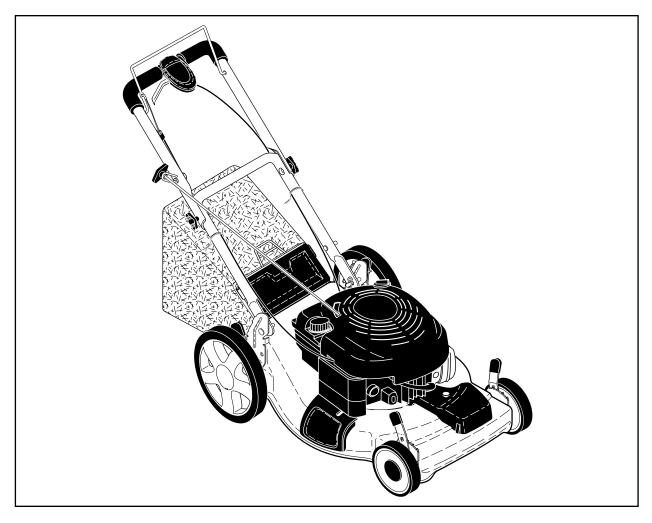
# **Husqvarna**



# 917.375361

**Owner's Manual** 



## SAFETY RULES Safe Operation Practices for Walk-Behind Mowers



**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.



WARNING: Engine exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.



WARNING: Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.



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.
- 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.
- Never direct discharged material toward anyone. Avoid discharging material against a wall or obstruction. Material may richochet back toward the operator. Stop the blade when crossing gravel surfaces.
- 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 onmowerssoequippedbeforestartingtheengine (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.

#### DO:

- 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.
- Never allow children to operate the machine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.

#### **IV. SAFE HANDLING OF GASOLINE**

Use extreme care in handling gasoline. Gasoline is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive.

- Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.
- Use only an approved container.
- Never remove gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow engine to cool before refueling.

- Never refuel the machine indoors.
- Never store the machine or fuel container where there is an open flame, spark or pilot light such as a water heater or on other appliances.
- Never fill containers inside a vehicle, on a truck or trailer bed with a plastic liner. Always place containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
- Remove gas-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment with a portable container, rather than from a gasoline dispenser nozzle.
- Keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until fueling is complete. Do not use a nozzle lock-open device.
- If fuel is spilled on clothing, change clothing immediately.
- Never overfill fuel tank. Replace gas cap and tighten securely.

#### V. GENERAL SERVICE

- Never run a machine inside a closed area.
- Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine (motor) running. Disconnect spark plug wire, and keep

wire away from plug to prevent accidental starting.

- Keep nuts and bolts, especially blade attachement 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 blade is sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing it.
- Do not change the engine governor setting or overspeed the engine.
- Maintain or replace safety and instruction labels, as necessary.

**AWARNING:** This lawn mower is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator. A spark arrester for the muffler is available through your nearest authorized service center.

**CONGRATULATIONS** on your purchase of a new lawn mower. It has been designed, engineered and manufactured to give you the best possible dependability and performance.

Should you experience any problem you cannot easily remedy, please contact your nearest authorized service center/department. We have competent, well-trained technicians and the proper tools to service or repair this lawn mower.

Please read and retain this manual. The instructions will enable you to assemble and maintain your lawn mower properly. Always observe the "SAFETY RULES".

SERIAL

NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF PURCHASE: \_\_\_\_

THE MODEL AND SERIAL NUMBERS WILL BE FOUND ON A DECAL ATTACHED TO THE REAR OF THE LAWN MOWER HOUSING.

YOU SHOULD RECORD BOTH SERIAL NUMBER AND DATE OF PURCHASE AND KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

# **PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS**

Gasoline Capacity and Type:	1.6 Quarts (Unleaded Regular Only)
Oil Type (API SG–SL):	SAE 30 (above 32°F); SAE 5W-30 (below 32°F)
Oil Capacity:	20 Ounces
Spark Plug (Gap: .030"):	Champion J19LM or RJ19LM
Blade Bolt Torque:	35-40 ft. lbs. (47-54 N-m)

## **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Read and observe the safety rules.
- Follow a regular schedule in maintaining, caring for and using your lawn mower.
- Follow the instructions under "Maintenance" and "Storage" sections of this owner's manual.

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# ASSEMBLY

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 WITH-OUT 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

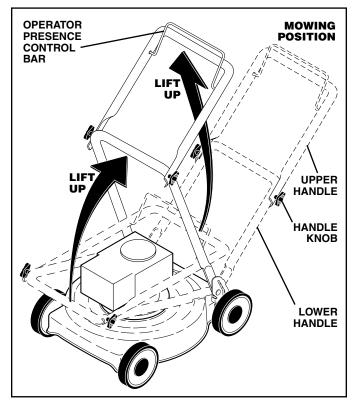
- 1. Remove loose parts included with mower.
- 2. Cut down two end corners of carton and lay end panel down flat.
- 3. Remove all packing materials except padding between upper and lower handle and padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.
- 4. Roll lawn mower out of carton and check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

#### HOW TO SET UP YOUR LAWN MOWER TO UNFOLD HANDLE (See Fig. 1)

**IMPORTANT**: UNFOLD HANDLE CAREFULLY SO AS NOT TO PINCH OR DAMAGE CONTROL CABLES.

- 1. Raise handles until lower handle section locks into place in mowing position.
- 2. Remove protective padding, raise upper handle section into place on lower handle and tighten both handle knobs.
- 3. Remove handle padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.

Your handles may be adjusted for your mowing comfort. Refer to "ADJUST HANDLE" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.





# TO ASSEMBLE GRASS CATCHER (See Fig. 2)

- 1. 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.
- 2. Slip vinyl bindings over frame.

**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.

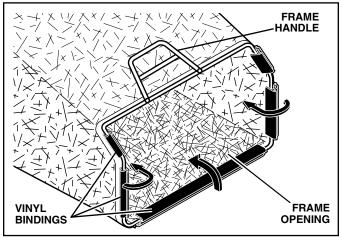


FIG. 2

## TO INSTALL ATTACHMENTS

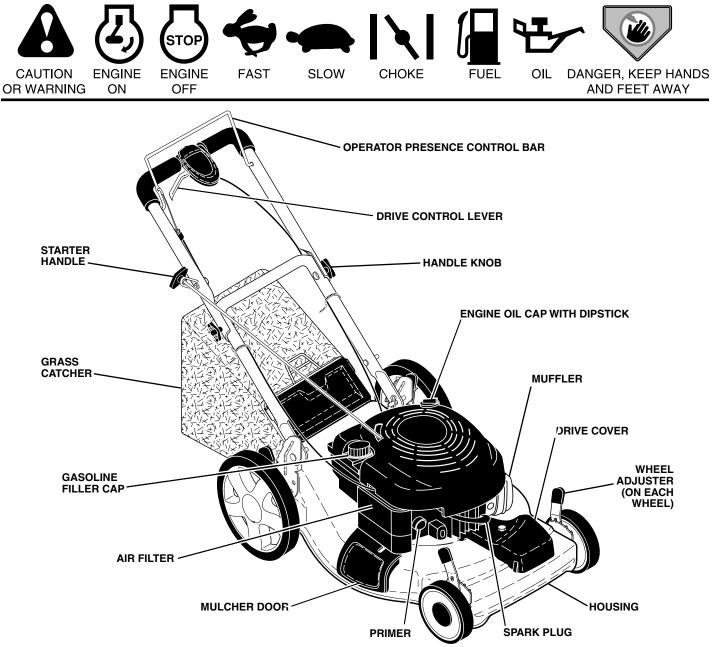
Your lawn mower was shipped ready to be used as a mulcher. To convert mower to bagging or discharging, see "TO CONVERT MOWER" in the Operation section of this manual.

# KNOW YOUR LAWN MOWER

READ THIS OWNER'S MANUAL AND 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.



**IMPORTANT**: This lawn mower is shipped WITHOUT OIL OR GASOLINE in the engine.

## MEETS CPSC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Our 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.

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**STARTER HANDLE** – used for starting the engine.

**PRIMER** – pumps additional fuel from the carburetor to the cylinder for use when starting a cold engine.

**MULCHER DOOR** – allows conversion to discharge or bagging operation.

**OPERATOR PRESENCE CONTROL BAR** – must be held down to the handle to start the engine. Release to stop the engine.

**DRIVE CONTROL LEVER** – used to engage power-propelled forward motion of lawn mower.



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 over spectacles.

# HOW TO USE YOUR LAWN MOWER

#### **ENGINE SPEED**

The engine speed was set at the factory for optimum performance. Speed is not adjustable.

## **ENGINE ZONE CONTROL**



CAUTION: 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.

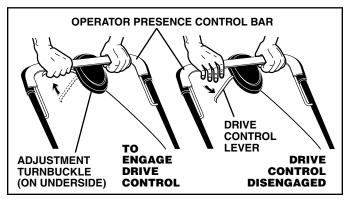
• Your lawn mower is equipped with an operator presence control bar which requires the operator to be positioned behind the mower handle to start and operate the mower.

## **DRIVE CONTROL (See Fig. 3)**

- Self-propelling is controlled by holding the operator presence control bar down to the handle and pulling the drive control lever rearward to the handle. The farther toward the handle the lever is pulled, the faster the unit will travel.
- Forward motion will stop when either the operator presence control bar or drive control lever are released. To stop forward motion without stopping engine, release the drive control lever only. Hold operator presence control bar down against handle to continue mowing without self-propelling.

**NOTE:** If after releasing the drive control the mower will not roll backwards, push the mower forward slightly to disengage drive wheels.

• To keep drive control engaged when turning corners, push down on the handle to lift the front wheels off the ground while turning lawn mower.





# DRIVE CONTROL ADJUSTMENT (See Fig. 3)

Over time, the drive control system may become "loose", resulting in decreased speed. There is a turnbuckle on the underside of the drive control housing to increase tension on the drive cable. Proceed as follows:

- 1. Turn unit off and disconnect spark plug wire from plug.
- 2. Turn nut on underside of drive control to increase drive speed.
- 3. Operate mower to test drive speed. Readjust as required.
- 4. If condition fails to improve after the above steps (forward speed remains the same), your drive belt is worn and should be replaced.

# TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT (See Fig. 4)

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.

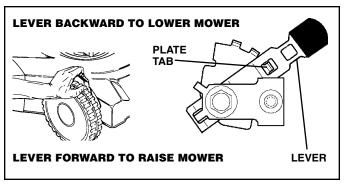


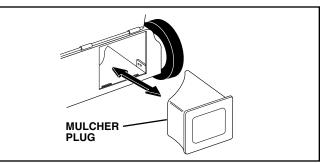
FIG. 4

## TO CONVERT MOWER

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

REAR BAGGING (See Fig. 5)

- Open rear door and remove mulcher plug. Store mulcher plug in a safe place.
- You can now install the grass catcher or optional clipping deflector.
- To convert to mulching or discharging operation, install mulcher plug into rear discharge opening of mower.



#### SIDE DISCHARGING (See Fig. 6)

- Mulcher plug must be installed into rear discharge opening of mower.
- Open mulcher door and install discharge deflector under door as shown.
- Mower is now ready for discharging operation.
- To convert to mulching or bagging operation, discharge deflector must be removed and mulcher door closed.

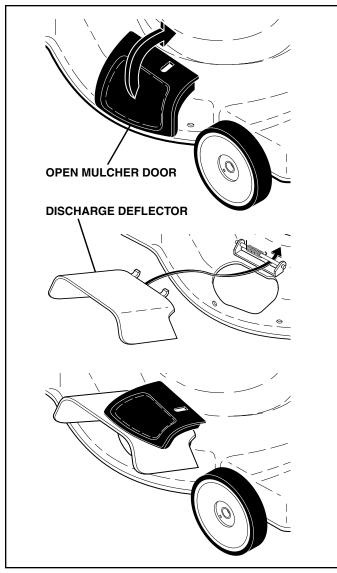


FIG. 6

#### SIMPLE STEPS TO REMEMBER WHEN CONVERTING YOUR LAWN MOWER:

- FOR MULCHING -
- 1. Mulcher plug installed.
- 2. Mulcher door closed.
  - FOR REAR BAGGING -
  - 1. Mulcher plug removed.
  - 2. Grass catcher installed.
  - 3. Mulcher door closed.
    - FOR SIDE DISCHARGING -
    - 1. Mulcher plug installed.
    - 2. Discharge deflector installed. 7



CAUTION: Do not run your lawn mower without mulcher plug 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 (See Fig. 7)

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

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

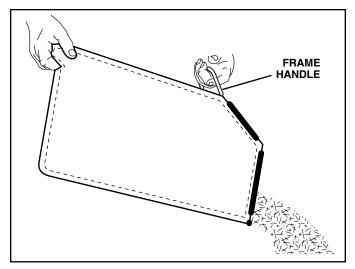


FIG. 7

## BEFORE STARTING ENGINE ADD OIL (See Fig. 8)

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.

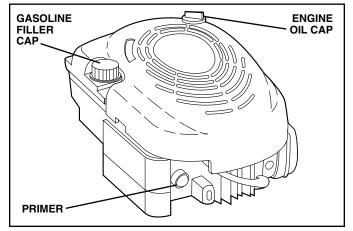


# CAUTION: DO NOT overfill engine with oil, or it will smoke on startup.

- 1. Be sure lawnmower is level.
- 2. Remove oil dipstick from oil fill spout.
- 3. Engine holds 20 ounces of oil. For type and grade of oil to use, see "ENGINE" in the Maintenance section of this manual.
- 4. Pour oil slowly. Do not overfill. Wait one minute to allow oil to settle. Insert and tighten dipstick, then remove it to check oil level.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- 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. See "TO CHANGE EN-GINE OIL" in the Maintenance section of this manual.



#### **FIG. 8**

#### ADD GASOLINE (See Fig. 8)

• 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 freshness.

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

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. Empty 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 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.

#### **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.

- 1. 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. Hold operator presence control bar down to the handle and pull starter handle quickly. Do not allow starter rope to snap back.

#### **MOWING TIPS**



CAUTION: Do not use de-thatcher blade attachments on your mower. Such attachments are hazardous, will damage yourmowerandcouldvoidyourwarranty.

- 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.
- 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 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 biode-grade 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, yet the newly cut area will not be exposed to direct sunlight.
- 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 (See Fig. 9). 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 mulching, reduce your width of cut by overlapping previously cut path and mow slowly.



#### **FIG. 9**

- 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 (perpendicular) to the first cut path.
- Change your cutting pattern from week to week. Mow north-south one week, then change to east-west the next week. This helps prevent matting/graining of lawn.

# MAINTENANCE

	MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE	BEFORE EACH USE	AFTER EACH USE	EVERY 10 HOURS	EVERY 25 HOURS OR SEASON	EVERY 100 HOURS	BEFORE STORAGE
	Check for Loose Fasteners	~					<b>~</b>
ľ	Clean / Inspect Grass Catcher *	~	<b>v</b>				<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Ŵ	Check Tires	~					
ĪŇ	Check Drive Wheels ***	<b>~</b>					
<b>—</b>	Clean Lawn Mower ****		<b>/</b>				<b>~</b>
Μ	Clean under Drive Cover ***			<b>/</b>			
0	Check Drive Belt / Pulleys ***				<b>~</b>		
E	Check / Sharpen / Replace Blade				✔3		
Ī	Lubrication				<b>~</b>		
<b>•••</b>	Clean and Recharge Battery **				<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>		✔4
	Check Engine Oil level	✓5					
Ε	Change Engine Oil				1,2		
N	Clean Air Filter				✓2		
G	Inspect Muffler				<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>		
I.	Replace Spark Plug					~	
E	Replace Air Filter Paper Cartridge					<b>V</b> 2	
	Empty fuel system or add Stabilizer						<b>/</b>

\* (if so equipped)

- 1 Change more often if operating under a heavy load or in high outdoor temperatures.
- **\*\*** Electric-Start mowers
- \*\*\* Power-Propelled mowers
- 2 Service more often if operating in dirty or dusty conditions.
- 3 Replace blades more often when mowing in sandy soil.
- \*\*\*\* Use a scraper to clean under deck
- 4 Charge 48 hours at end of season. 5 - And after each 5 hours of use.

# 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.

At least once a season, check to see if you should make any of the adjustments described in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.

- At least once a year, replace the spark plug, clean or 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**

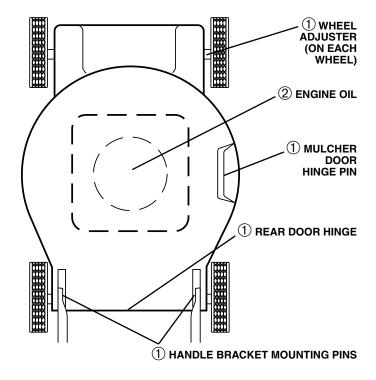
- Check engine oil level. 1.
- Check for loose fasteners. 2.

#### LUBRICATION

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

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 LUBRIĆANT SPARINGLY.

# LUBRICATION CHART



**1** SPRAY LUBRICANT

9 **(2) SEE "ENGINE" IN MAINTENANCE SECTION** 

# MAINTENANCE

# LAWN MOWER

Always observe safety rules when performing 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.

## **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.

- 1. Remove hubcaps, locknuts and washers.
- 2. Remove wheels from wheel adjusters.
- 3. 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 qualified service center.

## **BLADE CARE**

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



CAUTION: Use only a replacement blade approved by the manufacturer of your mower. Using a blade not approved by the manufacturer of your mower is hazardous, could damage your mower and void your warranty.

TO REMOVE BLADE (See Fig. 10)

- 1. Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with plug.
- 2. Turn lawn mower on its side. Make sure air filter and carburetor are up.
- 3. 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.

- 4. Remove blade bolt by turning counter-clockwise.
- 5. 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 (See Fig. 10)

- 1. Position the blade adapter on the engine crankshaft. Be sure key in adapter and crankshaft keyway are aligned.
- 2. Position the 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.
- 4. Install the blade bolt with the lock washer and hardened washer into blade adapter and crankshaft.
- 5. 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 HEATTREATED. IF BOLT NEEDS REPLACING, REPLACE ONLY WITH APPROVED BOLT SHOWN IN THE REPAIR PARTS SECTION OF THIS MANUAL.

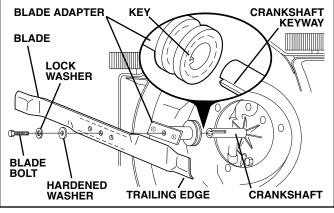


FIG. 10

#### 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.

#### **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 ELF Multis EP00. Do not substitute.

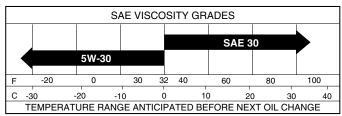
#### **GRASS CATCHER**

- 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 approved replacement catcher shown in the Repair Parts section of this manual. Give the mower model number when ordering.

# MAINTENANCE

# ENGINE LUBRICATION

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



NOTE: Multi-viscosity oils (5W30, 10W30 etc.) improve starting in cold weather, and you should check your engine oil level 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 (See Fig. 11)

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

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place 1. wire where it cannot come in contact with plug.
- 2. Remove engine oil cap; lay aside on a clean surface.
- З. 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 mower or side of engine.

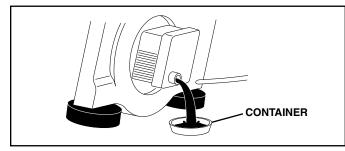


FIG. 11

- Slowly pour oil down the oil fill spout, stopping every 5. few ounces to check the oil level with the dipstick.
- Stop adding oil when you reach the FULL mark on the 6. dipstick. Wait a minute to allow oil to settle.
- Continue adding small amounts of oil, rechecking the 7. dipstick until oil level settles at FULL. DO NOT overfill, or engine will smoke heavily from the muffler on startup.
- Alwaysbesuretoretightendipstickbeforestartingengine. 8.
- 9. Reconnect spark plug wire to spark plug.

## AIR FILTER (See Fig. 12)

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

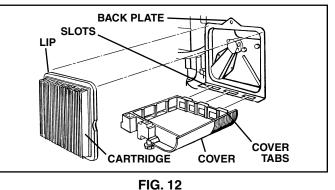
#### TO CLEAN AIR FILTER

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



CAUTION: 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 4. 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 the "PRODUCT SPECIFIC ATIONS" 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.



CAUTION: Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with 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/wheels free of 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. 11

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS



#### CAUTION: TO AVOID SERIOUS INJURY, BEFORE PERFORMING ANY SERVICE OR ADJUSTMENTS:

- 1. Release control bar and stop engine.
- Make sure the blade and all moving parts have completely stopped. 2. 3.
  - Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place where it cannot come in contact with plug.

## LAWN MOWER TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT

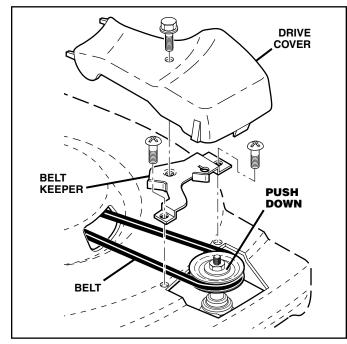
See "TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT" in the Operation section of this manual.

## **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's mowing position. If the deflector becomes damaged, it should be replaced.

#### TO REMOVE DRIVE BELT (See Fig. 13)

- Remove drive cover and belt keeper. 1.
- Remove belt from gearcase pulley by pushing down 2. on pulley and rolling belt off it.
- Turn lawn mower on its side with air filter and carburetor 3. down.
- Remove blade and debris shield. 4.
- 5. Remove belt from engine pulley on crankshaft.



**FIG. 13** TO REPLACE DRIVE BELT (See Fig. 13)

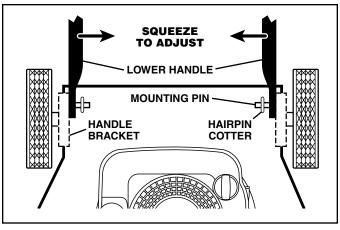
- Install new belt on engine pulley. 1.
- 2. Reinstall debris shield and blade.
- 3. Return mower to upright position.
- 4. Install new belt on gearcase pulley.
- Reinstall belt keeper and drive cover. 5.

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

#### TO ADJUST HANDLE (See Figs. 14 thru 16)

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.

- Remove upper handle and all wire tie(s) securing 1. cable(s) to lower handle.
- 2. Remove hairpin cotters from lower handle bracket mounting pin.
- Squeeze lower handle in to remove from mounting pins. 3.
- 4. Turn lower handle over to raise or lower handle.
- 5. Squeeze lower handle in and position holes onto mounting pins on handle bracket.
- 6. Reassemble upper handle and all parts removed from lower handle.





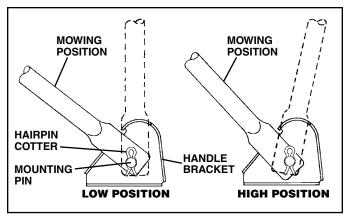


FIG. 15

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

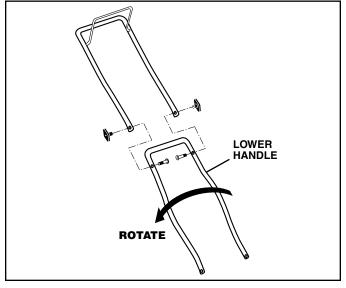


FIG. 16

#### 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 authorized 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 authorized service center for repair and/or adjustment.

**IMPORTANT:** NEVERTAMPERWITHTHEENGINE 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 YOUR NEAREST SEARS OR OTHER AUTHORIZED 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.

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

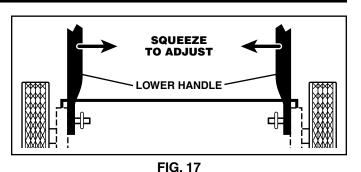
## HANDLE (See Figs. 17 and 18)

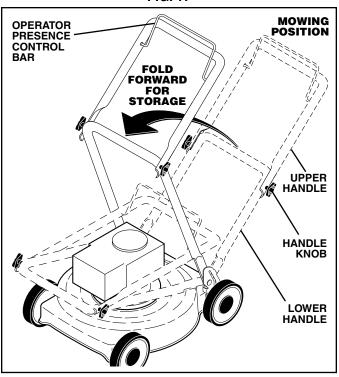
You can fold your lawn mower handle for storage.

- 1. Squeeze the bottom ends of the lower handle toward each other until the lower handle clears the handle bracket, then move handle forward.
- 2. 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 mowing position.





# STORAGE

## 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. 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.

- Empty the fuel tank by starting the engine and letting 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 empty 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 one ounce (29 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 give protection 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.

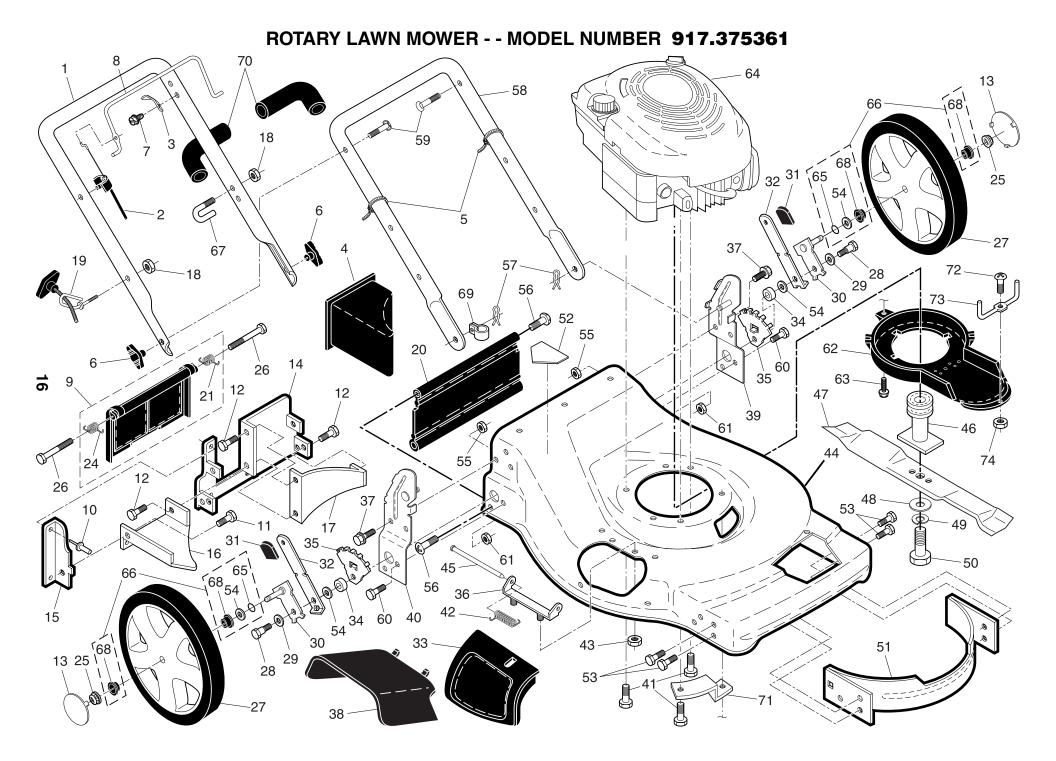
**IMPORTANT**: NEVER COVER MOWER WHILE ENGINE AND EXHAUST AREAS ARE STILL WARM.



CAUTION: 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 POINTS**

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Does not start	<ol> <li>Dirty air filter.</li> <li>Out of fuel.</li> <li>Stale fuel.</li> <li>Water in fuel.</li> <li>Spark plug wire is disconnected.</li> <li>Bad spark plug.</li> <li>Loose blade or broken blade adapter.</li> <li>Control bar in released position.</li> <li>Control bar defective.</li> <li>Fuel valve lever (if equipped) in OFF position.</li> <li>Weak battery (if equipped).</li> <li>Disconnected battery connector (if equipped).</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Clean/replace air filter.</li> <li>Fill fuel tank.</li> <li>Empty fuel tank and refill tank with fresh, clean gasoline.</li> <li>Empty fuel tank and refill tank with fresh, clean gasoline.</li> <li>Connect wire to plug.</li> <li>Replace spark plug.</li> <li>Tighten blade bolt or replace blade adapter.</li> <li>Depress control bar to handle.</li> <li>Replace control bar.</li> <li>Turn fuel valve lever to the ON position.</li> <li>Charge battery.</li> <li>Connect battery to engine.</li> </ol>
Loss of power	<ol> <li>Rear of lawn mower housing or cutting blade dragging in heavy grass.</li> <li>Cutting too much grass.</li> <li>Dirty air filter.</li> <li>Buildup of grass, leaves and trash under mower.</li> <li>Too much oil in engine.</li> <li>Walking speed too fast.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Raise cutting height.</li> <li>Raise cutting height.</li> <li>Clean/replace air filter.</li> <li>Clean underside of mower housing.</li> <li>Check oil level.</li> <li>Cut at slower walking speed.</li> </ol>
Poor cut – uneven	<ol> <li>Worn, bent or loose blade.</li> <li>Wheel heights uneven.</li> <li>Buildup of grass, leaves and trash under mower.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt.</li> <li>Set all wheels at same height.</li> <li>Clean underside of mower housing.</li> </ol>
Excessive vibration	<ol> <li>Worn, bent or loose blade.</li> <li>Bent engine crankshaft.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt.</li> <li>Contact a Sears Parts &amp; Repair center.</li> </ol>
Starter rope hard to pull	<ol> <li>Engine flywheel brake is on when control bar is released.</li> <li>Bent engine crankshaft.</li> <li>Blade adapter broken.</li> <li>Blade dragging in grass.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Depress control bar to upper handle before pulling starter rope.</li> <li>Contact a Sears Parts &amp; Repair center.</li> <li>Replace blade adapter.</li> <li>Move lawn mower to cut grass or other hard surface before starting.</li> </ol>
Grass catcher not filling (if so equipped)	<ol> <li>Cutting height too low.</li> <li>Lift on blade worn off.</li> <li>Catcher not venting air.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Raise cutting height.</li> <li>Replace blade.</li> <li>Clean grass catcher.</li> </ol>
Hard to push	<ol> <li>Grass is too high or wheel height is too low.</li> <li>Rear of lawn mower housing or cutting blade dragging in heavy grass.</li> <li>Grass catcher too full.</li> <li>Handle height position not right for you.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Raise cutting height.</li> <li>Raise rear of lawn mower housing one (1) setting higher.</li> <li>Empty grass catcher.</li> <li>Adjust handle height to suit.</li> </ol>
Loss of drive or slowing of drive speed	<ol> <li>Belt wear.</li> <li>Belt off of pulley.</li> <li>Drive cable worn or broken.</li> <li>"Loose" drive control system.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Check/replace drive belt.</li> <li>Check/reinstall drive belt.</li> <li>Replace drive cable.</li> <li>Adjust drive control.</li> </ol>

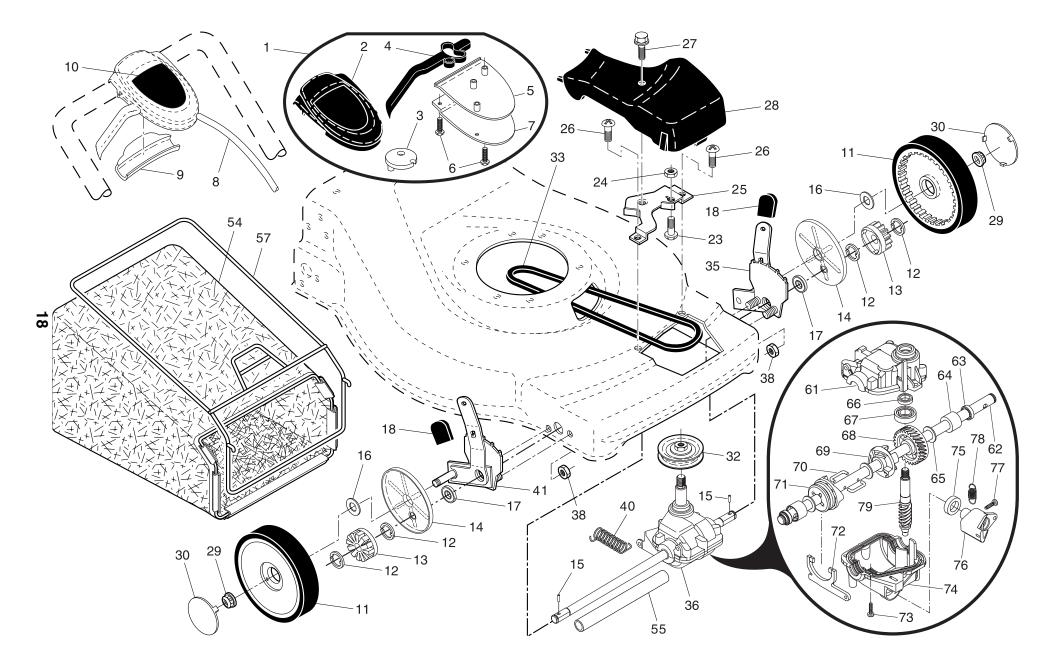


## ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NUMBER 917.375361

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	189740	Upper Handle (Includes Foam Grip)	41	150406	Bolt, Hex Head, Engine 3/8-16
2	183567	Engine Zone Control Cable	42	193000	Spring, Torsion
3	125162	Bracket, Upstop	43	73800400	Nut, Hex, Nylock
4	166649	Mulcher Plug	44	169398	Kit, Lawn Mower Housing
5	66426	Wire Tie			(Includes Key Numbers 14, 15 and 51)
6	191856	Handle Knob	45	175650	Rod, Hinge
7	750634	Screw	46	194037	Blade Adapter / Pulley
8	190620	Control Bar	47	141114	Blade, 22"
9	193679	Rear Door Assembly (Includes Springs)	48	851074	Washer, Hardened
10	128415	Pop Rivet	49	850263	Washer, Helical
11	150050	Screw, SelfTapping #10-24 x 5/8	50	851084	Screw, Machine, Hex Head 3/8-24 x 1-3/8 Grade 8
12	54583	Screw, Hex Hex Head, Sems 1/4-20 x 1/2	51	170031	Front Baffle
13	180626	Hubcap	52	107339	Danger Decal
14	197076	Back Plate	53	17600406	Screw
15	138860	Side Baffle	54	88348	Washer, Flat
16	177133	Discharge Baffle	55	751592	Nut, Hex 3/816
17	148941	Rear Baffle	56	8 8652	Screw, Hinge 1/4-20 x 11/4
18	132004	Keps Locknut 1/4-20	57	51793	Hairpin Cotter
19	179585	Rope Guide	58	153406	Lower Handle
20	189008	Rear Skirt	59	191574	Handle Bolt
21	170938	Spring, Rear Door, LH	60	74760612	Bolt, Hex Head
24	170939	Spring, Rear Door, RH	61	751592	Nut
25	83923	Nut, Hex, Flanged	62	197153	Debris Shield
26	184193	Bolt, Rear Door	63	192325	Screw, Debris Shield
27	150339	Wheel, Rear	64		Engine, Briggs & Stratton, Model No. 123K02-0498-E1
28	142748	Bolt, Shoulder 3/8-16 x 1			(For engine service and replacement parts,
29	62335	Washer, Belleville			call Briggs & Stratton at 1-800-233-3723)
30	149857	Axle Arm Assembly	65	188152	O-Ring
31	196401	Selector Knob	66	193498	Kit, Bushing, High Wheel
32	141730	Selector Spring	67	195504	Clip, Packaging
33	197029	Mulcher Door	68	193028X428	Bushing, Nylon, Black
34	146630	Spacer	69	192770	Clip, Cable
35	140996	Wheel Adjusting Bracket	70	182748	Foam Grip
36	175735	Hinge Bracket Assembly	71	190939	Mounting Bracket, Debris Shield
37	150078	Screw, Sems, Thread Cutting 5/16-18 x 3/4	72	182227	Screw #8
38	197030	Discharge Deflector	73	197162	Belt Keeper
39	197028	Handle Bracket Assembly, LH	74	182228	Nut, Hex
40	197029	Handle Bracket Assembly, RH		162300	Warning Decal (not shown)
				196860	Owner's Manual, English / French

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches. 1 inch = 25.4 mm **IMPORTANT:** Use only Original Equipment Manufacturer (O.E.M.) replacement parts. Failure to do so could be hazardous, damage your lawn mower and void your warranty.

## ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NUMBER 917.375361



## ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NUMBER 917.375361

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	197194	Drive Control Assembly (Includes Cable)	35	195110	Kit, Wheel Adjuster, LH
2	195761	Cover, Drive Control, Top			(Includes Knob and Bearing)
3	187353	Pulley	36	191636	Gear Case Assembly, Complete
4	190039	Lever, Drive Control	38	73800400	Locknut, Hex 1/4-20
5	195762	Cover, Drive Control, Bottom	40	192849	Spring
6	186198	Screw, Torx Head #8 x 5/8	41	195107	Kit, Wheel Adjuster, RH
7	187097	Mounting Bracket, Drive Control			(Includes Knob and Bearing)
8	197195	Cable, Drive Control	54	196396	Grassbag Assembly
9	186297	Cap, Drive Control, Bottom	55	86012	Driveshaft Cover
10	189074	Decal, Drive Control	57	189680	Frame, Grassbag
11	180775	Wheel & Tire Assembly	61	196886	Case, Upper
12	12000058	E-Ring	62	197057	Shaft, Output
13	750003	Gear, Pinion	63	183508	Seal, Output Shaft
14	189403	Dust Cover	64	183511	Bushing
15	191017	Pawl, Drive	65	183509	Washer
16	67725	Washer, Flat 3/8	66	183514	Seal, Worm Shaft
17	191039	Bearing, Wheel Adjuster	67	183506	Bearing, Ball
18	196401	Selector Knob	68	183499	Gear, 27 Teeth
23	88652	Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4	69	196884	Fixed Dog Clutch
24	751152	Nut, Hex, Flanged	70	183505	Wireform
25	197386	Belt Guide Bracket	71	196883	Movable Dog Clutch
26	188040	Screw	72	196882	Fork
27	175262	Pan Head Tapping Screw #10-24 x 2-3/4	73	183513	Screw, Case
28	197333	Drive Cover	74	196881	Case, Lower
29	145212	Locknut, Hex	75	196880	Seal, Lever
30	180626	Hubcap	76	196879	Lever
32	194018	Drive Pulley	77	196878	Screw, Lever
33	196857	V-Belt	78	196877	Spring
			79	183502	Shaft, Worm

# LIMITED TWO YEAR WARRANTY ON POWER MOWER

For two years from date of purchase, when this Lawn Mower is maintained, lubricated, and tuned up according to the operating and maintenance instructions in the owner's manual, Sears will repair free of charge any defect in material or workmanship.

If this Lawn Mower is used for commercial or rental purposes, this warranty applies for only 90 days from the date of purchase.

This Warranty does not cover:

- 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 Lawn Mower to the nearest Sears Parts & Repair Center in the United States. This warranty applies only while this product is used in the United States.

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

Sears, Roebuck And Co., D/817 WA, Hoffman Estates, II 60179