEAN UNDER DRIVE COVER

Clean under drive cover at least twice a season. Scrape underside of cover with putty knife or similar tool to remove any build-up of trash or grass on underside of drive cover.

SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

AWARNING: To avoid serious injury, before performing any service or adjustments:

- 1. Release control bar and stop engine.
- 2. Make sure the blade and all moving parts have completely stopped.
- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place where it cannot come in contact with plug.

LAWN MOWER

TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT

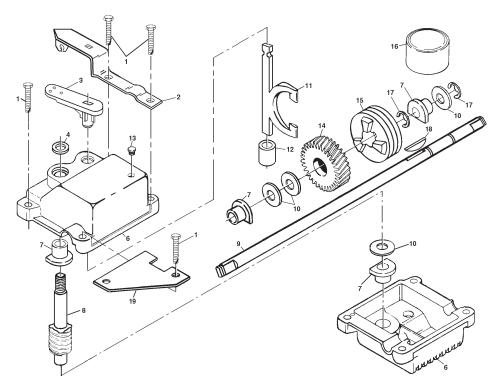
See "TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT" in the Operation section of this manual.

REAR DEFLECTOR

The rear deflector, attached between the rear wheels of your mower, is provided to minimize the possibility that objects will be thrown out of the rear of the mower into the operator mowing position. If the deflector becomes damaged, it should be replaced.

REPAIR PARTS

CRAFTSMAN ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NUMBER 944.362321 GEAR CASE ASSEMBLY - - PART NUMBER 175258



KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	17490416	Tapping Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4
2	175248X004	3-3-
3 4	137053 57072	Shifter Seal
6	48373	Gear Case Halves Kit
U	40070	(Includes Key Numbers 4 and 7)
7	77881	Bearing
8	137051	Worm Shaft
9	175257	Drive Shaft
10	57079	Hardened Washer
11	131484	Clutch Yoke
12	700343	Bushing
13	86447	Plug
14	137050	Helical Gear
15	750436X	Clutch Jaw
16	750369	Grease
17	12000003	E-Ring
18	850848	Hi-Pro Key
19	81585X004 176293	Spring Bracket
	170293	Kit, Gearcase (Includes Instructions)

NOTE: All component dimensions given in U.S. inches. 1 inch = 25.4 mm

TROUBLESHOOTING - See appropriate section in manual unless directed to a Sears Service Center.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION						
Poor cut – uneven	Worn, bent or loose blade. Wheel heights uneven. Buildup of grass, leaves and trash under mower.	Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. Set all wheels at same height. Clean underside of mower housing.						
Excessive vibration	Worn, bent or loose blade. Bent engine crankshaft.	Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. Contact a Sears or other qualified service center.						
Starter rope hard to pull	 Engine flywheel brake is on when control bar is released. Bent engine crankshaft. Blade adapter broken. Blade dragging in grass. 	 Depress control bar to upper handle before pulling starter rope. Contact a Sears or other qualified service center. Replace blade adapter. Move lawn mower to cut grass or to hard surface. 						
Grass catcher not filling (If so equipped)	 Cutting height too low. Lift on blade worn off. Catcher not venting air. 	 Raise cutting height. Replace blade. Clean grass catcher. 						
Hard to push	 Grass is too high or wheel height is too low. Rear of lawn mower housing or cutting blade dragging in grass. Grass catcher too full. Handle height position not right for you. 	 Raise cutting height. Raise rear of lawn mower housing one (1) setting higher. Empty grass catcher. Adjust handle height to suit. 						
Loss of drive or slowing of drive speed	 Belt wear. Belt off of pulley. Drive cable worn or broken. Dirt in drive pinions. 	 Check/replace drive belt. Check/reinstall drive belt. Replace drive cable. Clean drive pinions. 						

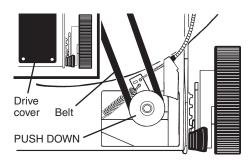
TO REMOVE DRIVE BELT

- Remove drive cover. Remove belt from gearcase pulley by pushing down on pulley and rolling belt off it.
- 2. Turn lawn mower on its side with air filter and carburetor up.
- 3. Remove blade.
- 4. Remove debris shield.
- Remove belt from engine pulley on crankshaft.

TO REPLACE DRIVE BELT

- 1. Install new belt on engine pulley.
- 2. Reinstall debris shield and blade.
- 3. Return mower to upright position.
- 4. Install new belt on gearcase pulley.
- 5. Reinstall drive cover.

NOTE: Always use factory approved belt to assure fit and long life.

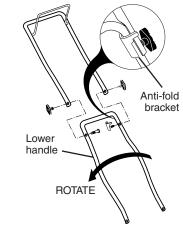


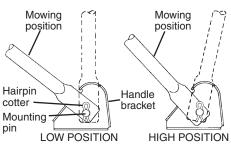
TO ADJUST HANDLE

The handle can be mounted in a high or low position. The mounting holes in the bottom of lower handle are off center for raising or lowering the handle.

NOTE: The upper handle has an "antifold" bracket located on the left side of the handle. This bracket prevents the upper handle from folding forward, which helps protect control cable(s) from damage.

- 1. Remove upper handle and all parts attached to lower handle.
- 2. Remove hairpin cotters from lower handle bracket mounting pin.
- 3. Squeeze lower handle in to remove it from mounting pins.
- 4. Turn lower handle over to raise or lower handle.
- Squeeze lower handle in and position holes onto mounting pins on handle bracket.
- 6. Reassemble upper handle and all parts removed from lower handle.





ENGINE

ENGINE SPEED

Your engine speed has been factory set. Do not attempt to increase engine speed or it may result in personal injury. If you believe that the engine is running too fast or too slow, take your lawn mower to a Sears or other qualified service center for repair and adjustment.

CARBURETOR

Your carburetor is not adjustable. If your engine does not operate properly due to suspected carburetor problems, take your lawn mower to a Sears or other qualified service center for repair or adjustment. **IMPORTANT:** Never tamper with the engine governor, which is factory set for proper engine speed. Overspeeding the engine above the factory high speed setting can be dangerous. If you think the engine-governed high speed needs adjusting, contact a Sears or other qualified service center, which has proper equipment and experience to make any necessary adjustments.

STORAGE

Immediately prepare your lawn mower for storage at the end of the season or if the unit will not be used for 30 days or more.

LAWN MOWER

When lawn mower is to be stored for a period of time, clean it thoroughly, remove all dirt, grease, leaves, etc. Store in a clean, dry area.

- Clean entire lawn mower (See "CLEANING" in the Maintenance section of this manual).
- 2. Lubricate as shown in the Maintenance section of this manual.
- Be sure that all nuts, bolts, screws, and pins are securely fastened. Inspect moving parts for damage, breakage and wear. Replace if necessary.
- Touch up all rusted or chipped paint surfaces; sand lightly before painting.

HANDLE

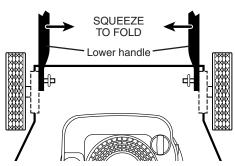
You can fold your lawn mower handle for storage.

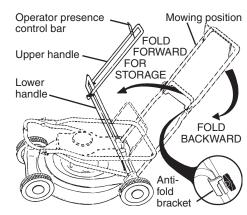
NOTE: The upper handle has an "antifold" bracket located on the left side of the handle. This bracket prevents the upper handle from folding forward, which helps protect control cable(s) from damage.

- Squeeze the bottom ends of the lower handle toward each other until the lower handle clears the handle bracket, then move handle forward.
- Loosen upper handle mounting bolts enough to allow upper handle to be folded back.

IMPORTANT: When folding the handle for storage or transportation, be sure to fold the handle as shown or you may damage the control cables.

 When setting up your handle from the storage position, the lower handle will automatically lock into the mowing position.





ENGINE

FUEL SYSTEM

IMPORTANT: It is important to prevent gum deposits from forming in essential fuel system parts such as carburetor, fuel filter, fuel hose or tank during storage. Also, alcohol blended fuels (called gasohol or using ethanol or methanol) can attract moisture which leads to separation and formation of acids during storage. Acidic gas can damage the fuel system of an engine while in storage.

- 1. Drain the fuel tank.
- 2. Start the engine and let it run until the fuel lines and carburetor are empty.
- Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in the fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.
- Use fresh fuel next season.

NOTE: Fuel stabilizer is an acceptable alternative in minimizing the formation of fuel gum deposits during storage. Add stabilizer to gasoline in fuel tank or storage container. Always follow the mix ratio found on stabilizer container. Run engine at least 10 minutes after adding stabilizer to allow the stabilizer to reach the carburetor. Do not drain the gas tank and carburetor if using fuel stabilizer.

ENGINE OIL

Drain oil (with engine warm) and replace with clean engine oil. (See "ENGINE" in the Maintenance section of this manual).

CYLINDER

- 1. Remove spark plug.
- 2. Pour 30 ml of oil through spark plug hole into cylinder.
- 3. Pull starter handle slowly a few times to distribute oil.
- 4. Replace with new spark plug.

OTHER

- Do not store gasoline from one season to another.
- Replace your gasoline can if your can starts to rust. Rust and/or dirt in your gasoline will cause problems.

- If possible, store your unit indoors and cover it to protect it from dust and dirt.
- Cover your unit with a suitable protective cover that does not retain moisture. Do not use plastic. Plastic cannot breathe, which allows condensation to form and will cause your unit to rust.

IMPORTANT: Never cover mower while engine and exhaust areas are still warm.

ACAUTION: Never store the lawn mower with gasoline in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.

TROUBLESHOOTING - See appropriate section in manual unless directed to a Sears Service Center.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Does not start	 Dirty air filter. Out of fuel. Stale fuel. Water in fuel. Spark plug wire is disconnected. Bad spark plug. Loose blade or broken blade adapter. Control bar in released position. Control bar defective. Fuel valve lever (if so equipped) in OFF position. Weak battery (if equipped). Disconnected battery connector (if equipped). 	 Clean/replace air filter. Fill fuel tank. Drain tank and refill with fresh, clean fuel. Drain fuel tank and carburetor and refill tank with fresh gasoline. Connect wire to plug. Replace spark plug. Tighten blade bolt or replace blade adapter. Depress control bar to handle. Replace control bar. Turn fuel valve lever to the ON position. Charge battery. Connect battery to engine.
Loss of power	 Rear of lawn mower housing or cutting blade dragging in heavy grass. Cutting too much grass. Dirty air filter. Buildup of grass, leaves, and trash under mower. Too much oil in engine. Walking speed too fast. 	 Set to "Higher Cut" position. Set to "Higher Cut" position. Clean/replace air filter. Clean underside of mower housing. Check oil level. Cut at slower walking speed.