

# Instruction Manual

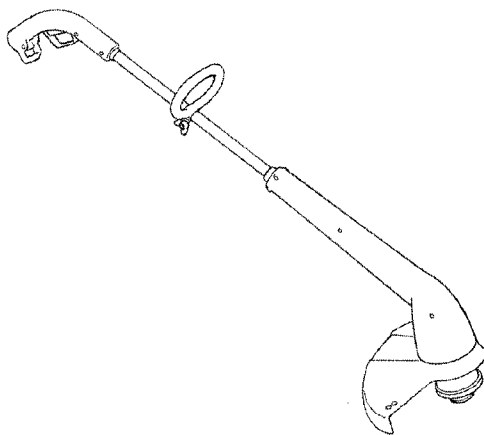
# CRAFTSMAN®

3.8 Amp Motor  
12 Inch Cutting Path/.065 In. Line

## ELECTRIC WEEDWACKER®

Model No.  
**358.799201**

- Safety
- Assembly
- Operation
- Maintenance
- Español



### WARNING:

Read and follow all Safety Rules and Operating Instructions before first use of this product.



For answers to your questions about this product:  
Call 7 am–7 pm, Mon.–Sat., or 10 am–7 pm, Sun.

**1-800-235-5878** (Hours listed are Central Time)

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

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## WARRANTY STATEMENT

### FULL ONE YEAR WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN ELECTRIC WEEDWACKER® LINE TRIMMER

If this Craftsman Electric Weedwacker® Line Trimmer fails to perform properly due to a defect in material or workmanship within (1) one year from the date of purchase, Sears will replace it free of charge.

This warranty does **not** cover the nylon line.

WARRANTY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE BY RETURNING THE CRAFTSMAN ELECTRIC WEEDWACKER® LINE TRIMMER TO THE NEAREST SEARS STORE OR SERVICE CENTER 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/817WA, Hoffman Estates, IL 60179

## SAFETY RULES

**⚠ WARNING:** When using electric gardening appliances, basic safety precautions must always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and serious injury. Read and follow all instructions.



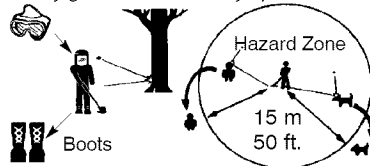
SAFETY INFORMATION ON THE UNIT

*This power unit can be dangerous!*  
The operator is responsible for following the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the unit. Read entire instruction manual before using unit! Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and the proper use of the unit. Restrict the use of this unit to persons who read, understand, and follow unit and manual warnings and instructions. Never allow children to operate this unit. Close attention is necessary when used near children.

**⚠ DANGER:** Never use blades, wire, or flailing devices. Unit is designed for line trimmer use only. Use of any other accessories or attachments will increase the risk of injury.



**⚠ WARNING:** Trimmer line throws objects violently. You and others can be blinded/injured. Wear safety glasses, boots, and leg protection. Keep body parts clear of rotating line. Safety glasses or similar eye protection



Keep children, bystanders, and animals 50 feet (15 meters) away. If approached stop unit immediately. If situations occur which are not covered in this manual, use care and good judgement. If you need assistance, call 1-800-235-5878


### OPERATOR SAFETY

- Dress properly. Always wear safety glasses or similar eye protection when operating, or performing maintenance on your unit. (Safety glasses are available.) Always wear face or

dust mask if operation is dusty. Always wear heavy, long pants, long sleeves, boots, and gloves. Do not go barefoot or wear sandals.

- Secure hair above shoulder length. Secure or remove loose clothing and jewelry or clothing with loosely hanging ties, straps, tassels, etc. They can be caught in moving parts.
- Being fully covered also helps protect you from debris and pieces of toxic plants thrown by spinning line.
- Stay Alert. Do not operate unit when you are tired, ill, or under influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication. Watch what you are doing; use common sense.
- Avoid unintentional starting of the unit. Never carry unit with your finger on the switch. Be sure the switch is in the off position when connecting an extension cord.

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY

 **WARNING:** Avoid a dangerous environment. To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not use in rain, in damp or wet locations, or around swimming pools, hot tubs, etc. Do not expose to snow, rain, or water to avoid the possibility of electrical shock.

- Use voltage supply as shown on the nameplate of the unit.
- Avoid dangerous situations. Do not use in the presence of flammable liquids or gases to avoid creating a fire or explosion and/or causing damage to unit.
- To reduce the risk of electrical shock, this appliance has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other) and will require the use of a polarized extension cord. The appliance plug will fit into a polarized extension cord only one way. If the plug does not fit fully into the extension cord, reverse the plug. If the plug still does not fit, obtain a correct polarized extension cord. A polarized extension cord will require the use of a polarized wall outlet. This plug will fit into the polarized wall outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully into the wall outlet, reverse the plug. If the plug still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper wall outlet. Do not change the

equipment plug, extension cord receptacle, or extension cord plug in any way.

- To reduce risk of electrical shock, use extension cords specifically marked as suitable for outdoor appliances having electrical rating not less than the rating of unit. Cord must be marked with suffix "W-A" (in Canada "W"). Make sure your extension cord is in good condition. Inspect extension cord before use and replace if damaged. Do not use a damaged cord. Cord insulation must be intact with no cracks or deterioration. Plug connectors must be undamaged. An undersized extension cord will cause a drop in line voltage resulting in loss of power and overheating. If in doubt, use the next heavier gauge. The lower the gauge number, the heavier the cord (see SELECT AN EXTENSION CORD). Do not use multiple cords.
- Do not abuse cord. Never carry the unit by the extension cord or yank extension cord to disconnect unit.
- Use cord retainer to prevent disconnection of extension cord from unit. See ATTACH THE EXTENSION CORD TO YOUR TRIMMER under the section titled OPERATION.
- Do not use the unit if the switch does not turn the unit on and off properly. Repairs to the switch must be made by your Sears Service Center.
- Keep the extension cord clear of operator and obstacles at all times. Do not expose cords to heat, oil, water, or sharp edges.
- To avoid the possibility of electric shock, avoid body contact with any grounded conductor, such as metal fences or pipes.
- Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) protection should be provided on circuit or outlet to be used. Receptacles are available having built-in GFCI protection and may be used for this measure of safety.

## UNIT SAFETY

- Inspect unit before use. Replace damaged parts. Make sure all handles, guards, and fasteners are in place and securely fastened. Parts that are damaged must be repaired or replaced by a Sears Service Cen-

ter. These include head parts that are cracked or chipped, guards, and any other part that is damaged.

- Do not repair unit yourself.
- Use only .065" (1.65 mm) diameter recommended trimmer line (see SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS). Never use wire, rope, string etc.
- Use specified trimmer spool. Make sure spool is properly installed and all parts are securely fastened.
- Use only Craftsman replacement parts and accessories as recommended.

#### CUTTING SAFETY

- Inspect area to be cut. Remove objects (rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, string, etc.) which can be thrown or become entangled in cutting head.
- Do not overreach or stand on unstable support. Keep firm footing and balance.
- Keep the cutting head below waist level. Do not raise handles above your waist. Cutting head can come dangerously close to your body.
- Keep away from cutting head and spinning line.
- Use unit properly. Use only for trimming, scalping, and mowing. Do not force unit. It will do the job better and with less risk of injury at the rate for which it was designed.
- Use only in daylight or in good artificial light.

#### MAINTENANCE SAFETY

**⚠ WARNING:** Disconnect unit from the power supply before performing maintenance, or when changing trimmer line.

- Maintain unit according to recommended procedures. Keep cutting line at proper length. Follow instructions for changing trimmer line.
- Have all service and maintenance not explained in this manual performed by a Sears Service Center to avoid creating a hazard.
- Never douse or squirt the unit with water or any other liquid. Clean unit and labels with a damp sponge. Keep handles dry, clean, and free

from oil and grease.

- Keep the air vents clean and free of debris to avoid overheating the motor. Clean after each use.

#### TRANSPORTING AND STORAGE


- Stop the unit and disconnect the power source when not in use.
- Carry the unit with motor stopped.
- Store the unit so the line limiter blade (on underside of shield) cannot cause injury.
- Store unit indoors in a high, dry place out of the reach of children. Store unit unplugged.

#### DOUBLE INSULATION CONSTRUCTION

This unit is double insulated to help protect against electric shock. Double insulation construction consists of two separate "layers" of electrical insulation instead of grounding.

Tools built with this insulation system are not intended to be grounded. No grounding means is provided on this unit, nor should a means of grounding be added to this unit. As a result, the extension cord used with your unit can be plugged into any polarized 120 volt electrical outlet.

Safety precautions must be observed when operating any electrical tool. The double insulation system only provides added protection against injury resulting from an internal electrical insulation failure.

**⚠ WARNING:** All electrical repairs to this unit, including housing, switch, motor, etc., must be diagnosed and repaired by qualified service personnel. Replacement parts for a double insulated appliance must be recommended by the manufacturer and identical to the parts they replace. A double insulated appliance is marked with the words "double insulation" or "double insulated". The symbol (square within a square)  may also be marked on the appliance. Failure to have the unit repaired by Sears service personnel can cause the double insulation construction to become ineffective and result in serious injury.

#### SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

# ASSEMBLY

## CARTON CONTENTS

Check carton contents against the following list.

### Model 358.799201

- Trimmer
- Shield

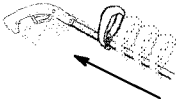
Examine parts for damage. Do not use damaged parts.

**NOTE:** If you need assistance or find parts missing or damaged, call 1-800-235-5878.

## ASSEMBLY

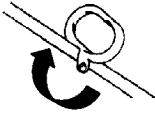
**WARNING:** If received assembled, review all assembly steps to ensure your unit is properly assembled and all fasteners are secure.

- Extend the tube until it snaps into place.



## ADJUSTING THE HANDLE

1. Loosen wing nut or knob on handle.
2. Rotate the handle on the tube to an upright position; place in a comfortable position and retighten wing nut.



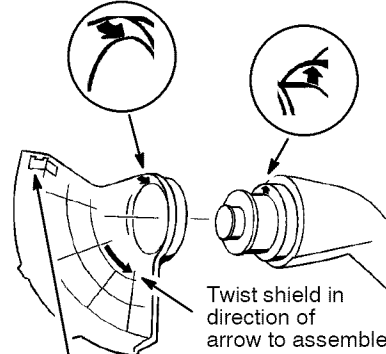
## ATTACHING THE SHIELD

**WARNING:** The shield must be properly installed. The shield provides partial protection from the risk of thrown objects to the operator and others. Your unit is equipped with a line limiter blade, which cuts excess line to the proper length while running. The line limiter blade (on underside of shield) is sharp and can cut you.

**NOTE:** If shield is not properly installed, damage to unit (including motor failure) will result.

1. Align the installation arrow on the shield with the installation arrow on the motor housing (see illustration below).
2. Insert the shield onto the motor housing. Ensure cutting line remains free to rotate and is not caught between the shield and the motor housing.
3. Twist the shield as illustrated until it snaps securely into place. Make sure the shield is facing the back of the unit as shown on the front cover of this manual.

## ALIGN INSTALLATION ARROWS

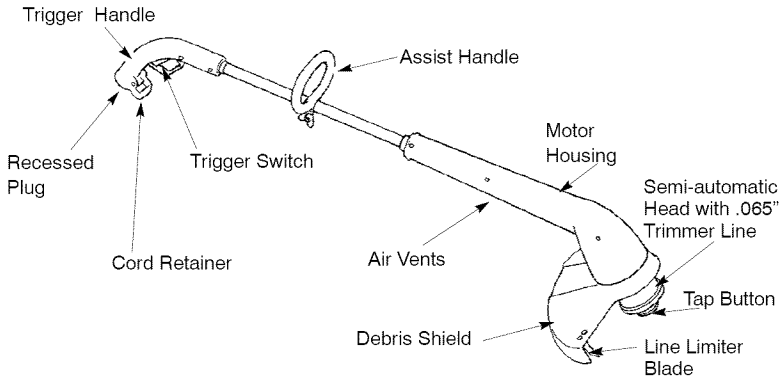


**CAUTION:** Sharp line limiter blade

# OPERATION

## KNOW YOUR TRIMMER

READ THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL AND SAFETY RULES BEFORE OPERATING YOUR UNIT. Compare the illustrations with your unit to familiarize yourself with the location of the various controls and adjustments. Save this manual for future reference.



### RECESSED PLUG

The RECESSED PLUG is where you attach your extension cord to the unit.

### TRIGGER SWITCH

The TRIGGER SWITCH is used to turn on the unit. Squeeze the trigger switch to operate the unit.

### LINE LIMITER BLADE

The LINE LIMITER BLADE cuts the cutting line to the proper cutting length.

### ASSIST HANDLE

The ASSIST HANDLE is used to help hold and guide the unit.

### SEMI-AUTOMATIC HEAD

The SEMI-AUTOMATIC HEAD holds cutting line and rotates during operation.

### TAP BUTTON

The TAP BUTTON is used to advance the cutting line during operation and to remove the spool during line replacement.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Use only a voltage supply as specified on your unit.

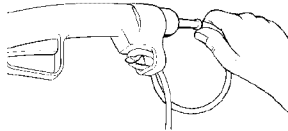
### SELECT AN EXTENSION CORD

Extension Cord Gauge Chart	
Length of Cord	Gauge
25 Ft. (7.5 m)	18 Gauge
50 Ft. (15 m)	16 Gauge
100 Ft. (30 m)	16 Gauge

Extension cords are available for this unit at Sears.

### ATTACH THE EXTENSION CORD TO YOUR TRIMMER

Loop your extension cord through the handle and around the hook as shown. Ensure the plug and cord are firmly and fully engaged.



### CORRECT OPERATING POSITION



Trimming

**WARNING:** Always wear eye protection. Never lean over the trimmer head. Rocks or debris can ricochet or be thrown into eyes and face and cause blindness or other serious injury.

When operating unit, stand as shown and check for the following:

- Wear eye protection and heavy clothing.
- Hold trigger handle with right hand and assist handle with left hand.
- Keep unit below waist level.
- Cut from your right to your left to ensure debris is thrown away from you. Without bending over, keep line near and parallel to the ground and not crowded into material being cut.

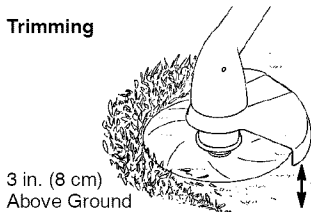
#### ADVANCING THE CUTTING LINE

Advance line by tapping bottom of cutting head lightly on the ground while unit is running at full speed. A metal blade attached to the shield will cut the line to the proper length.

#### TRIMMING

Hold the bottom of the trimmer head about 3 in. (8 cm) above the ground and at an angle. Allow only the tip of the line to make contact. Do not force trimmer line into work area.

#### Trimming

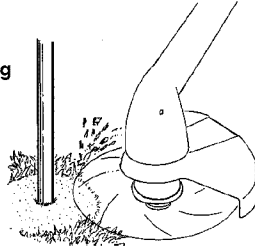


#### SCALPING

The scalping technique removes unwanted vegetation. Hold the bottom of the trimmer head about 3 in. (8 cm) above the ground and at an angle. Allow the tip of the line to strike the ground

around trees, posts, monuments, etc. This technique increases line wear.

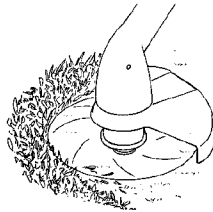
#### Scalping



#### MOWING

Your trimmer is ideal for mowing in places conventional lawn mowers cannot reach. In the mowing position, keep the line parallel to the ground. Avoid pressing the head into the ground as this can scalp the ground and damage the tool.

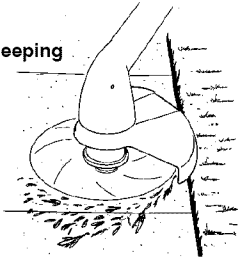
#### Mowing



#### SWEEPING

The fanning action of the rotating line can be used for a quick and easy clean up. Keep the line parallel to and above the surfaces being swept and move the tool from side to side.

#### Sweeping



# MAINTENANCE

## CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

**⚠ WARNING:** Disconnect power source before performing maintenance.

CARE & MAINTENANCE TASK	WHEN TO PERFORM
Check for loose fasteners and parts	Before each use
Check for damaged or worn parts	Before each use
Inspect and clean unit and labels	After each use

### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The warranty on this unit does not cover items that have been subjected to operator abuse or negligence. To receive full value from the warranty, the operator must maintain unit as instructed in this manual. Various adjustments will need to be made periodically to properly maintain your unit.

### BEFORE EACH USE

#### CHECK FOR LOOSE FASTENERS AND PARTS

- Housing Screws
- Assist Handle Screws
- Debris Shield

### CHECK FOR DAMAGED OR WORN PARTS

Contact Sears Service Center for replacement of damaged or worn parts.

- Trigger Switch - Ensure switch functions properly by pressing and releasing the trigger switch. Make sure motor stops.
- Debris Shield - Discontinue use of unit if debris shield is damaged.

### AFTER EACH USE

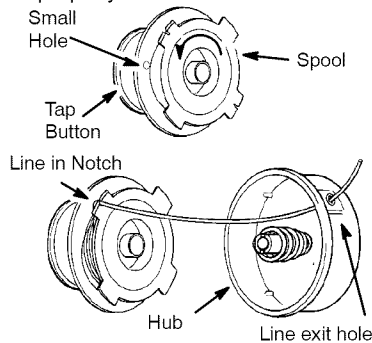
#### INSPECT AND CLEAN UNIT AND LABELS

- After each use, inspect complete unit for loose or damaged parts. Clean the unit using a damp cloth with a mild detergent.
- Wipe off unit with a clean dry cloth.

## SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

### REPLACING THE LINE

1. Remove the spool by firmly pulling on the tap button.
2. Clean entire surface of hub and spool.
3. Replace with a pre-wound spool (#71-85837), or cut a length of 30 feet of .065" (1.6 mm) diameter Craftsman® Pro Trimmer line. Use of heavier lines could overload and damage unit. Never use wire, rope, string, etc., which can break off and become a dangerous missile.
4. Insert one end of the line about 1/2 inch (1 cm) into the small hole inside the spool.
5. Wind the line evenly and tightly onto the spool. Wind in the direction of the arrow found on the spool.
6. Push the line into the notch, leaving 3 to 5 inches (7 - 12 cm) unwound.
7. Insert the line into the exit hole in the hub as shown in the illustration.
8. Align the notch with the line exit hole.
9. Push the spool into the hub until it snaps into place.
10. Pull on the line extending outside the hub to release it from the notch; otherwise, the unit will not function properly.





## USER REPLACEABLE SERVICE PARTS

REPLACEMENT PART	PART NUMBER
Spool with .065" Pro Trimmer Line	71-85837
Assist Handle	530401991
Bolt Carriage, 1/4-20	530401989
Wing Nut	530016152
Shield Assembly	530402673

## STORAGE

**⚠ WARNING:** Perform the following steps after each use:

- Stop the unit and disconnect the power source when not in use.
- Carry the unit with motor stopped.
- Store the unit so the line limiter blade cannot cause injury.

- Store unit and extension cord indoors in a high, dry place out of reach of children. Store unit unplugged.
- Store unit with all guards in place. Position unit so that any sharp object cannot accidentally cause injury.

## TROUBLESHOOTING TABLE

**⚠ WARNING:** Always stop unit and disconnect from the power source before performing all of the recommended remedies below except remedies that require unit to be operating.

TROUBLE	CAUSE	REMEDY
Semi-automatic head stops under a load or does not turn when switch is pressed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crowding trimmer line against material being cut.</li> <li>2. Electrical failure.</li> <li>3. Thrown circuit breaker.</li> <li>4. Debris stopping head.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Allow tip of line to do the cutting.</li> <li>2. Contact your Sears Service Center.</li> <li>3. Check Breaker Box.</li> <li>4. Remove debris.</li> </ol>
Line does not advance or breaks while cutting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line improperly routed in head.</li> <li>2. Line improperly wound onto spool.</li> <li>3. Incorrect line size</li> <li>4. Not enough line outside of head.</li> <li>5. Dirt buildup on unit.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check line routing.</li> <li>2. Rewind line tightly and evenly.</li> <li>3. Use only .065 in. (1.65mm) dia. line.</li> <li>4. Remove cover and pull 4 in. (10 cm) of line out of head.</li> <li>5. Clean unit.</li> </ol>
Line welds onto spool.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line size is incorrect.</li> <li>2. Incorrect spool.</li> <li>3. Line is being crowded against material being cut.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use only .065 in. (1.65mm) dia. line.</li> <li>2. Replace with correct spool.</li> <li>3. Cut with tip of line fully extended.</li> </ol>
Line releases continuously.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line improperly routed in head.</li> <li>2. Spool damaged.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check line routing.</li> <li>2. Replace spool.</li> </ol>
Line usage is excessive.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line improperly routed in head.</li> <li>2. Line size is incorrect.</li> <li>3. Crowding line against material being cut.</li> <li>4. Spool worn or damaged.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check line routing.</li> <li>2. Replace spool.</li> <li>3. Cut with tip of line fully extended.</li> <li>4. Replace spool.</li> </ol>
Line pulls back into head.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Too little line outside of head.</li> <li>2. Line size incorrect.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove cover and pull 4 in. (10 cm) of line outside of head.</li> <li>2. Use only .065 in. (1.65 mm) dia. line.</li> </ol>