

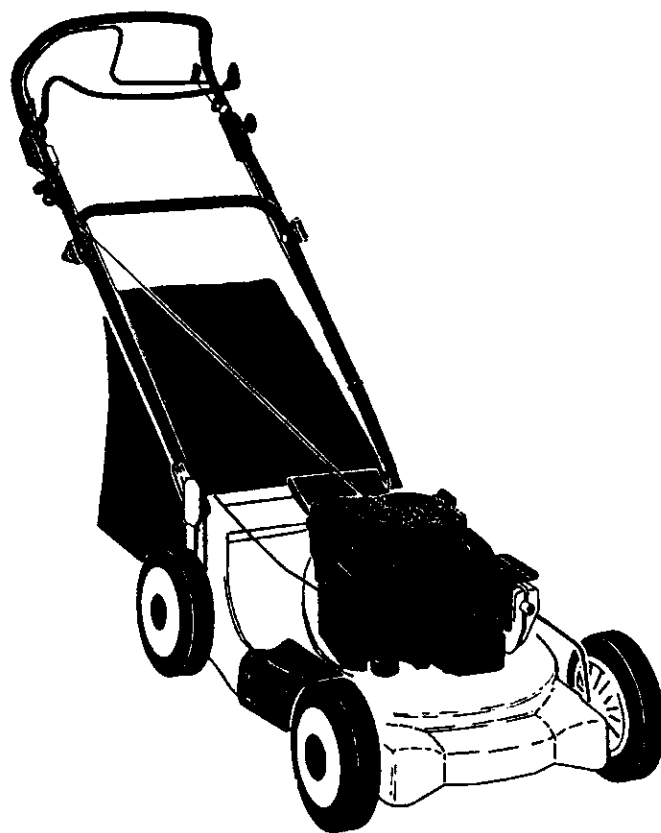
Owner's Manual

CRAFTSMAN®

**6.5 HORSEPOWER
21" MULTI-CUT
POWER PROPELLED
ROTARY LAWN MOWER**

Model No.
917.377800

- **Safety**
- **Assembly**
- **Operation**
- **Maintenance**
- **Español**
- **Repair Parts**



CAUTION:

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

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179
Visit our Craftsman website: www.sears.com/craftsman

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WARRANTY

LIMITED TWO YEAR WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN POWER MOWER

For two years from date of purchase, when this Craftsman 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 Craftsman 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 Craftsman power mower to the nearest Sears Service Center/Department in the United States. This warranty applies only while this product is in use 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, ILLINOIS 60179

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.

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.
- Do not operate the mower with 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.

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. 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.

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

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




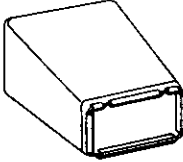
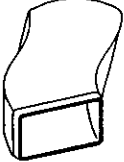
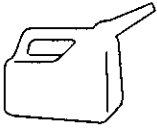
⚠WARNING: Engine exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

⚠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.**


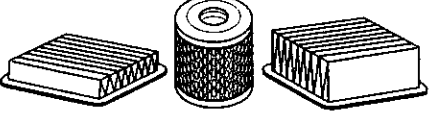


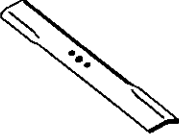
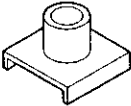


ACCESSORIES

These accessories were available when this lawn mower was produced. **They are not shipped with your mower.** They are also available at most Sears retail outlets and service centers. Most Sears stores can also order repair parts for you, when you provide the model number of your lawn mower. Some of these accessories may not apply to your lawn mower.

LAWN MOWER PERFORMANCE

 CLIPPING DEFLECTOR FOR REAR DISCHARGE LAWN MOWERS	 MULCHER KITS	 STABILIZER
 GRASS CATCHERS FOR REAR DISCHARGE LAWN MOWERS	 GRASS CATCHERS FOR SIDE DISCHARGE LAWN MOWERS	 GAS CANS

LAWN MOWER MAINTENANCE

 MUFFLERS		 AIR FILTERS		 SPARK PLUGS
 BELTS	 BLADES	 BLADE ADAPTERS	 WHEELS	 ENGINE OIL

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 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. 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. All parts such as nuts, washers, bolts, etc., necessary to complete the assembly have been placed in the parts bag.

TO REMOVE LAWN MOWER FROM CARTON

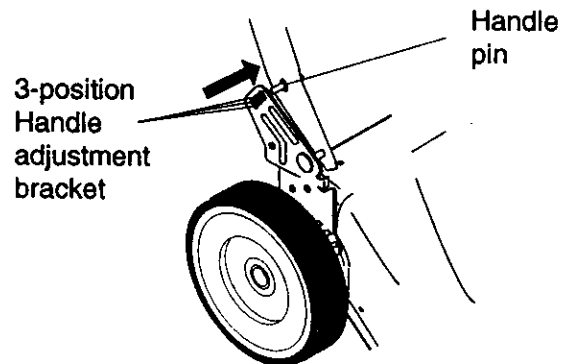
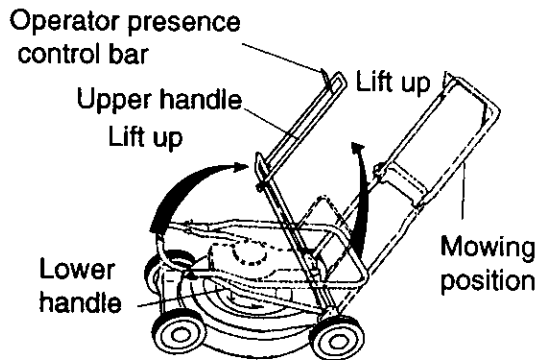
- Remove loose parts included with mower.
- Cut down two end corners of carton and lay end panel down flat.
- Remove all packing materials except padding between upper and lower handle and padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.
- Roll lawn mower out of carton and check carton 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 lower handle section to operating position and squeeze the bottom ends of lower handle towards each other until the pin in handle can be inserted into one of the three height adjustment holes.
- Remove protective padding, raise upper handle section into place on lower handle and tighten both handle knobs.
- Remove any packing material from around control bar.
- Your handles may be adjusted for your mowing comfort. Refer to Service and Adjustments section of this manual.



TO INSTALL ATTACHMENTS

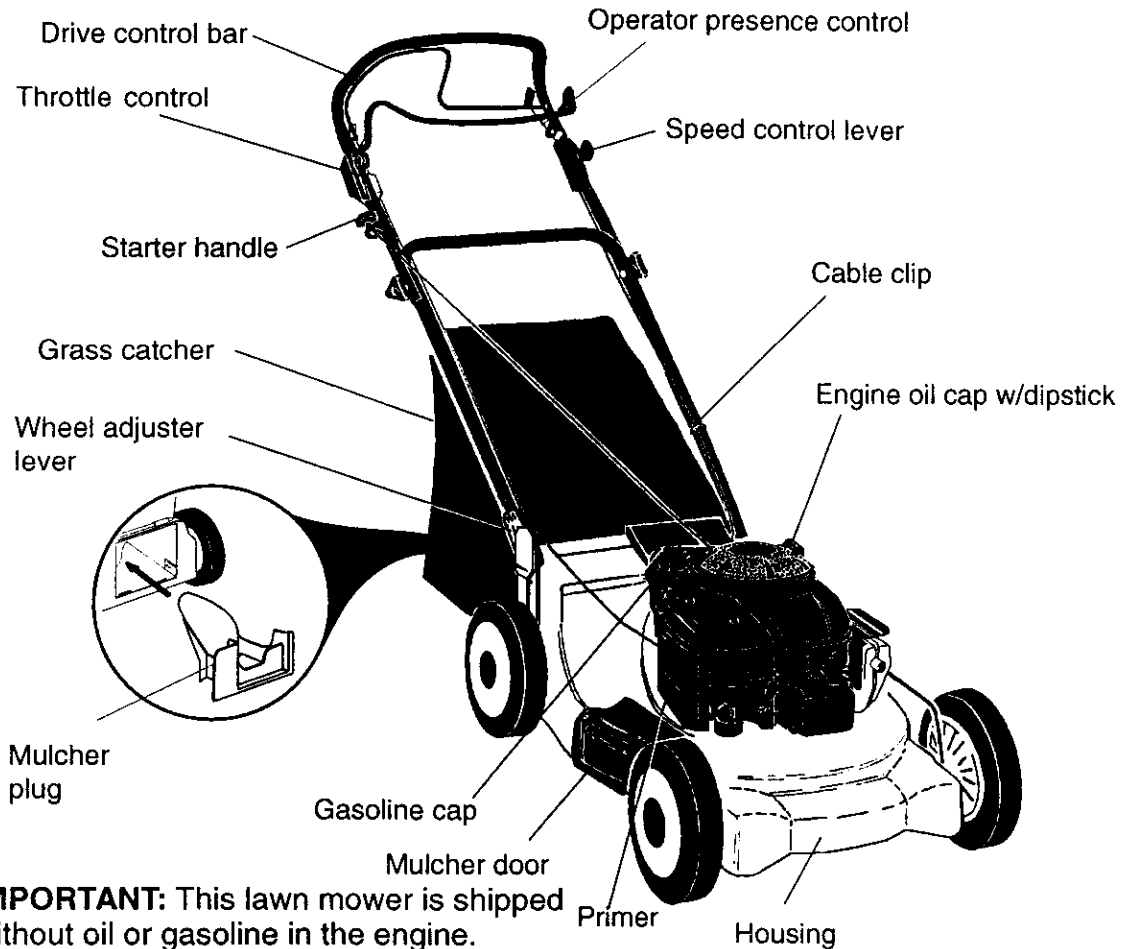
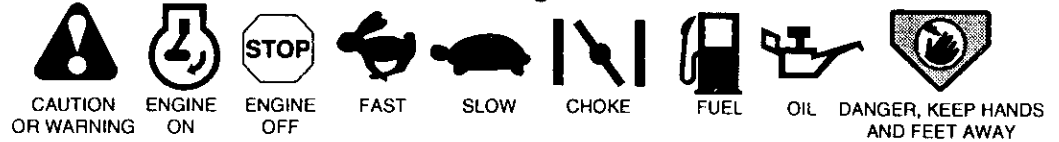
Your lawn mower was shipped ready to be used as a mulcher. To convert to bagging or discharging; See OPERATION section of this manual.

OPERATION

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

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 - 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 the engine.

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

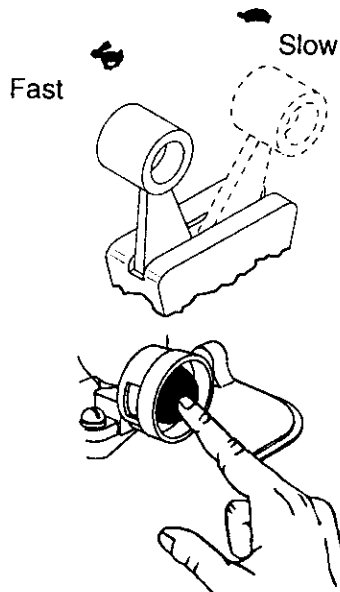
Mulcher plug - Located at the rear discharge opening must be removed when converting to bagging operation.



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 a wide vision safety mask over spectacles or standard safety glasses.

HOW TO USE YOUR LAWN MOWER ENGINE SPEED

The engine speed is controlled by a throttle 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

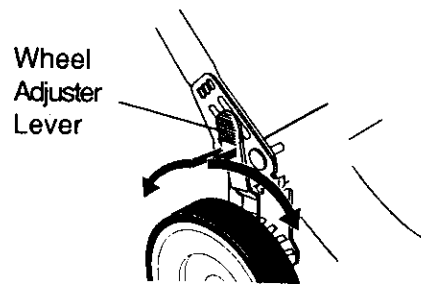
CAUTION: Federal regulations require an engine control to be installed on this lawn mower in order to minimize the risk of blade contact injury. Do not under any circumstances attempt to defeat the function of the operator control. The blade turns when the engine is running.

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

TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT

- All four wheels are adjusted by a single lever.
- Pull adjuster lever toward wheel. To raise mower, move lever forward to desired position. To lower mower, move the lever toward the rear.

Lower Wheels for high cut



Raise Wheels for low cut GROUND DRIVE SPEEDS

Your lawn mower provides multiple speeds to let you select the speed that suits you best.

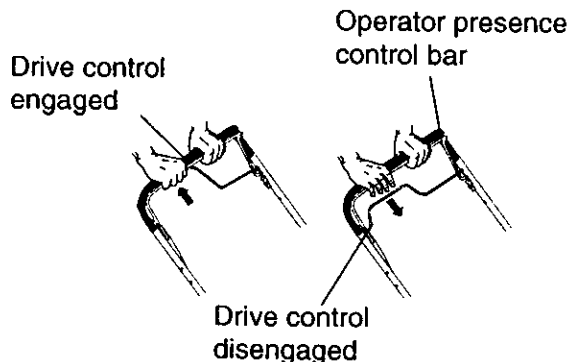
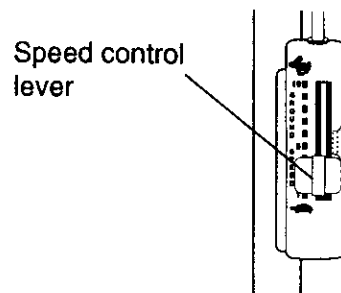
- Lower speeds are for slow, heavy/thick grass cutting or trimming.
- Medium speeds are for normal grass cutting or trimming.
- High is for light cutting and for ground transport.

NOTE: Do not move speed control lever unless the engine is running

TO OPERATE DRIVE SYSTEM

- With engine running, select ground speed by moving speed control lever to desired position.
- To start forward motion, pull drive control bar back against handle.
- To stop forward motion, release drive control bar.

IMPORTANT: Always keep drive control bar fully engaged against handle when in use.



TO CONVERT MOWER

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

REAR BAGGING-

- Open rear door and remove mulcher plug. Store mulcher plug in a safe place.
- To convert to mulching or discharging operation, install mulcher plug into rear discharge opening of mower.

SIDE DISCHARGING-

- Rear door must be closed.
- Open mulcher door and install discharge deflector under guard as shown.
- Mower is now ready for discharging operation.
- To convert to mulching or bagging operation, discharge deflector must be removed and mulcher door must be closed.

SIMPLE STEPS TO REMEMBER

WHEN CONVERTING YOUR LAWN MOWER

FOR MULCHING -

- Rear mulcher plug installed.
- Mulcher door closed.

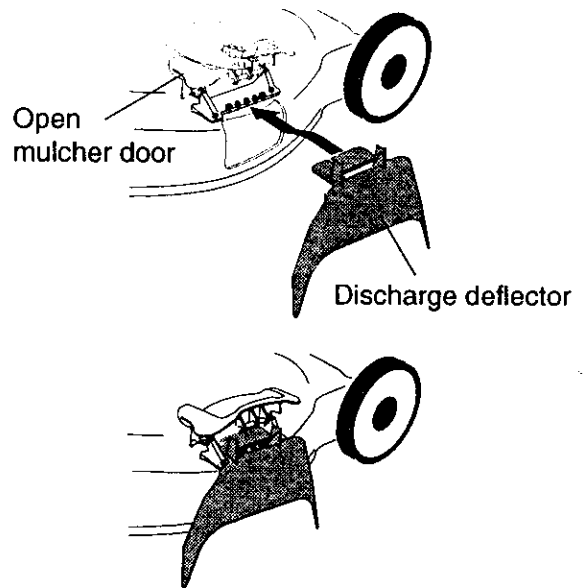
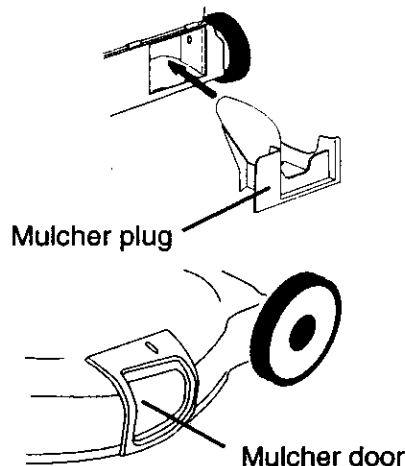
FOR REAR BAGGING -

- Rear mulcher plug removed.
- Grass catcher installed.
- Mulcher door closed.

FOR SIDE DISCHARGING -

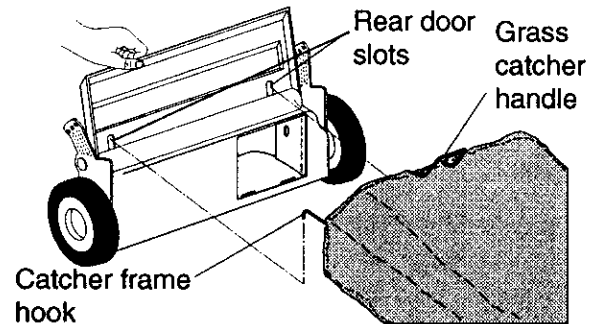
- Rear mulcher plug installed.
- Side discharge deflector installed.

CAUTION: Do not run your lawn mower without rear mulcher plug in place or approved grass catcher in place. Never attempt to operate the lawn mower with the rear door removed or propped open.



TO ATTACH GRASS CATCHER

- Lift the rear door of the lawn mower and place the grass catcher frame hooks into the slots of the rear door.
- The grass catcher is secured to the lawn mower housing when the rear door is lowered onto the grass catcher frame.

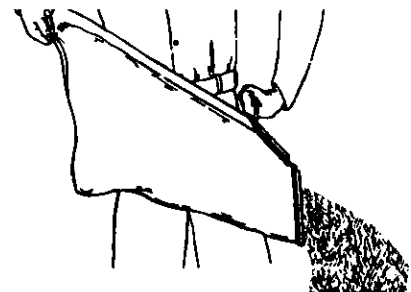


CAUTION: Do not run your lawn mower without rear mulcher plug or approved grass catcher in place. Never attempt to operate the lawn mower with the rear door removed or propped open.

TO EMPTY GRASS CATCHER

- Lift up on grass catcher using the frame handle.
- Remove grass catcher with clippings from under lawn mower handle.
- 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

OIL

Your lawn mower is shipped without oil in the engine.

- Be sure mower is level and area around oil fill is clean.
- Remove engine oil cap and fill to the full line on the dipstick.

NOTE: Allow oil to settle down into engine for accurate reading.

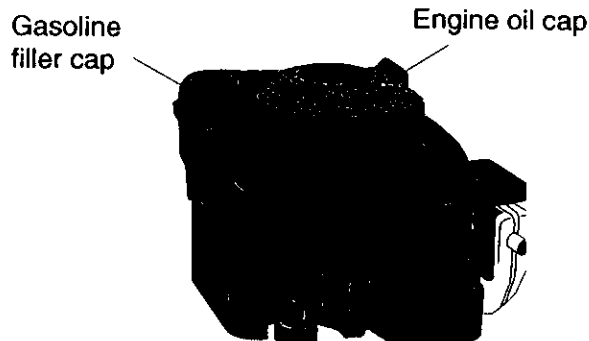
- Engine holds 20 ozs. of oil. For type and grade of oil to use, see "ENGINE" in maintenance section of this manual.
- Pour oil slowly. Do not over fill.
- Check oil level before each use. Add oil if needed. Fill to full line on dipstick.
- To read proper level, tighten engine oil cap each time.
- Reinstall engine oil cap and tighten.
- 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. Use fresh, clean, regular unleaded gasoline with a minimum of 87 octane (Use of leaded gasoline will increase carbon and lead oxide deposits and reduce valve life). Do not mix oil with gasoline. Purchase fuel in quantities that can be used within 30 days to assure fuel freshness.

⚠WARNING: Experience indicates that 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 fuel tank, start the engine and let it run until 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 fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.

⚠CAUTION: Fill to bottom of gas tank filler neck. Do not overfill. Wipe off any spilled oil or fuel. Do not store, spill or use gasoline near an open flame.



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.
- 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, 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.

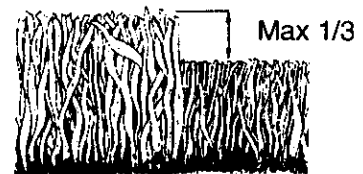
MOWING TIPS

- 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.
- 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 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 mulching, 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.



PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

SERIAL NUMBER	
DATE OF PURCHASE	
GASOLINE CAPACITY/ TYPE:	1.6 QUARTS
UNLEADED REGULAR	
OIL TYPE (API-SF/SG/SH):	SAE 30 (ABOVE 32°F) SAE 5W-30 (BELOW 32°F)
OIL CAPACITY:	20 OZS.
SPARK PLUG(GAP: .030")	CHAMPION RJ19LM or J19LM
VALVE CLEARANCE:	INTAKE: .004 - .008 EXHAUST: .004 - .008
BLADE BOLT TORQUE:	35-40 FT. LBS.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The model and serial numbers will be found on a decal attached to the rear of the lawn mower housing. Record both serial number and date of purchase in space provided above. 	

LAWNMOWER

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.
- 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.
- Protect your hands with gloves and/or wrap blade with heavy cloth.
- Remove blade bolt by turning counter-clockwise.
- 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.
- 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.

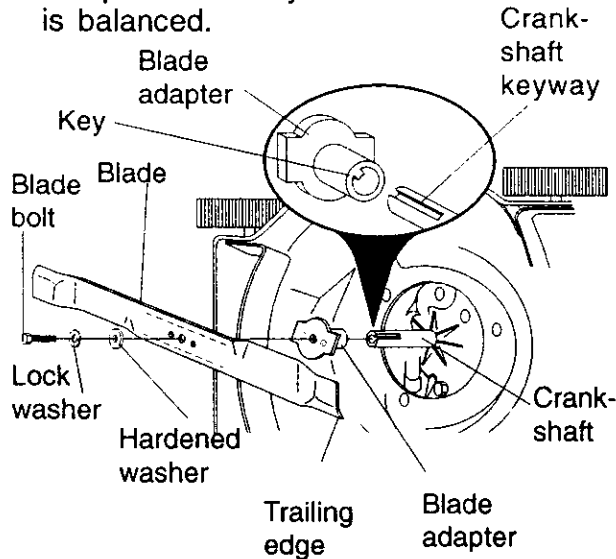
IMPORTANT: BLADE BOLT IS GRADE 8 HEAT TREATED.

TO SHARPEN BLADE

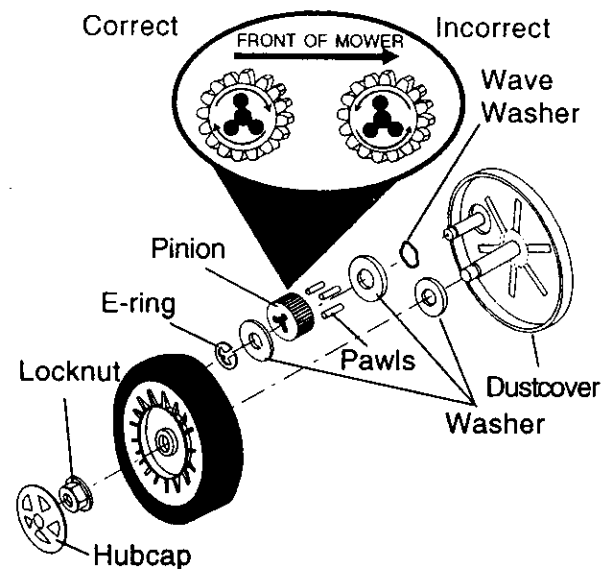
NOTE: We do not recommend sharpening blade - but if you do, be sure the blade is balanced.

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.



- If you remove the drive pinions, wipe clean with dry cloth. Reassemble dry. Do not lubricate. Do not use oil or grease.
- The pinion gear, on both sides of the mower, are the same, however, they must be installed correctly. If installed incorrectly, the drive system will not work.
- There are arrows embossed on both sides of the pinion gear. With the arrow at the top of the pinion, the arrow must point towards front of mower. If the arrow points to the rear, turn the pinion around and assemble to mower.
- Place wheels back on adjuster axles.
- Replace locknuts and hubcaps.



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.

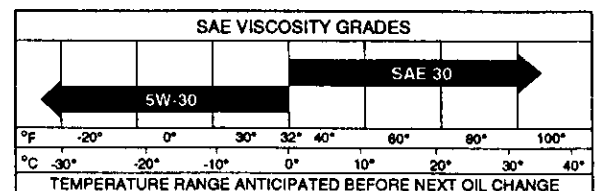
DRIVE WHEELS

Check rear drive wheels each time you mow to be sure they move freely. The wheels not turning freely means trash, grass cuttings, etc., may be inside the drive wheel and dust cover area and must be cleaned out to free drive wheels. If necessary to clean the drive wheels, check both rear wheels.

- Remove hubcaps and locknuts.
- Remove wheels from wheel adjuster axles.
- Remove any trash or grass cuttings from inside the dust cover, pinion and/ or drive wheel gear teeth.

ENGINE LUBRICATION

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



NOTE: Although multi-viscosity oils (5W/30, 10W/30 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.

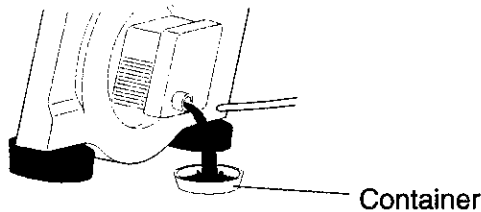
Change the oil after every 25 hours of operation or at least once a year if the lawn mower is not used for 25 hours in one year.

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.
- Wipe off any spilled oil on lawn mower and on side of engine.
- Fill engine with oil. Fill only to the "FULL" line on the dipstick. **DO NOT OVER FILL.**
- Replace engine oil cap.
- Reconnect spark plug wire to spark plug.



AIR FILTER

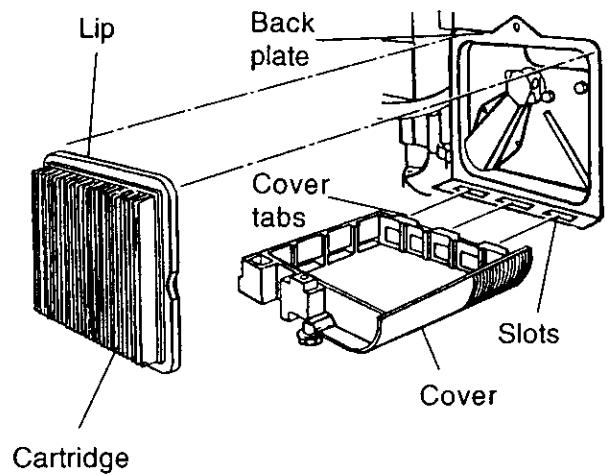
Your engine will not run properly and may be damaged by using a dirty air filter. Replace the air filter every year, more often if you mow in very dusty, dirty conditions.

TO CLEAN AIR FILTER

- Loosen screw and tilt cover to remove.
- Carefully remove cartridge.
- 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 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

Change your spark plug each year to make your engine start easier and run better. Set spark plug gap at .030 inch.

CLEANING

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

CAUTION: 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.

SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

CAUTION: Before performing any service or adjustments:

- Release control bar and stop engine.
- 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.

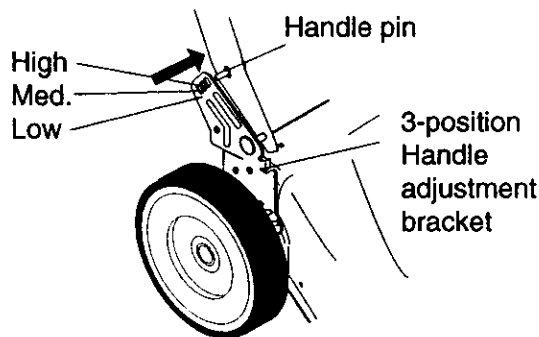
REAR DEFLECTOR

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

TO ADJUST HANDLE

The handle on your lawn mower has three (3) height positions - adjust to height that suits you.

- Squeeze the bottom ends of lower handle towards each other until the pin in handle can be inserted into one of the three height adjustment holes.

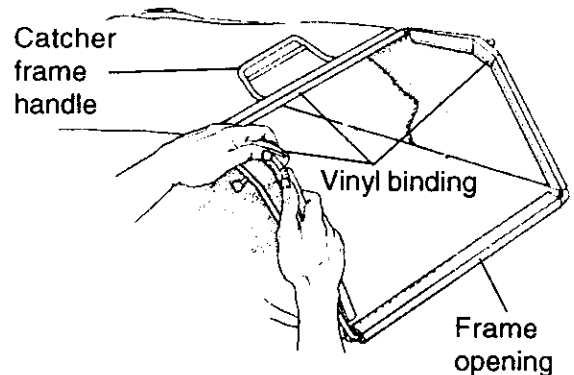


TO ASSEMBLE GRASS CATCHER

- 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 stiff, hold them in warm water for a few minutes. If bag gets wet, let it dry before using.

CAUTION: Do not run your lawn mower without clipping deflector or approved grass catcher in place. Never attempt to operate the lawn mower with the rear door removed or propped open.



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 an authorized service center/department for repair and adjustment.

CARBURETOR

Your carburetor has a non-adjustable fixed main jet for mixture control. If your engine does not operate properly due to suspected carburetor problems, take your lawn mower to an authorized service center/department for repair and 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 your nearest 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

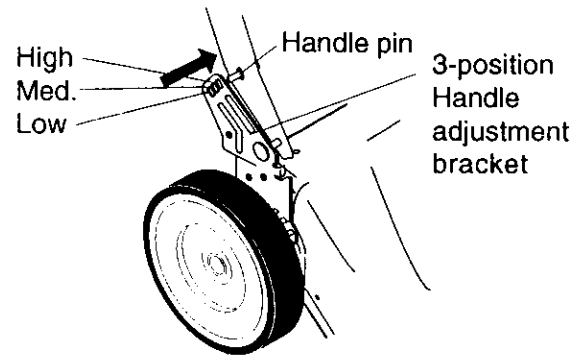
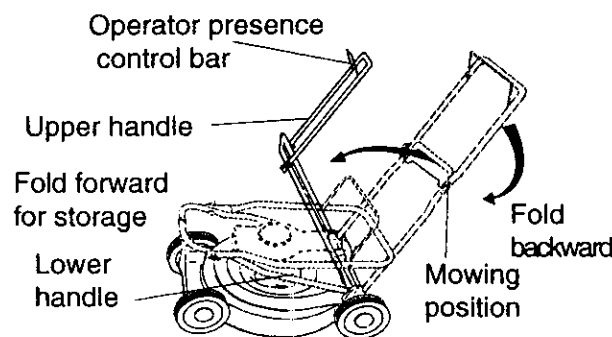
When lawn mower is to be stored for a period of time, clean it thoroughly, remove all dirt, grease, leaves, etc. Store in a clean, dry area.

- Clean entire lawn mower (See "CLEANING" in the Maintenance section of this manual).
- 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.
- Loosen the two (2) handle knobs on sides of the upper handle and allow handle to fold down to the rear.
- Squeeze the bottom ends of lower handle toward each other until pins in handle clear the brackets and pivot entire handle assembly forward and allow it to rest on mower.
- When setting up your handle from the storage position, the lower handle will require manually locking into the mowing position.

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



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, experience indicates that 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.

- Drain the fuel tank.
- 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

- Remove spark plug.
- Pour one ounce (29 ml) of oil through spark plug hole into cylinder.
- Pull starter handle slowly a few times to distribute oil.
- 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 CHART

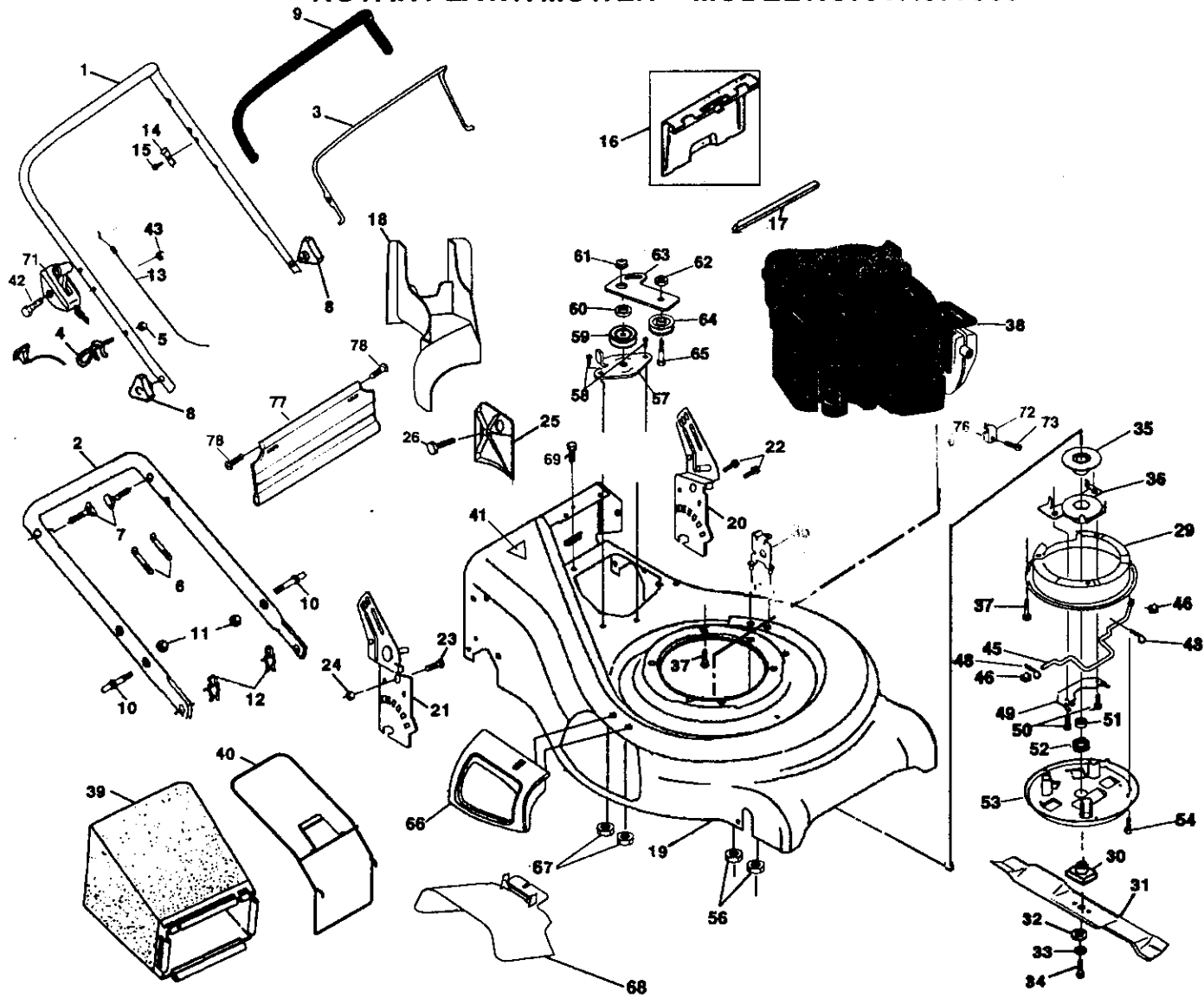
PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Will not start	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dirty air filter. 2. Out of fuel. 3. Stale fuel. 4. Water in fuel. 5. Spark plug wire is disconnected. 6. Bad spark plug. 7. Loose blade or broken blade adapter. 8. Control bar in released position. 9. Control bar defective. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean/replace air filter. 2. Fill fuel tank. 3. Drain tank and refill with fresh clean fuel. 4. Drain fuel tank and carburetor and refill tank with fresh gasoline. 5. Connect wire to plug. 6. Replace spark plug. 7. Tighten blade bolt or replace blade adapter. 8. Depress control bar to handle. 9. Replace control bar.
Loss of power	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rear of lawn mower housing/blade dragging in heavy grass. 2. Cutting too much grass. 3. Dirty air filter. 4. Buildup of grass, leaves and trash under mower. 5. Too much oil in engine. 6. Walking speed too fast. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set in "Higher Cut" position. 2. Set in "Higher Cut" position. 3. Clean/replace air filter. 4. Clean underside of mower housing. 5. Check oil level. 6. Cut at slower walking speed.
Poor cut - uneven	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worn, bent or loose blade. 2. Buildup of grass, leaves, and trash under mower. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. 2. Clean underside of mower housing.
Excessive vibration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worn, bent or loose blade. 2. Bent engine crankshaft. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. 2. Contact an authorized service center/department.
Starter rope hard to pull	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engine flywheel brake is on when control bar is released. 2. Bent engine crankshaft. 3. Blade adapter broken. 4. Blade dragging in grass. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depress control bar to upper handle before pulling starter rope. 2. Contact an authorized service center/department. 3. Replace blade adapter. 4. Move lawn mower to cut grass or to hard surface to start engine.

TROUBLESHOOTING CHART

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Grass catcher not filling (if so equipped)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cutting height too low. 2. Lift on blade worn off. 3. Catcher not venting air. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise cutting height. 2. Replace blade. 3. Clean grass catcher.
Hard to push	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grass is too high or wheel height is too low. 2. Rear of lawn mower housing/blade dragging in grass. 3. Grass catcher too full. 4. Handle height position not right for you. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise cutting height. 2. Raise rear of lawn mower housing one (1) setting higher. 3. Empty grass catcher. 4. Adjust handle height to suit.
Loss of drive	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belt wear. 2. Belt off of pulley. 3. Drive cable worn or broken. 4. Dirt in drive pinions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check/replace drive belt. 2. Check/reinstall drive belt. 3. Replace drive cable. 4. Clean drive pinions.

SERVICE NOTES

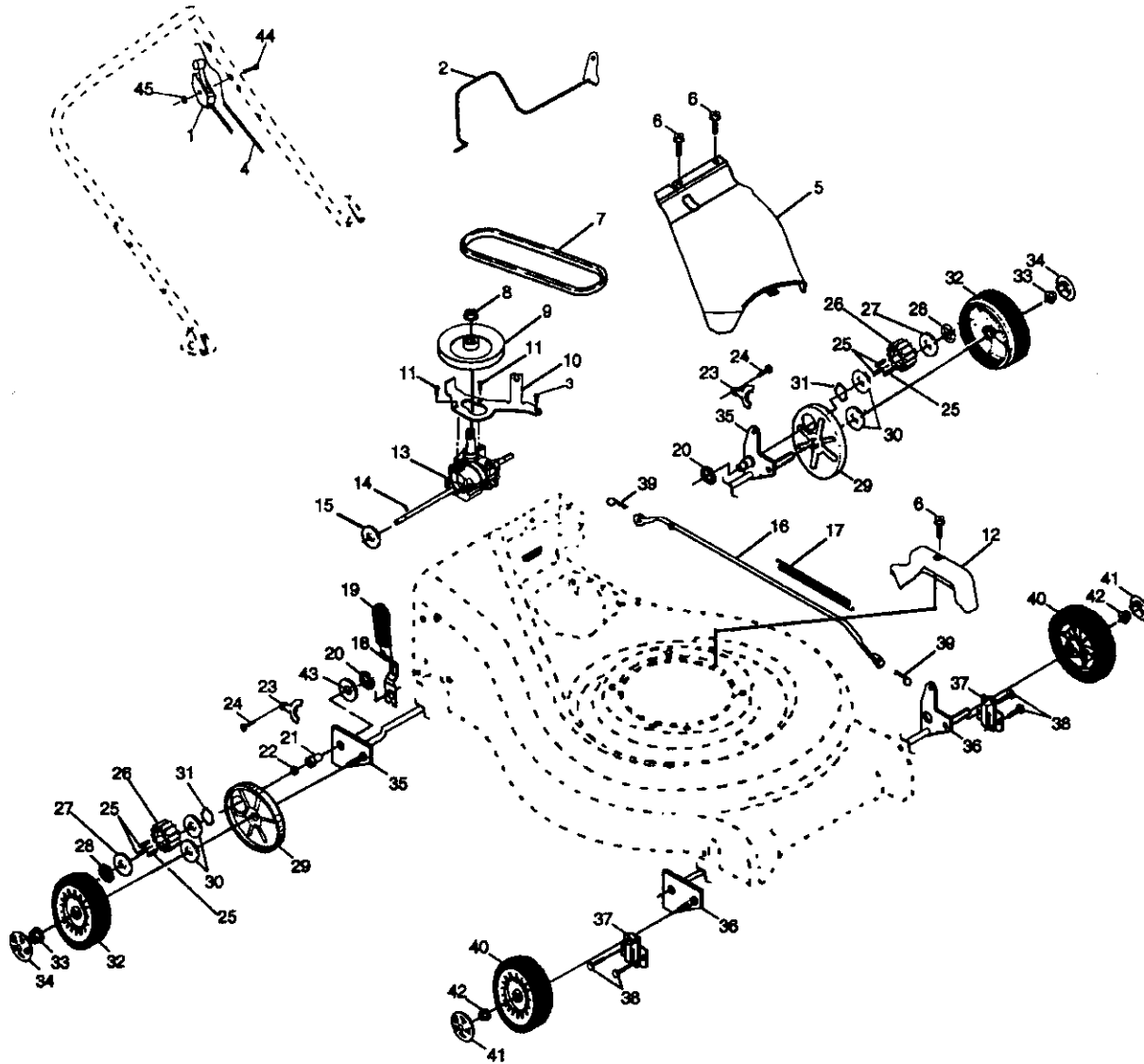
ROTARY LAWN MOWER -- MODEL NO. 917.377800



ROTARY LAWN MOWER -- MODEL NO. 917.377800

KEY NO.	PART NO	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO	DESCRIPTION
1	167163	Handle, Upper Dlx Comf. (Includes Grip)	41	85463	Danger Decal
2	161105X479	Handle, Lower	42	144929	Screw
3	131036	Bail, Cont. Wire Dlx Comf. Blk	43	63601	Nut
4	132001	Guide, Rope, Side	45	166034	Rod, Pulley Engage
5	63601	Nut, Hex Lockwasher 1/4-20	46	166041	Bushing
6	66426	Wire, Tie	48	169605	Retainer Clip
7	131959	Bolt, Handle 5/16-18 x 1.75	49	166039X008	Clamp
8	175003	Knob, Handle	50	54583	Screw
9	164265	Grip, Hdl Foam Smooth	51	169980	Spacer
10	161551	Bolt, Sq. Neck	52	170868	Wave Washer
11	73990500	Nut, Hex Lockwasher Ins. 5/16-18 UNC	53	173041	Belt Cover, Bottom
12	51793	Cotter, Hairpin	54	750097	Screw
13	133107	Engine Zone Control Cable	55	166383X479	Cable Support Bracket
14	850733X004	Bracket, Upstop	56	63601	Nut
15	83816	Screw, Hex Washer Head Tapping 10-2	57	166391X004	Bracket Assy.
16	175018	Kit, Door Rear	58	57808	Screw
17	161548	Seal, Door	59	166042	V-Groove Pulley
18	165261	Plug, Mulcher	60	166050	Idler Arm Spacer
19	175017	Kit, Housing	61	145212	Flange Nut
20	161568X479	Handle, Bracket Asm. Left	62	155552	Locknut
21	168227X479	Handle, Bracket Asm. Right	63	166022X008	Idler Arm
22	150078	Screw, Hex Wshd	64	166043	Idler Pulley
23	163183	Bolt, Hex Head 5/16-18 x 5/8	65	160829	Shoulder Bolt
24	63124	Nut, Hex Lock Wshr 5/16-18	66	175002	Door Assy.
25	161333	Baffle, Side	67	88349	Nut
26	163409	Screw 12 x 5/8	68	175015	Multi Cut Guard
29	166036X479	Belt Cover, Top	69	54583	Screw
30	851514	Adapter, Blade w/key Longer	71	168246	Throttle Control
31	159267	Blade, 21"	72	111190X	Engine Clamp
32	851074	Washer, Hardened	73	83816	Screw
33	850263	Lockwasher, Helical Spring 3/8	76	87677	Hi Pro Key
34	851084	Screw, Hex Head 3/8-24 x 1.38	77	175001	Skirt
35	169809	Pulley, Fixed	78	88652	Screw
36	170045	Bearing Support Assy.	--	161058	Warning Decal (Not Shown)
37	150406	Bolt, Engine	--	175013	Owner's Manual
38	-----	Engine (See Breakdown) Briggs and Stratton 120602-0138-E1			
39	169294	Grass Catcher Bag			
40	161358	Grass Catcher Frame			

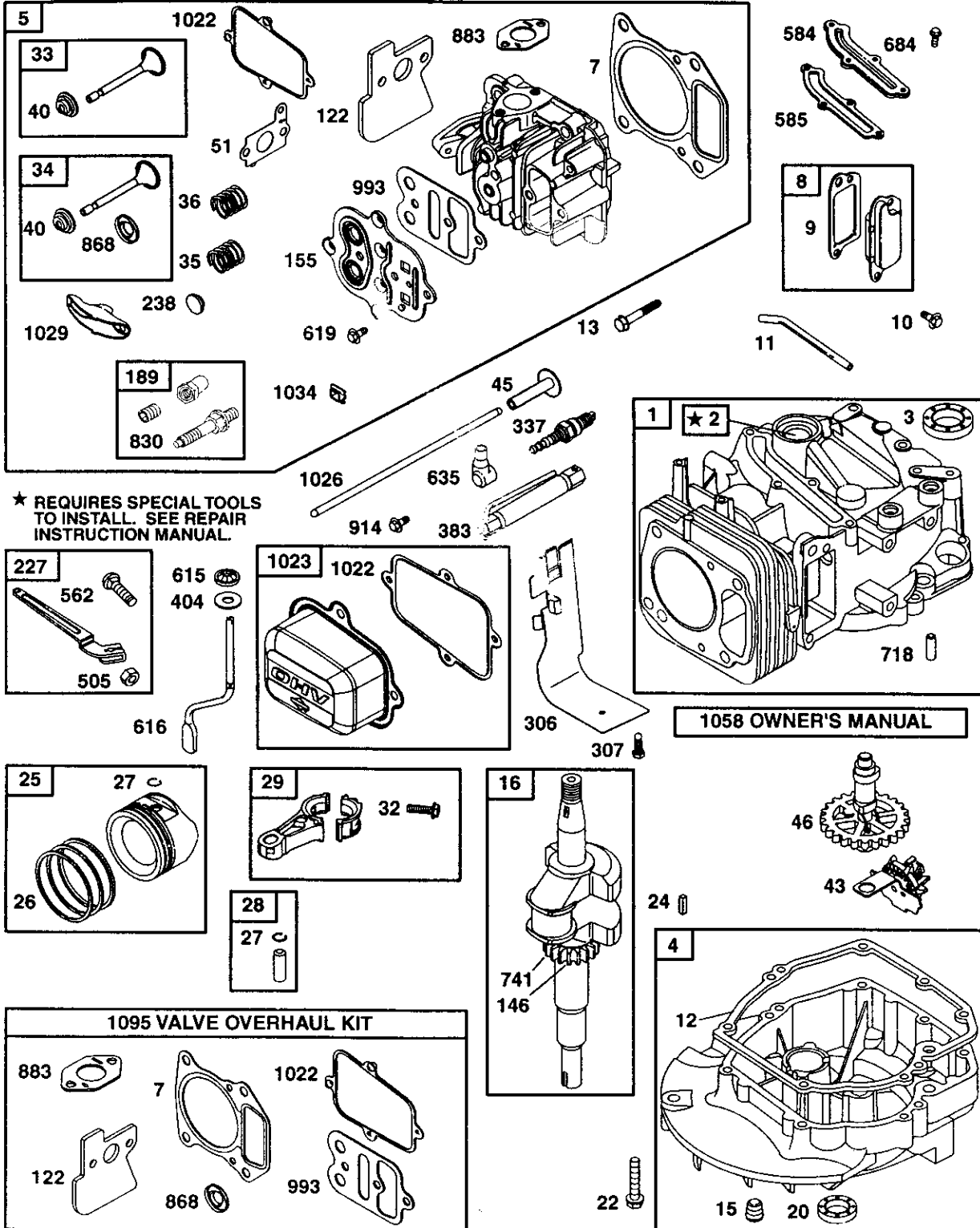
ROTARY LAWN MOWER -- MODEL NO. 917.377800

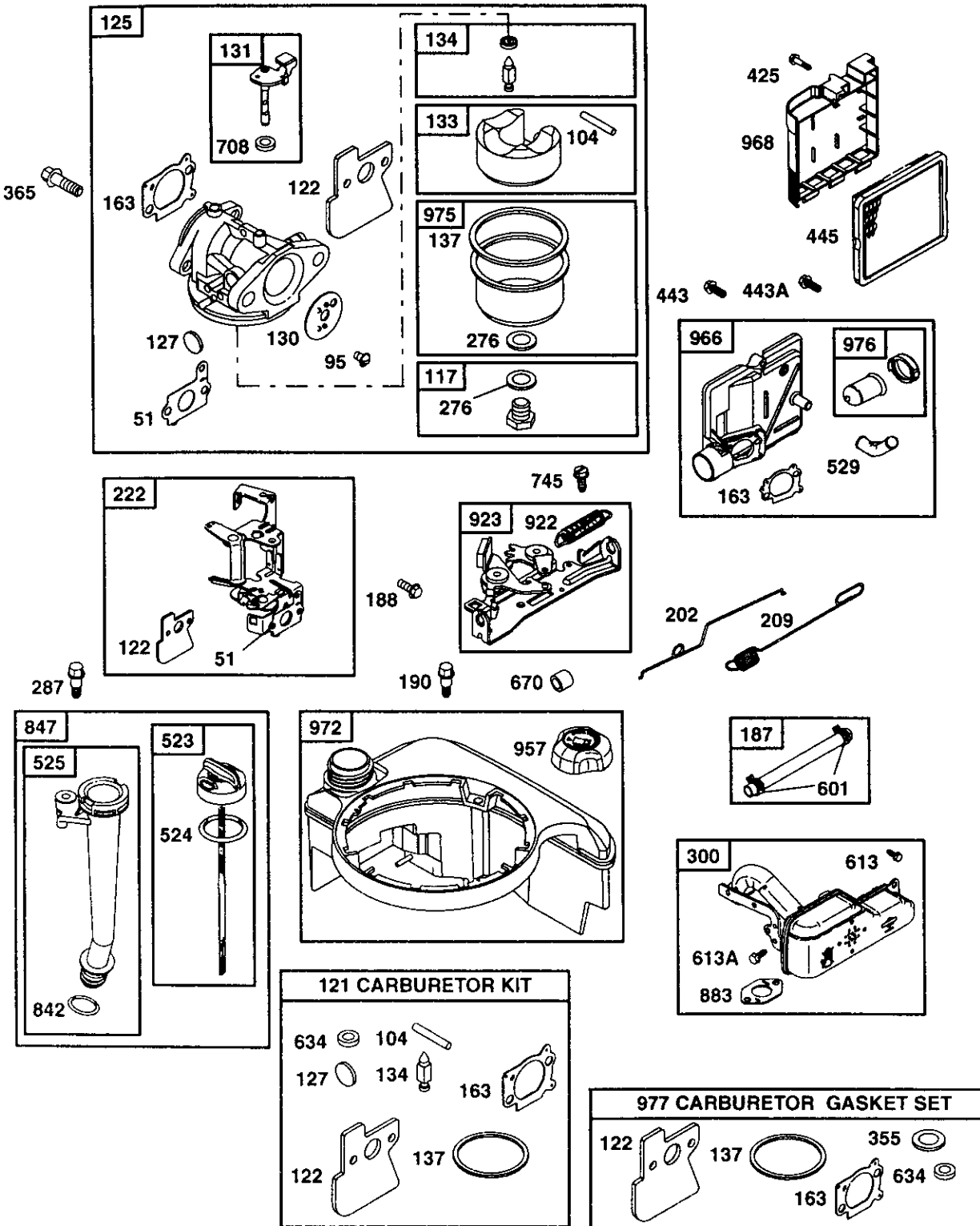


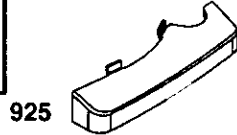
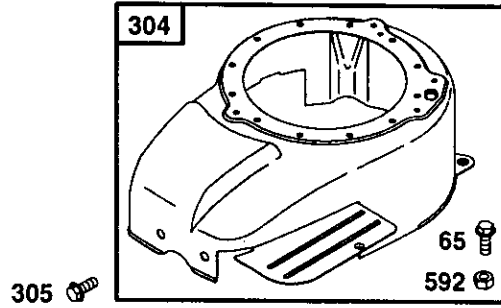
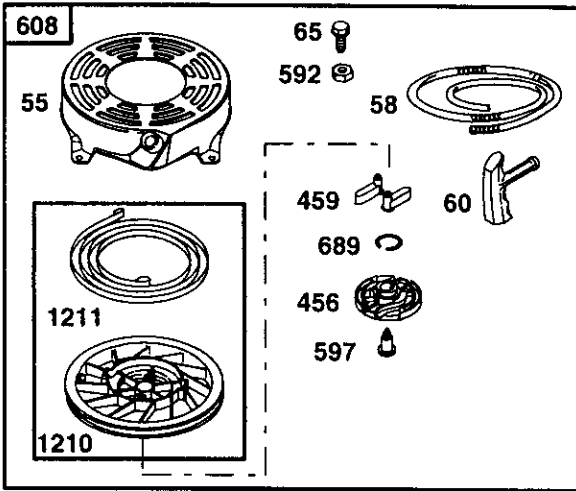
ROTARY LAWN MOWER -- MODEL NO. 917.377800

KEY NO.	PART NO	DESCRIPTION
1	171050	Speed Control
2	167259	Bail Control Drive
3	17060408	Screw
4	170050	Drive Cable
5	175011	Cover Drive
6	750634	Screw Thdrol 10-25 x .50
7	166060	V-Belt
8	132010	Nut Lock Flanged 3/8-16 Zinc
9	166049	Pulley Driven
10	166021X004	Belt Keeper Bracket
11	17541011	Screw Hex Wash Head 10-24 X .668
12	175009	Pivot Rod Cover
13	166388	Transmission Asm.
14	145354	Pin Spring Thrust
15	57079	Washer Hardened
16	175000	Rod Connecting
17	161602	Spring Extension
18	160477X004	Spring Selector
19	175008	Knob Selector Spring
20	12000022	E-Ring 7/8
21	163365	Bearing Support
22	169911	Bearing Ball

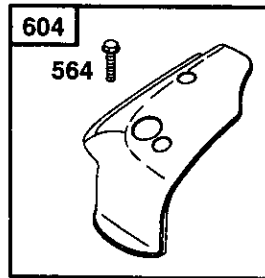
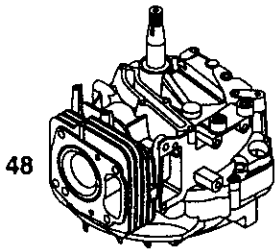
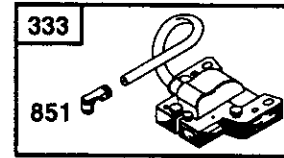
KEY NO.	PART NO	DESCRIPTION
23	161118X004	Retainer Drive Asm. Stmp.
24	57808	Screw Hex Head Tapping 1/4-20 x .75
25	170011	Drive Pawl
26	166450	Pinion, Drive
27	52160	Washer
28	12000058	E-Ring 7/16
29	88080	Cover, Dust Wheel
30	67725	Washer 1/2 x 1-1/2 x .134
31	57143	Wave Washer
32	172324	Wheel 9 x 2
33	145212	Nut Hex Flange Lock
34	175012	Hubcap, Mag Platinum 9"
35	160785X004	Shaft Asm. Rear
36	160786X004	Shaft Asm. Front
37	161463	Retainer Front Shaft
38	163409	Screw 12 x 5/8
39	700279	Clip Retainer
40	172323	Wheel 8 x 2
41	175012	Hubcap, Mag Platinum 8"
42	83923	Nut, Hex Flange Lock 3/8-16
43	19572216	Washer
44	144929	Screw 1/4 x 2.12
45	751152	Locknut



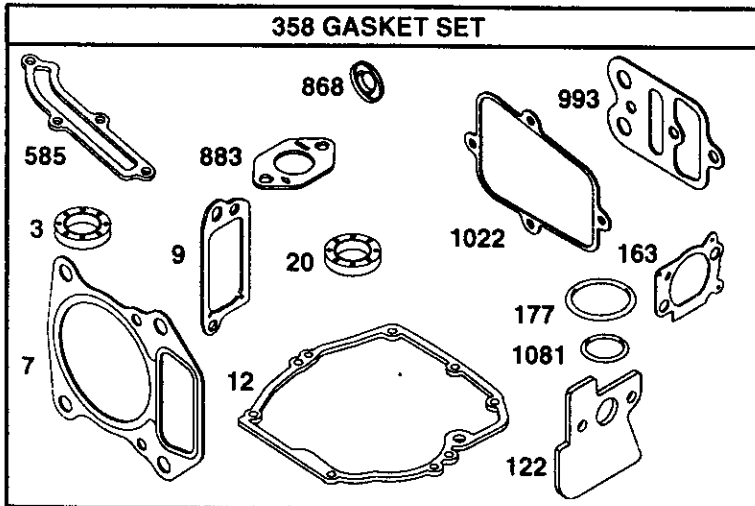
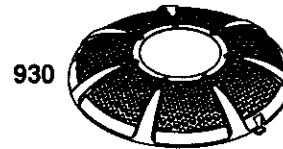
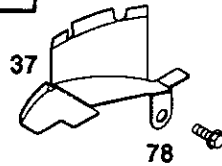




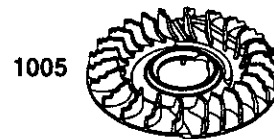
334



1036 LABEL KIT-EMISSION



332



KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	692670	Cylinder Assembly	121	692703	● Carburetor Overhaul Kit
2	399269	Bushing/Seal Kit (Magneto Side)	122	692799	★●◆+ Carburetor Spacer
3	299819	★ Oil Seal (Magneto Side)	125	694202	Carburetor
4	499619	Engine Sump	127	694468	● Welch Plug
5	692800	Cylinder Head	130	691203	Throttle Valve
7	273240	★+ Cylinder Head Gasket	131	499682	Throttle Shaft
8	495786	Breather Assembly	133	398187	Carburetor Float
9	272481	★ Breather Gasket	134	398188	● Needle/Seat Kit
10	691125	Screw (Breather Assembly)	137	693981	◆ Float Bowl Gasket
11	499675	Breather Tube	146	94388	Timing Key
12	272198	★ Crankcase Gasket	155	691231	Cylinder Head Plate
13	691137	Screw (Cylinder Head)	163	692667	★●◆+ Air Cleaner Gasket
15	691680	Oil Drain Plug	187	298049	Fuel Line
16	691457	Crankshaft	188	691147	Screw (Control Bracket)
20	399781	★ Oil Seal (PTO Side)	189	694543	Rocker Arm Ball
22	691092	Screw (Crankcase Cover/Sump)	190	94511	Screw (Fuel Tank)
22A	94612	Screw (Crankcase Cover/Sump) (Used in Hole Nearest Breather)	202	691303	Mechanical Governor Link
			209	691290	Governor Spring
			222	692672	Control Bracket
			227	691467	Governor Control Lever
			238	691300	Valve Cap
23	692452	Flywheel	276	271716	◆ Sealing Washer
24	222698	Flywheel Key	287	94511	Screw (Dipstick Tube)
25	690021	Piston Assembly (Standard)	300	693982	Exhaust Muffler
	694167	Piston Assembly (.010 O.S.)	304	499677	Blower Housing
	694168	Piston Assembly (.020 O.S.)	305	691108	Screw (Blower Housing)
	694169	Piston Assembly (.030 O.S.)	306	691232	Cylinder Shield
26	499631	Ring Set (Standard)	307	690345	Screw (Cylinder Shield)
	692785	Ring Set (.010 O.S.)	332	94877	Nut (Flywheel)
	692786	Ring Set (.020 O.S.)	333	802574	Magneto Armature
	692787	Ring Set (.030 O.S.)	334	94731	Screw (Magneto Armature)
27	263190	Piston Pin Lock	337	499608	Spark Plug
28	499423	Piston Pin	356	692390	Stop Wire
29	499424	Connecting Rod	358	694090	★ Engine Gasket Set
32	94699	Screw (Connecting Rod)	363	19069	Flywheel Puller
33	499642	Exhaust Valve	365	691136	Screw (Carburetor)
34	499641	Intake Valve			
35	691304	Valve Spring (Intake)			RPM Settings: Low Speed: 1900-2100
36	691304	Valve Spring (Exhaust)			High Speed: 3000-3200
37	694086	Flywheel Guard			
40	93312	Valve Retainer	★	Included in Engine Gasket Set, Ref Number 358.	
43	493737	Governor/Oil Slinger	●	Included in Carburetor Overhaul Kit, Ref Number 121.	
45	262679	Valve Tappet	◆	Included in Carburetor Gasket Set, Ref Number 977.	
46	692453	Camshaft	+	Included in Valve Overhaul Kit, Ref Number 1095.	
48	692745	Shortblock			
51	692668	★●◆+ Intake Gasket			
55	691421	Rewind Starter Housing			
58	280399	Starter Rope (Cut To Length)			
60	281434	Starter Rope Grip			
65	94904	Screw (Rewind Starter)			
78	691108	Screw (Flywheel Guard)			
95	94098	Screw (Throttle Valve)			
104	691242	● Float Hinge Pin			
117	498978	Main Jet (Standard)			

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

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
383	19374	Spark Plug Wrench	851	493880	Spark Plug Terminal
404	690272	Washer (Governor Crank)	868	498592	★+ Valve Seal
425	94872	Screw (Air Cleaner Cover)	883	691893	★+ Exhaust Gasket
443	94118	Screw (Air Cleaner Primer Base)	914	691108	Screw (Rocker Cover)
443A	94873	Screw (Air Cleaner Primer Base)	922	262640	Brake Spring
445	491588	Air Cleaner Cartridge Filter	923	493442	Brake
455	691219	Flywheel Cup	925	690595	Linkage Cover
456	281503	Pawl Friction Plate	930	692675	Rewind Guard
459	281505	Ratchet Pawl	957	498697	Fuel Tank Cap
505	231082	Nut (Governor Control Lever)	966	692673	Air Cleaner Primer Base
523	499621	Dipstick	968	281340	Air Cleaner Cover
524	280966	★ Dipstick Tube Seal	972	499618	Fuel Tank
525	495265	Dipstick Tube	975	493640	Float Bowl
529	281299	Grommet	976	694395	Carburetor Primer
562	94852	Bolt (Governor Control Lever)	977	692704	◆ Carburetor Gasket Set
564	693808	Screw (Control Cover)	993	694088	★+ Cylinder Head Plate Gasket
584	692342	Breather Passage Cover	1005	691346	Flywheel Fan
585	272238	★ Breather Passage Gasket	1022	691890	★+ Rocker Cover Gasket
592	94908	Nut (Rewind Starter)	1023	499624	Rocker Arm Cover
597	94943	Screw (Pawl Friction Plate)	1026	498597	Push Rod
601	93053	Hose Clamp	1029	691230	Rocker Arm
604	692669	Control Cover	1034	691343	Push Rod Guide
608	497680	Rewind Starter	1036	694507	Emissions Label
613	691108	Screw (Muffler)	1058	274264	Owner's Manual (Emission Engines)
613A	691140	Screw (Muffler) (Muffler Guard)	1095	694091	+ Valve Gasket Set
615	690340	Governor Shaft Retainer	1210	498144	Pulley/Spring
616	691306	Governor Crank	1211	498144	Pulley/Spring
619	691108	Screw (Cylinder Head Plate)	—	121602-0515-E1	Replacement Engine
635	66538	Spark Plug Boot			
670	280512	Fuel Tank Spacer			
684	690345	Screw (Breather Passage Cover)			
689	263073	Friction Spring			RPM Settings: Low Speed: 1900-2100 High Speed: 3000-3200
708	691321	◆ Dust Seal			
718	230192	Locating Pin	★		Included in Engine Gasket Set, Ref Number 358.
741	262598	Timing Gear	●		Included in Carburetor Overhaul Kit, Ref Number 121.
745	94512	Screw (Brake)	◆		Included in Carburetor Gasket Set, Ref Number 977.
830	694544	Stud (Rocker Arm)	+		Included in Valve Overhaul Kit, Ref Number 1095.
842	280393	★ Dipstick/Tube Seal			
847	498715	Dipstick/Tube Assembly			

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

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