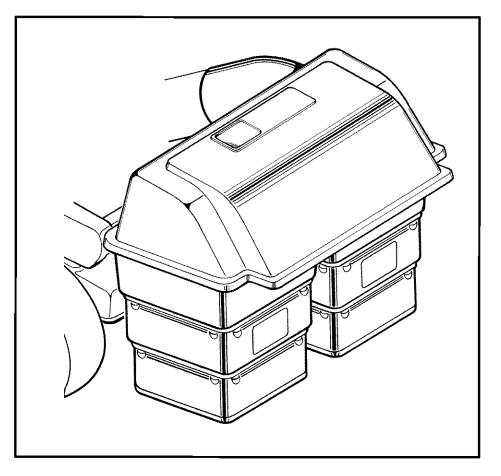


## owner's manual

Model No. 502.249274

**CAUTION:** Read And Follow All Safety Rules And Instructions Before Operating This Equipment.



# CRAFTSMAN

GRASS BAGGER FOR 30" REAR ENGINE RIDER

- Assembly
- Operation
- Customer Responsibilities
- Service And Adjustment
- Repair Parts

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL. 60179 U.S.A.

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#### LIMITED ONE YEAR WARRANTY ON ATTACHMENTS

For one (1) year from the date of purchase, Sears will repair any defect in material or workmanship in this Attachment at no charge.

This warranty does not cover:

- Expendable items which become worn during normal use, such as blades and blade adapters.
- Repairs necessary because of operator abuse, negligence, improper storage or accident or the failure to maintain the
  equipment according to the instructions contained in the owner's manual.
- Equipment used for commercial or rental purposes.

## WARRANTY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE BY RETURNING THE ATTACHMENT TO THE NEAREST SEARS SERVICE CENTER/DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

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

#### Sears, Roebuck and Co., D/871WA, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60684.

Congratulations on your purchase of a Sears Grass Bagger. It has been designed, engineered and manufactured to give you the best possible dependability and performance.

If you experience any problems you cannot easily remedy, please see your nearest Sears Service Department. We have competent, well trained technicians and the proper tools to service or repair this unit.

Please read and keep this manual. The instructions will enable you to assemble and maintain your unit properly. Always observe the "Safety Rules".

#### **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Carefully read and follow the rules for safe operation. Inspect the unit.
- Follow all the assembly instructions. Carefully adjust the unit.
- Know how to operate all standard and accessary equipment on the unit. Make sure the operator can correctly operate the unit.
- Operate the unit only with guards, shields and other safety items in place and working correctly.
- Complete all maintenance on the unit. Service the unit only with authorized or approved replacement parts.

#### MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

A Sears Maintenance Agreement is available on this unit. See the nearest Sears Store for information.

#### **GRASS BAGGER FEATURES**

See Through Window ..... Lets you know when the containers are full.

Large Capacity Containers ..... Containers are quickly removed and easy to empty.

#### **GRASS BAGGER**

Record in the space below the serial number and the date of purchase of this unit.

The model number and serial number are found on a decal attached to the unit.

Model Number: 502.249274

Serial Number:

Date of Purchase:

Keep these numbers for future reference.

## SAFETY RULES

Safe Operation Practices for Riding Vehicles As Recommended by American National Standards Institute

WARNING: 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 to the operator or bystanders.

#### **GENERAL OPERATION:**

- 1. Read, understand and follow all instructions in the Instruction Book, on the machine, the engine and with any attachments before starting.
- 2. Only allow responsible adults familiar with the instructions to operate the machine.
- 3. Clear the area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, etc. which could be picked up and thrown by the blade.
- 4. Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop the machine if anyone enters the area.
- 5. Never carry passengers.
- 6. Disengage power to the mower or any attachments before backing up. Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while backing.
- 7. Be aware of the direction the mower discharges. Do not point discharge from the mower at anyone or at places where people may be. Do not operate the mower without either the entire grass bagger or the mower guard in place.
- 8. Slow down before turning.
- 9. Never leave a machine unattended with the engine running. Always disengage the blade(s), set the parking brake, stop the engine and remove the key before dismounting.
- 10. Disengage power to attachment(s) when transporting or not in use. Disengage the blade(s) when not mowing.
- 11. Stop the engine before removing the grass bagger or unclogging the chute.
- 12. Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
- 13. Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs or when very tired.
- 14. Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
- 15. Use extra caution when loading or unloading the machine when using a trailer or truck for transporting.
- 16. Disengage all attachment clutches and shift into Neutral before attempting to start the engine.
- 17. Always wear safety glasses or an eye shield when you operate the unit to protect your eyes from foreign objects that can be thrown from the unit. Always wear eye protection when you make an adjustment or repair to the machine.
- 18. Use care when pulling loads or using heavy equipment.
  - a. Use only approved drawbar hitch points.
  - b. Limit loads to those you can safely control.
  - c. Do not turn sharply. Use care when backing.
  - d. Use counterweights or wheel weights when suggested in the Instruction Book.
- 19. Do not operate this machine if you are taking drugs or other medication which can cause drowsiness or affect your ability to operate this machine.
- 20. Do not use this machine if you are mentally or physically unable to operate this machine safely.

#### **SLOPE OPERATION:**

Slopes and rough terrain are major factors related to loss of control and tip over accidents which can result in severe injury or death. ALL slopes require extra caution. If you cannot back up the slope or if you feel uneasy on the slope, do not mow it. See the "Slope Guide" in the back of this book to check for safe operation.

#### DO

- 1. Mow up and down slopes, not across.
- 2. Remove obstacles such as rocks, limbs, etc...
- 3. Watch for holes, ruts or bumps. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. "Tall grass can hide obstacles."
- 4. Use slow speed. Choose a low enough gear so that you will not have to stop or shift while on the slope.
- 5. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.
- 6. Use extra care with grass baggers or other attachments, they can change the stability of the machine.
- 7. Keep all movement on the slopes slow and gradual. Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction.
- 8. Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly straight down the slope.

#### DO NOT

- 1. Do not turn on slopes unless absolutely necessary, then only turn slowly and gradually downhill, if possible.
- 2. Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches or embankments. A wheel over the edge or an edge caving in could cause a sudden overturn and an injury or death.
- 3. Do not mow on wet grass. Reduced traction could cause sliding.

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- 4. Do not try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.
- 5. Do not use a grass bagger or other rear mounted accessories on steep slopes (greater than 10 degrees).

#### 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.

- 1. Keep children out of the mowing area and in the watchful care of an adult other than the operator.
- 2. Be alert and turn the engine off if children enter the area.
- 3. Before and when backing, look **behind and down** for small children.
- 4. Never carry children or any passengers. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with the safe operation of the machine.
- 5. Never allow children to operate the machine. Instruct children in the dangers of the machine.
- 6. Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees or other objects that may obscure vision.

#### SERVICE:

- 1. Use extra care when handling gasoline and other fuels. Fuels are flammable and the vapors are explosive.
  - a. Use only an approved container.
  - b. Never remove the gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow the engine to cool for several minutes before refueling. Do not smoke.
  - c. Never refuel the machine indoors.
  - d. Never store the machine with fuel in the tank or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, such as a water heater.
- 2. Never start or run the engine inside a closed area.
- 3. Keep all nuts and bolts, especially the blade attachment nuts tight. Frequently check the blade(s) for wear or damage such as cracks and nicks. A blade that is bent or damaged must be immediately replaced with an original equipment blade from an authorized service dealer. For safety, replace the blade every two years. Keep the equipment in good condition.
- 4. Never tamper with the safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.
- 5. To reduce fire hazards keep the machine free of grass, leaves or other debris build-up. Clean up oil or fuel spills. Allow the machine to cool before storing.
- 6. Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair, if necessary, before restarting.
- 7. Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine running. The carburetor can be adjusted with the engine running. Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine.
- 8. Grass bagger components are subject to wear, damage and deterioration, which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. For storage, always make sure the grass bag is empty. Frequently check components and replace with manufacturer's recommended parts when necessary.
- 9. Mower blade(s) are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves and use extra caution when servicing them or the blade housing area.
- 10. Check the brake operation frequently. Adjust and service as required.
- 11. Wait for all movement to stop before servicing any part of the unit.

## **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER**

#### **Environmental Awareness**

- Do not fill the engine's fuel tank completely full.
- Drain fuel for off-season storage.
- Use only unleaded gasoline.
- Service the air cleaner regularly.
- Change oil regularly. Use 30W oil in summer.
- Tune-up the engine regularly.
- Keep equipment in efficient operating condition.
- Dispose of used engine oil properly.



Look for this symbol to indicate important safety precautions. This symbol indicates: "Attention! Become Alert! Your Safety Is At Risk."

#### ASSEMBLY

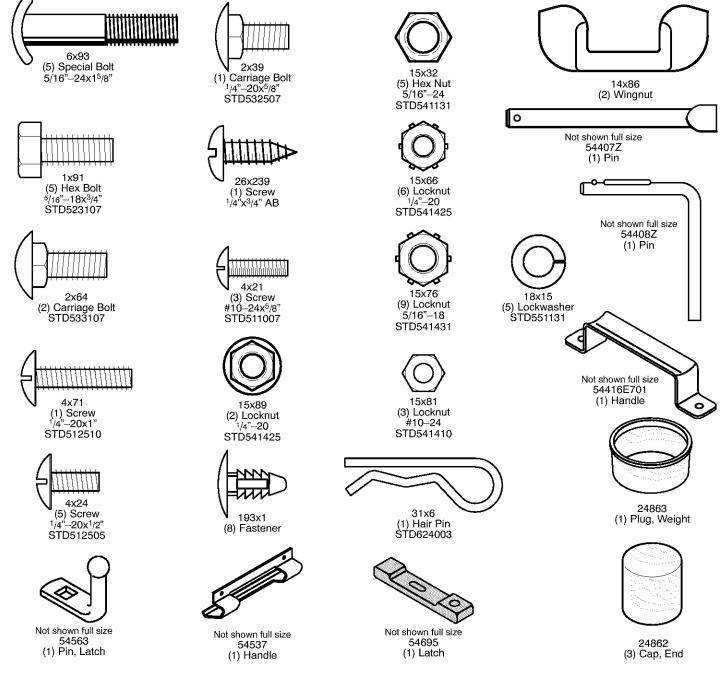
Read and follow the assembly, operation and maintenance instructions. All fasteners are in the parts bag. Do not discard any parts or material until the unit is assembled.

#### TOOLS REQUIRED

- 1. Pliers (1)
- 2. Adjustable open end wrenches (2
- 3. Blade type screwdriver (1)
- 4. Phillips screwdriver (1)
- 5. Short blade type screwdriver (1)
- 6. Open end wrench, 1/2" 9/16"
- 7. Open end wrench, 3/8" 7/16"

#### **GRASS BAGGER PARTS BAG – CONTENTS**

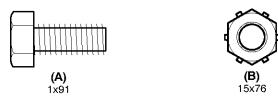
The fasteners and other loose parts are shown below. The fasteners are shown at full size. The quantity is shown in brackets (). On some models, all of the fasteners are not required.



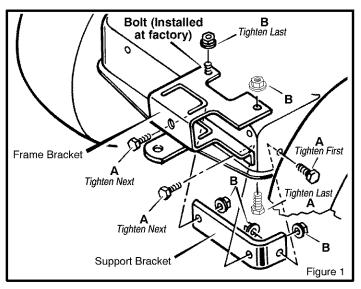
#### HOW TO MOUNT THE FRAME ASSEMBLY

## IMPORTANT: Note the bolt in Figure 1 that was installed at the factory. Use this bolt to attach the frame bracket.

- 1. Set the **frame bracket** in position on the rear of the frame (Figure 1). Use the **bolt** that was installed at the factory.
- 2. Hold the **support bracket** on the inside of the frame. Align the holes in the **support bracket** with the holes in the frame and the **frame bracket**. Fasten with the fasteners shown full size below. Tighten the fasteners only with your fingers.



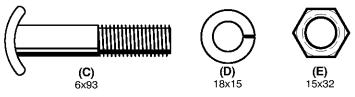
 Carefully follow the procedure below to tighten the fasteners. This procedure is necessary to lock the frame bracket and the support bracket in place. See the procedure steps in Figure 1. *First:* Tighten bolt (A), located next to the tire, with a wrench. *Next:* Tighten the two bolts (A), located at the back of the frame. *Last:* Tighten the top two fasteners.

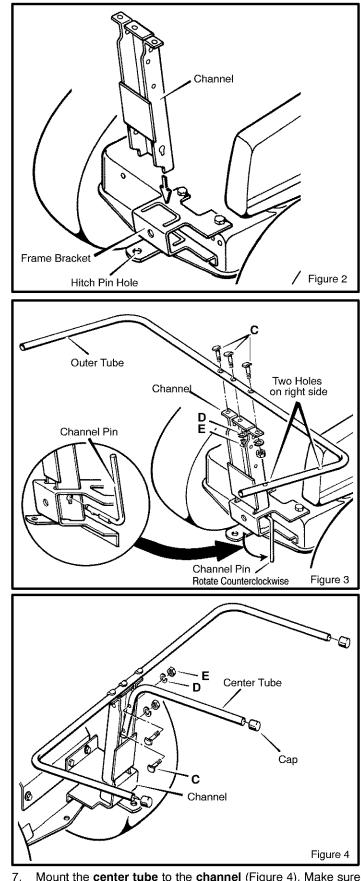


4. Mount the channel in the frame bracket (Figure 2).

IMPORTANT: If you remove the grass bagger to mount a different pull-behind attachment, do not remove the frame bracket. Use the hitch pin hole in the frame bracket to mount a different attachment.

- 5. Install the **channel pin** into the right side of the **channel** (Figure 3). Rotate the **channel pin** counterclockwise to lock the **channel** in place.
- Mount the outer tube to the channel. Make sure the two holes, on the side of the outer tube, are on the right side (Figure 3). Use the fasteners shown full size below. Make sure the fasteners are tight.

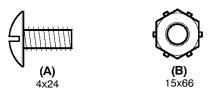




- Mount the center tube to the channel (Figure 4). Make sure the fasteners are tight.
- 8. Attach the caps to the ends of the tubes (Figure 4).

#### HOW TO MOUNT THE COVER

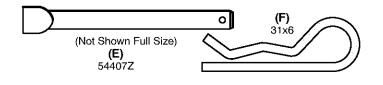
1. Assemble the **hinge** to the **cover** (Figure 5). The fasteners are shown full size below. Push the **hinge** toward the top of the **cover**. Make sure the screws are at the bottom of the holes in the **hinge**. Tighten the fasteners.

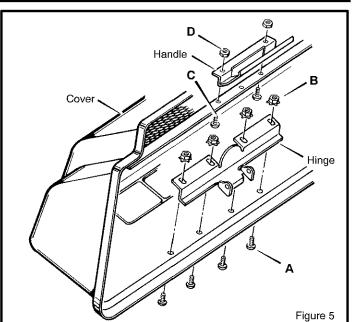


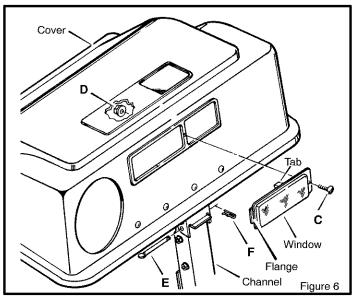
- 2. Attach the **handle** to the **cover** with the fasteners as shown. Tighten the fasteners.
- 3. Attach the **window** to the **cover** with the fasteners (Figure 6). Make sure the **flange** and the two **tabs** are locked inside the **cover**.



 Set the cover in the operating position on top of the outer tube. Fasten the hinge to the channel with the fasteners shown below.

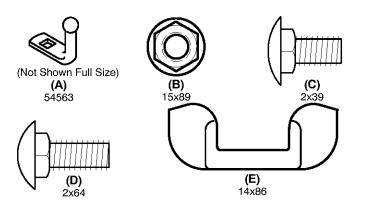


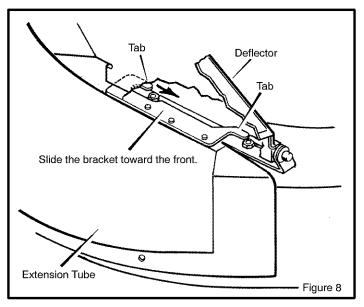


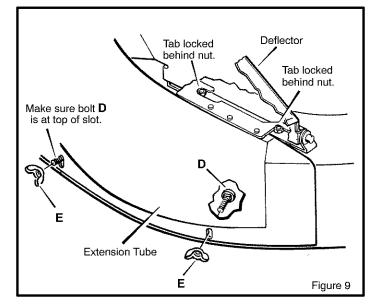


#### HOW TO MOUNT THE EXTENSION TUBE

1. Attach latch pin (A) to the extension tube with the fasteners shown full size below.







2. Disconnect the wire from the spark plug. Raise the **deflector**. Rotate the blade away from the discharge opening.



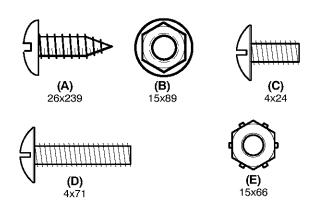
WARNING: The blade has sharp edges. Always be careful of the position of the blade.

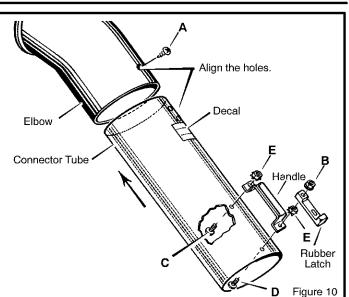
- 3. Slide the extension tube under the deflector (Figure 7).
- 4. Slide the bracket toward the front (Figure 8). Make sure the tabs on the bracket lock behind the nuts (Figure 9).
- 5. Move the lift lever to the highest cut position.
- Attach the bottom of the extension tube to the mower housing. First install bolt (D) to the front of the extension tube. Fasten with wingnut (E) on the outside (Figure 9). Make sure the wingnut is tight.
- Next, reach through the extension tube. Install bolt (D) to the rear of the extension tube. Fasten with wingnut (E). Push the back of the extension tube until bolt (D) is at the top of the slot. Tighten wingnut (E).
- 8. Connect the wire to the spark plug.

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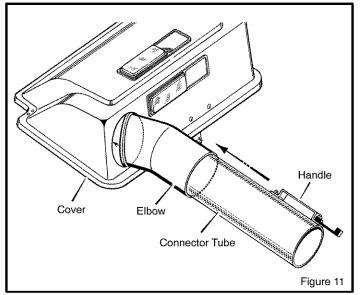
#### HOW TO MOUNT THE CONNECTOR TUBE

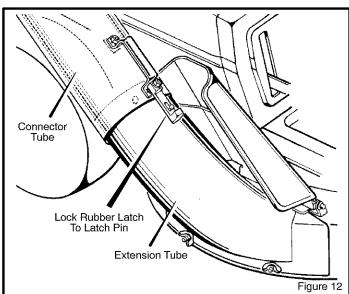
Mount the connector tube with the fasteners shown full size below.





- 1. Assemble the **handle** and the **rubber latch** to the **connector tube** with the fasteners (Figure 10). Hold screws (C) and (D) with a short screwdriver and tighten locknuts (B) and (E).
- Align the two holes in the connector tube with the hole on the elbow. Slide the connector tube into the elbow until the second line on the decal is even with the edge of the elbow.
- 3. Fasten the **elbow** to the **connector tube** with screw (A). Push screw (A) through the **hole** on the **elbow**. Tighten screw (A) until the head of the screw touches the **elbow**.
- 4. Move the lift lever to the lowest position.
- 5. Hold the **handle** on the **connector tube** (Figure 11). Put the edge of the **elbow** in the hole of the **cover**. Move the **connector tube** and **elbow** to the left until the **elbow** locks in place.
- 6. Align the **rubber latch** with the **latch pin** (Figure 12).
- 7. Slide the connector tube over the extension tube.
- 8. Lock the rubber latch to the latch pin.



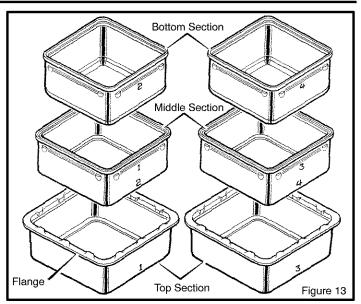


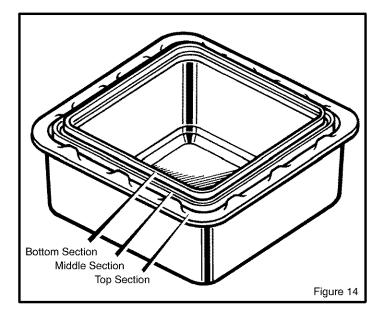
#### HOW TO ASSEMBLE THE CONTAINERS

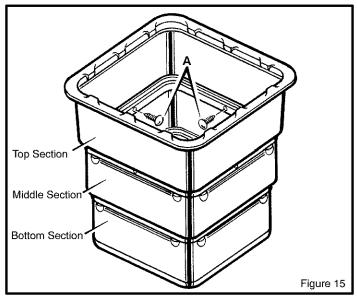
NOTE: The containers can only be assembled one way. Carefully read and follow the instructions below.

- 1. Separate the six container sections into two groups. Each group will have a **top section**, a **middle section**, and a **bottom section** (Figure 13).
- Look for a number on the side of each top section. The numbers for the two top sections are 1 and 3. Set the two top sections on the ground with the flanges on top.
- 3. Look for the numbers on the side of each **middle section**. One **middle section** has the numbers 1-2. The other **middle section** has the numbers 3 and 4.
- 4. Set middle section 1 2 inside of top section 1.
- 5. Set middle section 3 4 inside of top section 3.
- 6. Look for a number on the side of each **bottom section**. The numbers for the two **bottom sections** are **2** and **4**.
- 7. Set bottom section 2 inside of middle section 1 2.
- 8. Set bottom section 4 inside of middle section 3 4.
- 9. Stand with one foot inside the three sections (Figure 14). Lift the **top section** until all three sections connect together. Make sure all four corners of each section are locked together.
- Fasten the top section and the middle section of each container together with four fasteners A shown below. From the inside of each container, push the fasteners through the holes (Figure 15).





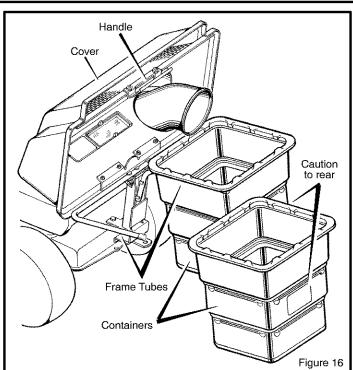




#### HOW TO MOUNT THE CONTAINERS

- 1. Tilt the seat forward. Raise the cover (Figure 16).
- 2. Plastic bag linings are *optional* accessories that can be used for easy removal of the grass.
- 3. If desired, put the optional plastic bag linings in the containers.
- 4. Slide the **containers** onto the **frame tubes**. Make sure the **CAUTION**, on the side of the **containers**, is to the rear.
- 5. Lower the **cover**. Pull back on the **handle** and push the **cover** down until the **cover** locks in place.

IMPORTANT: For the grass bagger to work correctly, the cover must be locked in the down position.



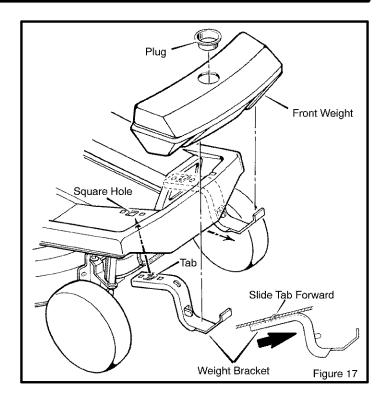
#### HOW TO INSTALL THE FRONT WEIGHT

- 1. To find the mounting location for the **weight brackets**, look under the frame at the **square holes** (Figure 17). Lock the **tabs** on the **weight brackets** in the **square holes**. Fasteners are not required.
- 2. Set the front weight on the weight brackets.
- 3. Fill the front weight with sand. Install the plug.

CAUTION: Removal of the front weight will also require the removal of the weight brackets.



WARNING: Use the front weight when you operate on a slope or where the lawn is rought or is not even. WARNING: Do not ride up or down slopes that are too steep to back straight up. Never ride the unit across a slope. See the "Slope Guide" in the back of this book for information on how to check slopes.



#### **CONTAINER LININGS**

- 1. For easy removal of the grass, use plastic bag linings inside the containers. Use one of the following sizes.
  - 33 gallons
  - 4 bushels
  - 145 liters

#### HIGH-LIFT BLADE

There are several different types of grass. Some types of grass make filling the bag more difficult. A high–lift blade is included with the grass bagger. If the bag does not fill properly, replace the standard blade with the high–lift blade. To replace the blade(s), follow the instructions in the mower instruction book.

## OPERATION

#### HOW TO USE THE GRASS BAGGER



WARNING: Do not ride up or down slopes that are too steep to back straight up. Never ride the unit across a slope. See the "Slope Guide" in the back of this book for information on how to check slopes.

#### OPERATION

To operate with the grass bagger, follow the steps below.

IMPORTANT: Do not cut wet grass. Wet grass will not discharge correctly into the grass bagger.

- 1. Start the engine.
- 2. Move the throttle control to FAST position.
- 3. Move the shift lever to FIRST (1) position. To fill the containers, always operate at the slowest speed.
- 4. If the height of the grass is more than 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches (9cm), cut the grass with the mower housing in the highest position. Then, lower the mower housing and cut the grass again. You can also cut at <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of the full cutting width of the mower housing.

#### CHECK AND CLEAN CONNECTOR TUBE

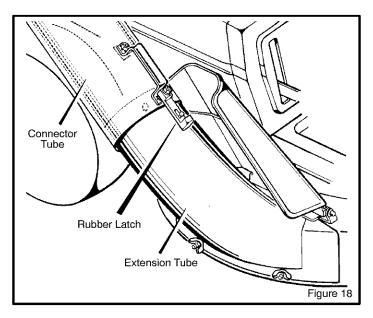
The **connector tube** is made of clear plastic. If the **connector tube** becomes filled with grass, clean the **connector tube** as follows.

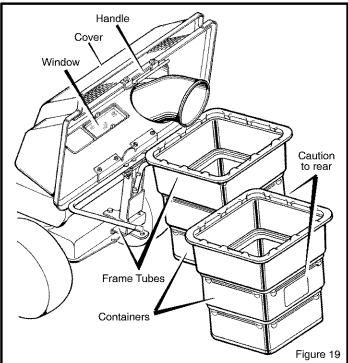
- 1. Move the attachment clutch to the DISENGAGE position.
- 2. Move the shift lever to the neutral (N) position.
- 3. Engage the parking brake.
- 4. Stop the engine.
- 5. Disconnect the **rubber latch** from the **extension tube** (Figure 18).
- 6. Remove the connector tube.
- 7. Clean the **connector tube** and the **extension tube** with soap and water.

#### HOW TO EMPTY THE CONTAINERS

Look at the **window** in the **cover** (Figure 19). When the **containers** are full, grass can be seen through the **window**. Empty the **containers** as follows.

- 1. Move the attachment clutch to the DISENGAGE position.
- 2. Move the shift lever to the neutral (N) position.
- 3. Engage the parking brake.
- 4. Stop the engine.
- 5. Tilt the seat forward.
- 6. Pull the handle back and raise the cover.
- 7. Remove the containers.





## **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

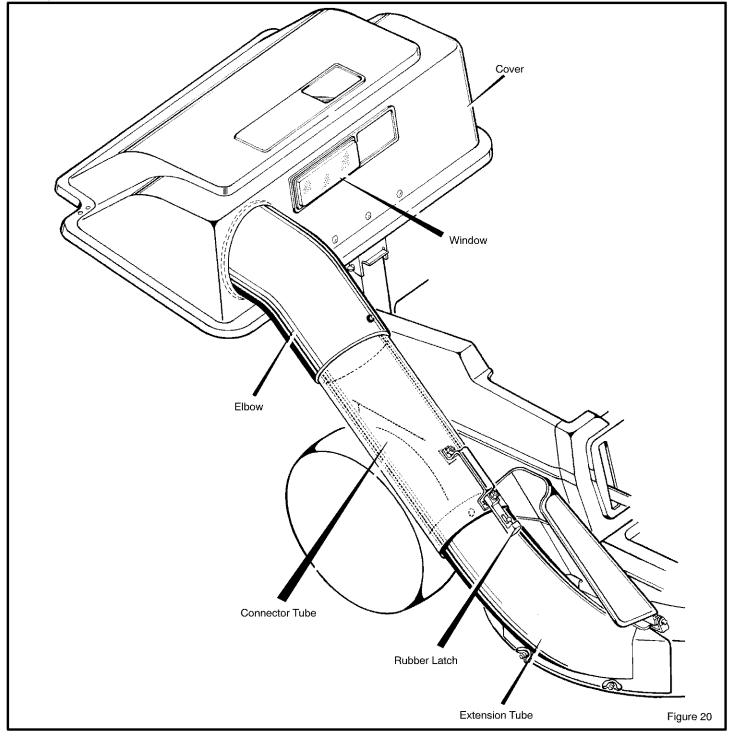
#### HOW TO CLEAN THE GRASS BAGGER



WARNING: Before you clean the grass bagger, stop the engine and disconnect the wire to the spark plug.

For good performance, frequently clean the grass bagger as follows.

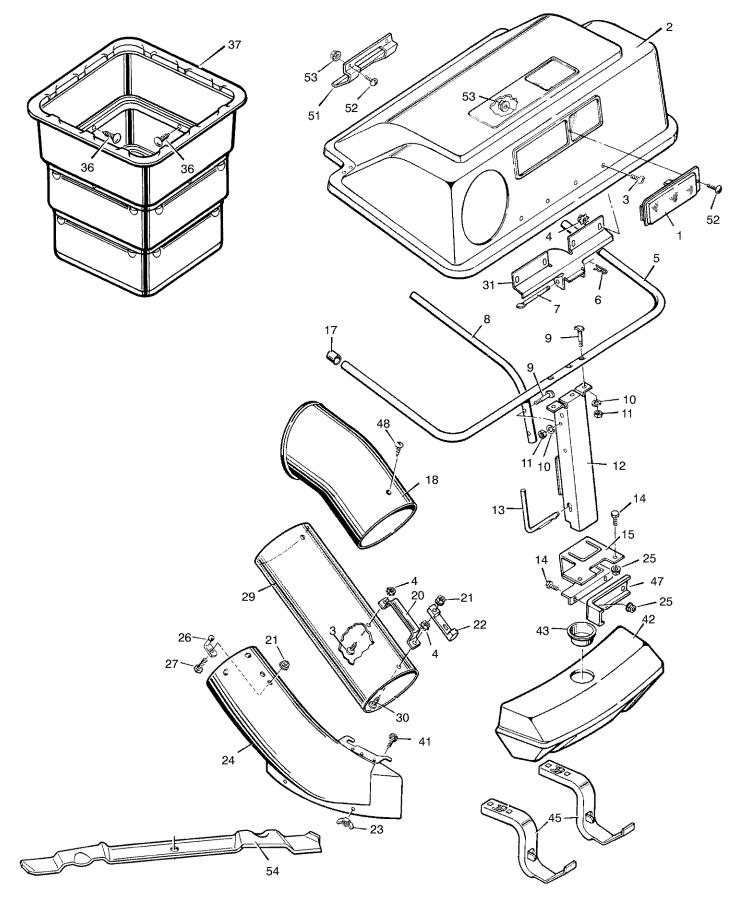
- 1. Disconnect the **rubber latch** from the **extension tube** (Figure 20).
- 2. Remove the connector tube from the extension tube.
- 3. Remove the elbow and connector tube from the cover.
- 4. Clean the **connector tube**, the **extension tube**, and the **elbow** with soap and water.
- 5. Raise the cover.
- 6. Clean the window with soap and water.



# **REPAIR PARTS**

## MODEL 502.249274

### REPAIR PARTS GRASS BAGGER

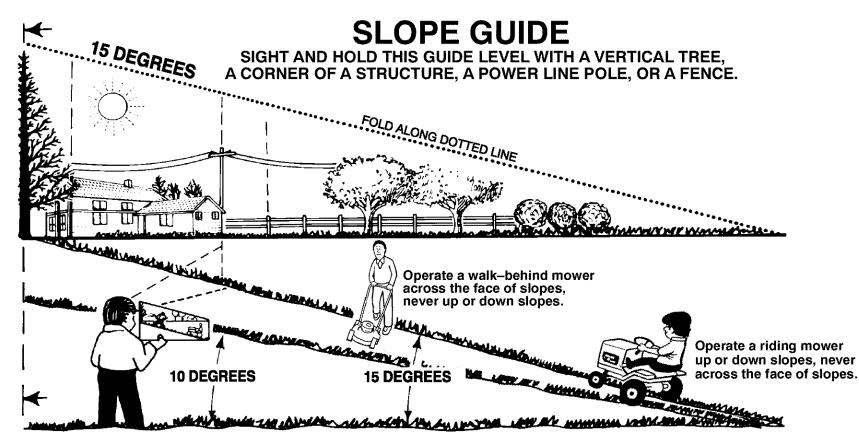


## MODEL 502.249274

## REPAIR PARTS GRASS BAGGER

Key No.	Description	Part No.	Mfg. No.
1	Window	54575	
2	Cover	54577	
3	Screw	STD512505	4x24
4	Locknut	STD541425	15x66
5	Tube, "U"	54410E701	
6	Pin, Hair	STD624003	31x6
7	Pin, Hinge	54407Z	
8	Tube, Center	54412E701	
9	Bolt, Special	6x93Z	
10	Lockwasher	STD551131	18x15
11	Nut, Hex	STD541131	15x32
12	Channel Assembly	54422E701	
13	Pin, Channel	54408Z	
14	Bolt, Hex	STD523107	1x91
15	Hitch Assembly	54499E701	
17	Cap, End	24862	
18	Elbow	54415	
20	Handle, Connector Tube	54416E701	
21	Locknut, Flange	STD541425	15x89
22	Latch, Rubber	54695	
23	Wingnut	STD541631	14x83
24	Tube, Chute Extension	54519	
25	Locknut	STD541431	15x76
26	Pin, Latch	54563	
27	Bolt, Carriage	STD532507	2x39
29	Tube, Connector	54555	
30	Screw	STD512510	4x71
31	Hinge, Cover	54398E701	
36	Fastener, Plastic *	193x1	
37	Containers (Quantity 2)	54727SE	
41	Bolt, Carriage	STD533107	2x64
42	Shell, Front Weight	55442	
43	Plug, Front Weight	24863	
45	Bracket, Front Weight	54551E701	
47	Bracket, Support	54562E701	
48	Screw	26x239	
51	Handle, Plastic	54537	
52	Screw	STD511007	4x21
53	Nut, Hex	STD541410	15x81
54	Blade, High-Lift	56246E701	
veren	Owner's Manual (English)	F-95900	
	Owner's Manual (Spanish)	F–95900 SP	

\* Included with Key No. 37.



On a riding mower to determine if a slope is safe to mow: (1) disengage the blade(s), (2) put the unit in reverse, and (3) try to back straight up the slope. If you can back up the slope, it is generally safe to mow. However, if you do not feel safe, or if you are not completely sure, use this guide and do not mow a slope that is greater than 15 degrees. If the riding mower is used with a pull-behind or rear mounted attachment, do not operate the unit on a slope that is greater than 10 degrees.

A 15 degree slope is a hill that increases in height at approximately 2.5 feet in 10 feet. A 10 degree slope is a hill that increases in height at approximately 1.7 feet in 10 feet.



Use extreme care at all times, and avoid sudden turns or maneuvers. Follow other instructions in this manual for safety in mowing on slopes. Operate a riding mower up or down slopes, never across the face of slopes. Operate a walk-behind mower across the face of slopes, never up or down slopes. Use extra care when operating on or near slopes and obstructions.

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## owner's manual

## Model No. 502.249274

## How To Order Repair Parts

# CRAFTSMAN

## GRASS BAGGER FOR 30" REAR ENGINE RIDER

The Model Number for the grass bagger is found on a decal attached to the unit. Always give the Model Number when you call for service or order repair parts for your unit.

Repair parts can be ordered from any Sears Service Center/Department and most Sears Stores.

WHEN ORDERING REPAIR PARTS, ALWAYS HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS SHOWN IN THIS LIST.

- PRODUCT GRASS BAGGER
- MODEL NUMBER 502.249274
- PART NUMBER
- PART DESCRIPTION

Your Sears merchandise has added value when you consider Sears has service units nationwide staffed with Sears trained technicians. Sears technicians have the necessary parts, tools and equipment to meet the Sears pledge, "We Service What We Sell".