SEARS

MODEL NUMBER 917.382781 OWNER'S MANUAL



- Assembly
- Operation
- Customer
 Responsibilities
- Service
- Adjustments
- Repair Parts

Caution:
Read and Follow
all Safety Rules
and Instructions
Before Operating
This Equipment

149061 01.04.95

Printed in U.S.A.

SAFETY RULES



CAUTION: ALWAYS DISCONNECT SPARK PLUG WIRE AND PLACE WIRE WHERE IT CANNOT CONTACT SPARK PLUG TO PREVENT ACCIDENTAL STARTING WHEN SETTING UP, TRANSPORTING, ADJUSTING OR MAKING REPAIRS.



IMPORTANT

SAFETY STANDARDS REQUIRE OPERATOR PRESENCE CONTROLS TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF INJURY. YOUR UNIT IS EQUIPPED WITH SUCH CONTROLS. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT THE FUNCTION OF THE OPERATOR PRESENCE CONTROLS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

TRAINING:

- Read this operator's manual carefully. Become familiar with the controls and know how to operate your mower properly. Learn how to quickly stop mower.
- Do not allow children to use your mower. Never allow adults to use mower without proper instructions.
- Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, especially small children and pets.
- Use mower only as the manufacturer intended and as described in this manual.
- Do not operate mower if it has been dropped or damaged in any manner. Always have damage repaired before using your mower.
- Do not use accessory attachments that are not recommended by the manufacturer. Use of such attachments may be hazardous.
- · Be aware that the blade turns when the engine is running.

PREPARATION:

- Always thoroughly check the area to be mowed and clear it of all stones, sticks, wires, bones, and other foreign objects.
 These objects will be thrown by the blade and can cause severe injury.
- Always wear safety glasses or eye shields when starting and while using your mower.
- Dress properly. Do not operate mower when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Wear only solid shoes with good traction when mowing.
- Check fuel tank before starting engine. Do not fill gas tank indoors, when the engine is running or when the engine is hot. Allow the engine to cool for several minutes before filling the gas tank. Clean off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine.
- Always make wheel height adjustments before starting your mower. Never attempt to do this while the engine is running.
- Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.

OPERATION:

- Keep your eyes and mind on your mower and the area being cut. Do not let other interests distract you.
- Do not mow wet or slippery grass. Never run while operating your mower. Always be sure of your footing - keep a firm hold on the handles and walk.
- Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times.

- Always stop the blade whenever you leave or are not using your mower, or before crossing driveways, walks, roads, and any gravel-covered areas.
- Never direct discharge of material toward bystanders nor allow anyone near the mower while you are operating it.
- Before cleaning, inspecting, or repairing your mower, stop the engine and make absolutely sure the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Then disconnect the spark plug wire and keep it away from the spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
- Do not continue to run your mower if you hit a foreign object.
 Follow the procedure outlined above, then repair any damage before restarting and operating you mower.
- Do not change the governor settings or overspeed the engine. Engine damage or personal injury may result.
- Do not operate your mower if it vibrates abnormally. Excessive vibration is an indication of damage; stop the engine, safely check for the cause of vibration and repair as required.
- Do not run the engine indoors. Exhaust fumes are dangerous.
- Never cut grass by pulling the mower towards you. Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down or you might lose your footing. Do not mow excessively steep slopes. Use caution when operating the mower on uneven terrain or when changing directions - maintain good footing.
- Never operate your mower without proper guards, plates, grass catcher or other safety devices in place.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE:

- Check the blade and the engine mounting bolts often to be sure they are tightened properly.
- Check all bolts, nuts and screws at frequent intervals for proper tightness to be sure mower is in safe working condition.
- Keep all safety devices in place and working.
- To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves or excessive grease and oil.
- Check grass catcher often for deterioration and wear and replace worn bags. Use only replacement bags that are recommended by and comply with specifications of the manufacturer of your mower.
- Always keep a sharp blade on your mower.
- · Allow engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
- Never store mower with fuel in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or an ignition source such as a hot water heater, space heater, clothes dryer, etc.



LOOK FOR THIS SYMBOL TO POINT OUT IMPORTANT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS. IT MEANS - ATTENTION!!! BECOME ALERT!!! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED.

CONGRATULATIONS on your purchase of a Sears Lawn Mower. It has been designed, engineered and manufactured to give you the best possible dependability and performance.

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

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

MODEL NUMBER	917.382781					
SERIAL NUMBER						
DATEOFPUR	CHASE					
THE MODELAND SERIAL NUMBERS WILL BE FOUND ON A DECAL ATTACHED TO THE REAR OF THE LAWN MOWER HOUSING						
	RECORD BOTH SERIAL NUMBER AND RCHASE AND KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE REFERENCE.					

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

HORSEPOWER:	4.5
DISPLACEMENT:	11.5 CU. IN.
GASOLINE CAPACITY AND TYPE:	1.5 QUARTS UNLEADED REGULAR
OIL TYPE (API-SF/SG):	SAE 30 (ABOVE 32°F) SAE 5W-30 (BELOW 32°F)
OIL CAPACITY:	20 OZS.
SPARK PLUG: (GAP: .030")	CHAMPION RJ19-LM STD361458
VALVE CLEARANCE:	INTAKE: .008 EXHAUST: .008
SOLID STATE IGNITION AIR GAP:	.0125 IN.
BLADE BOLT TORQUE:	35-40 FT. LBS.
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MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

A Sears Maintenance Agreement is available on this product. Contact your nearest Sears store for details.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

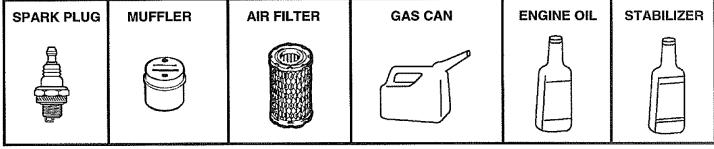
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SAFETY RULES	3 STORAGE 3, 11-13 TROUBLESHOO REPAIR PARTS REPAIR PARTS REPAIR PARTS REPAIR PARTS	ADJUSTMENTS
INDEX		
A	E	Operation:
Accessories 5	Engine:	Engine Control9
Adjustments:	Air Filter 13	Grass Catcher9
Carburetor14	Oil Change	Mower 9
Engine Speed 14	Oil Level 13	Operator Presence Control Bar9
Handle Height14	Oil Type 13 Starting 10	
Height of Cut9	Stopping10	Options:
Air Filter:	Storage 15	Accessories5
Replacement 13		R
Service 13	F	
Assembly 6	Fuel:	Repair Parts: Engine18-20
В	Capacity 3	Lawn Mower 16-17
_	Storage 15	Responsibilities, Customer 3, 11-13
Blade:	Type 9	riesponsibilities, Oustomer 5, 11-15
Sharpening	IJ	s
Replacement 12	H	Safety Rules2
С	Handle Adjustment:	Service and Adjustments14
Controls:	Assembly 6	Carburetor14
Engine Zone Control 9	Cutting Height 14	Engine Speed14
Engine Speed Control8	1	Handle14
Operator Presence	Lubrication:	Spark Plug13
Control Bar 8	Engine 13	• =
Customer Responsibilities 3, 11-13	Lawn Mower 11	,
Air Filter 13		Speed Control:
Blade Care/Replacement 12	M	Engine14
Engine13	Maintenance Agreement 3	Starting the Engine 10
Lubrication 13	Maintenance Schedule 11	Stopping the Engine 10
Spark Plug 13	Mowing Tips10	Storage 15
Cutting Levels9		-
	0	.
	Oil:	Trouble Shooting Chart 21
	Engine13	ist
	Storage 15	W
	-	Warranty 3

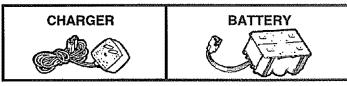
LAWN MOWER ACCESSORIES

These accessories were available when this lawn mower was produced. 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.

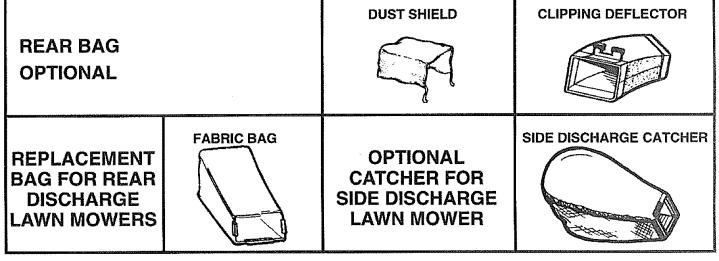
ENGINE



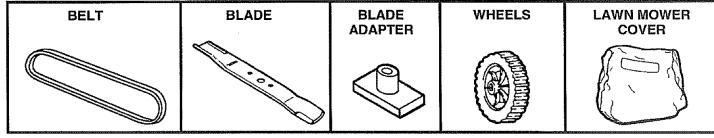
If lawn mower is an electric start



LAWN MOWER PERFORMANCE



LAWN MOWER MAINTENANCE



ASSEMBLY

Read these instructions and this manual in its entirety before you attempt to assemble or operate your new lawn mower. Your new lawn mower has been assembled at the factory with the exception of those parts left unassembled for shipping purposes. All parts such as nuts, washers, bolts, etc., necessary to complete the assembly have been placed in the parts bag. To ensure safe and proper operation of your lawn mower, all parts and hardware you assemble must be tightened securely. Use the correct tools as necessary to ensure proper tightness.

TO REMOVE LAWN MOWER FROM CARTON

- · 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 (See Fig. 1)

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

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

TO INSTALL ATTACHMENTS (See Fig. 2)

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

- Open rear door and remove mulcher plate. Store mulcher plate in a safe place.
- You can now install catcher or optional clipping deflector.
- To return to mulching operation, install mulcher plate into discharge opening of mower. Be sure all tabs are seated properly.

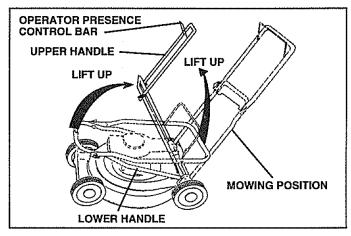


FIG. 1

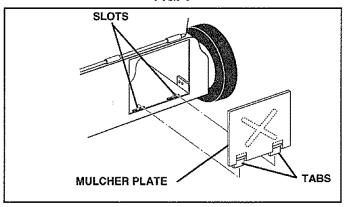


FIG. 2



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

ASSEMBLY

TO ASSEMBLE AND ATTACH GRASS CATCHER (See Figs. 3A thru 4C)

- To assemble tubular frame to grass bag, work sewn hem of bag out through the front opening of bag to expose the hem.
- Thread tubular frame into hem and gather material at top of frame as shown.
- Push frame inside bag through the opening until only the ends of frame are exposed out of the front.

NOTE: Do not close the flip lid at this time.

- Assemble lower frame to tubular frame as shown. Be sure frames are fully seated together as shown in inset.
- · 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.

- Close the flip lid. Flip lid must be closed while operating lawn mower.
- Lift the rear door on the mower housing and place the grass catcher frame onto the formed tabs on the rear door hinge bracket.
- 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 clipping deflector or approved grass catcher in place. Never attempt to operate the lawn mower with the rear door removed or propped open.

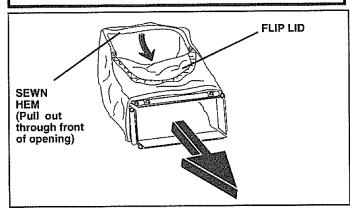


FIG. 3A

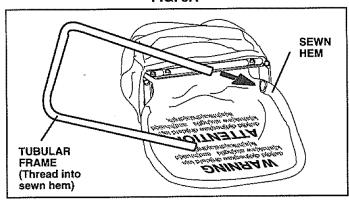


FIG. 3B

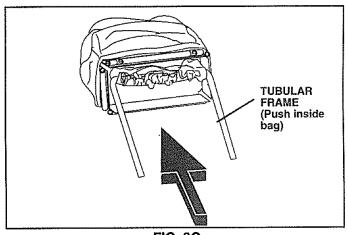


FIG. 3C

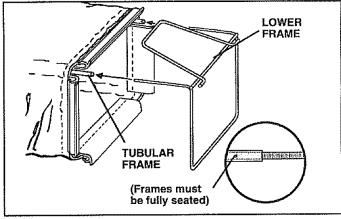


FIG. 4A

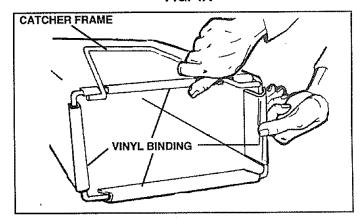


FIG. 4B

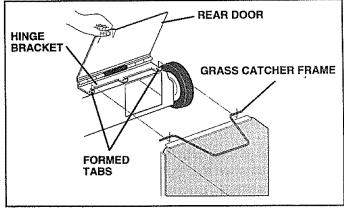
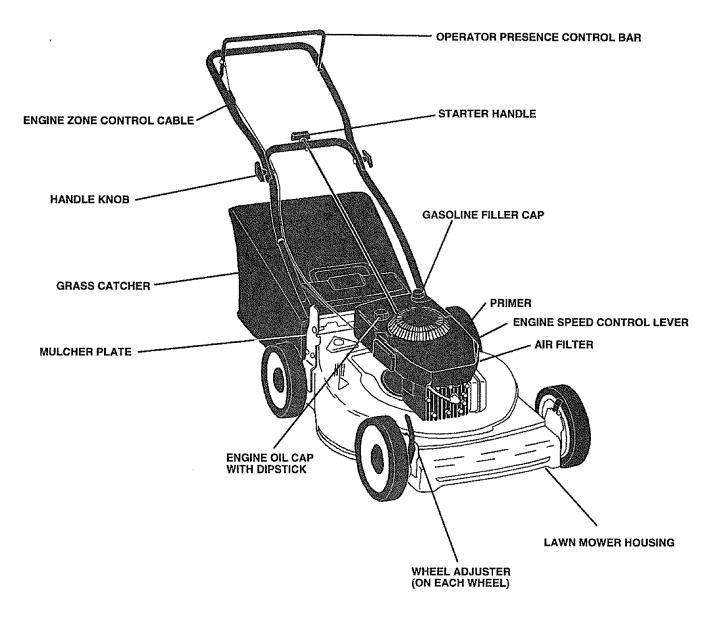


FIG. 4C

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.



MEETS CPSC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

STARTER HANDLE - used for starting the engine.

ENGINE SPEED CONTROL - located on the side of the engine which allows you to select either fast (�) or slow (�) engine speed.

MULCHER PLATE - located at the discharge opening must be removed when converting to bagging or discharging operation.

OPERATION

HOW TO USE YOUR LAWN MOWER ENGINE SPEED CONTROL (See Fig. 5)

The engine speed is controlled by a lever located on the side of the engine. Fast (4) position is for starting the engine, normal cutting, and better grass bagging. Slow (4) 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 (See Fig. 6)

- Raise wheels for low cut and lower wheels for high cut.
- Wheels are set in low cut for shipping. Adjust cutting height to suit your requirements. Medium position is best for most lawns.
- To change cutting height, squeeze adjuster lever toward wheel. Move wheel up or down to suit your requirements. Be sure all wheels are in the same setting.

TO EMPTY GRASS CATCHER (See Fig. 7)

- 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 w/dipstick and fill to the full line on the dipstick.
- Use 20 ozs. of oil. For type and grade of oil to use, see "ENGINE" in Customer Responsibilities 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.
- After the first two (2) hours of mowing, change the oil, and every 25 hours thereafter. You may need to change the oil more often under dusty, dirty conditions.

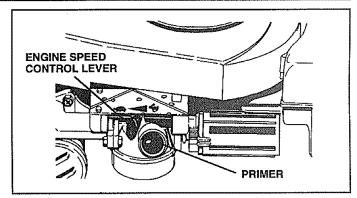


FIG. 5

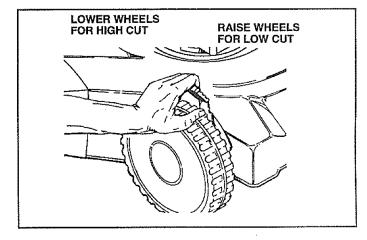


FIG. 6

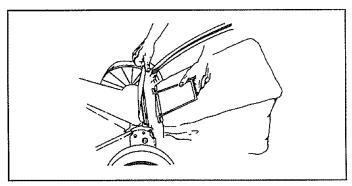


FIG. 7

GAS

Fill gasoline tank with fresh, clean, unleaded gasoline.
 DO NOT USE PREMIUM GASOLINE. BE CAREFUL NOT TO OVER FILL TANK.

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.

OPERATION

TO START ENGINE

- To start a cold engine, push primer five (5) 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.
- Push engine speed control lever to fast (4) 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.
- For extremely heavy cutting, reduce the width of cut and raise the rear of the lawn mower housing one (1) wheel adjuster setting higher than the front for better discharge of grass.
- For better grass bagging and most cutting conditions, the engine speed should be set in the fast (�) position.
- When using a rear discharge lawn mower in moist, heavy grass, clumps of cut grass may not enter the grass catcher. Reduce ground speed (pushing speed) and/or run the lawn mower over the area a second time.
- If a trail of grass clippings is left on the right side of a rear discharge lawn mower, mow in a clockwise direction with a small overlap to collect the clippings on the next pass.
- Keep top of engine around starter clear and clean of grass clippings and chaff. This will help engine air flow and extend engine life.
- 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 catchers off with water and let dry before using.

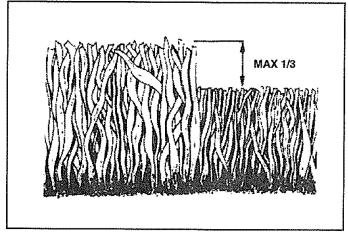


FIG. 8

MULCHING MOWING TIPS

IMPORTANT: FOR BEST PERFORMANCE, KEEP MOWER HOUSING FREE OF BUILT-UP GRASS AND TRASH. CLEAN UNDERSIDE OF MOWER HOUSING AFTER EACH USE. SEE "CLEANING" IN CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES 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 (See Fig. 8). 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, mow slowly and raise the rear of the lawn mower one wheel adjuster setting higher than the front.
- 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.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

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	REGULAR SERVICE		35/ 1			<u>}</u>)/ <	7,8		SE	RVIC	E D	ATES	;
	Check for Loose Fasteners	1						4						
M	Clean/Inspect Grass Catcher (If Equipped)	V	V				·,,, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4	., .					1
O W	Clean Lawn Mower		V					Barr .				V		
E	Inspect/Clean Drive Wheels (Self-Propelled Mowers)	V			V									
R	Sharpen/Replace Mower Blade					1 3								
	Lubrication Chart					V		6/						
	Clean Battery/Recharge (Electric Start Mowers)					V	Di Victo depaters. Les tits l'immes	V 4	en or with white legs his to					
E	Check Engine Oil Level	14			V									
Ī	Change Engine Oil			W		1,2					Market Printer			
G	Clean Air Filter					1/2								
lī	Inspect Muffler					V								
IN	Replace Spark Plug			v			4							
E	Replace Air Filter Paper Cartridge			XIII SII SII SII SII SII SII SII SII SII			V 2		or the terminal termi					

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

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Some adjustments will need to be made periodically to properly maintain your unit.

All adjustments in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual should be checked at least once each season.

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

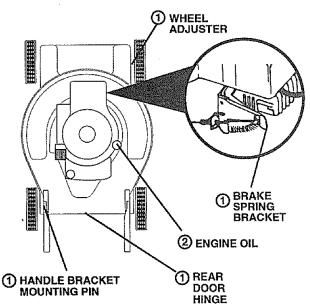
BEFORE EACH USE

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

LUBRICATION

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

LUBRICATION CHART



- (1) SPRAY LUBRICANT
- ② SAE 30 MOTOR OIL. REFER TO ENGINE CUSTOMER RESPON-SIBILITIES SECTION.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT OIL OR GREASE PLASTIC WHEEL BEARINGS. VISCOUS LUBRICANTS WILL ATTRACT DUST AND DIRT THAT WILL SHORTEN THE LIFE OF THE SELF LUBRICATING BEARINGS. IF YOU FEEL THEY MUST BE LUBRICATED, USE ONLY A DRY, POWDERED GRAPHITE TYPE LUBRICANT SPARINGLY.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

LAWN MOWER

Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

TIRES

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

BLADE CARE

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

TO REMOVE BLADE (See Fig. 9)

- 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. Use a 9/16" box or open-end wrench.
- Remove blade and attaching hardware (bolt, lock washer and hardened washer).

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

TO REPLACE BLADE (See Fig. 9)

- Position the blade adapter on the engine crankshaft.
 Be sure key in adapter and keyway in crankshaft 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 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.

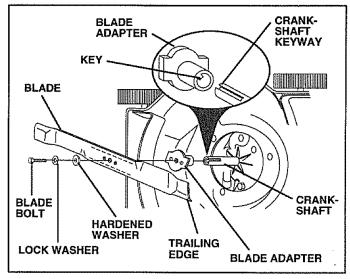


FIG. 9

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

TO SHARPEN BLADE

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.

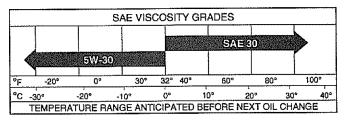
GRASS CATCHER

- 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.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

ENGINE LUBRICATION

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



NOTE: Although multi-viscosity oils (5W30, 10W30 etc.) improve starting in cold weather, these multi-viscosity oils will result in increased oil consumption when used above 32°F. Check your engine oil level more frequently to avoid possible engine damage from running low on oil.

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

Check the crankcase oil level before starting the engine and after each five (5) hours of continuous use. Tighten oil plug securely each time you check the oil level.

TO CHANGE ENGINE OIL (See Fig. 10)

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 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. Do not wash air filter.

TO CHANGE AIR FILTER (See Fig. 11)

- Remove the air filter cover by turning counterclockwise to the stop and pull away from collar.
- Remove filter from inside of cover.
- Clean the inside of the cover and the collar to remove any dirt accumulation.
- · Insert new filter into cover.
- Put air filter cover and filter into collar aligning the tab with the slot.
- Push in on cover and turn clockwise to tighten.

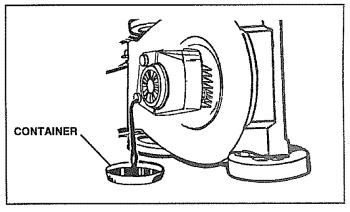


FIG. 10

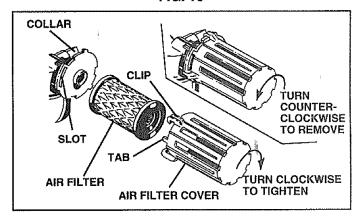


FIG. 11

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.

- Turn lawn mower on its side. Make sure air filter and carburetor are up. 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.
- 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 (See Figs. 12 Thru 14)

Your lawn mower handle can be raised or lowered for your mowing comfort. Four (4) positions are available: high, medium high, medium low and low. Handles are shipped mounted in the medium low position.

- To change from medium low to medium high position. the upper and lower handle sections will have to be turned over (See Fig. 12B).
- Remove the cable clips.
- Remove the controls and operator presence control bar from the upper handle.
- Remove the starter rope guide from the lower handle.
- Remove hairpin cotters.
- Disconnect the lower handle from the handle brackets (See Fig. 14).
- Turn the handle over and reassemble the hairpin cotters that have been removed.
- Reassemble the starter rope guide.
- Reassemble the controls and the operator presence control bar to the upper handle.

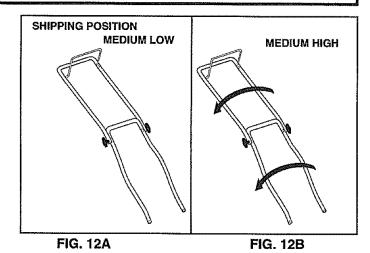


CAUTION: The operator presence control bar must pivot freely to permit blade brake engagement when control bar is released. Do not over tighten the fasteners holding the controls to the upper handle.

- To change from medium low to high position only the upper handle section will have to be turned over (See Fig. 13A).
- To change from medium low to low position, only the lower handle section will have to be turned over (See Fig. 13B).

ENGINE 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 for repair or adjustment.



LOW

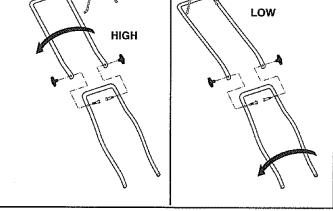


FIG. 13A FIG. 13B

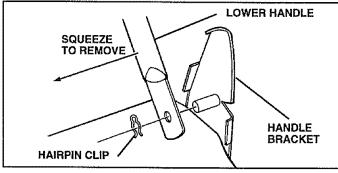


FIG. 14

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 for repair and adjustment.

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 Customer Responsibilities section of this manual).
- Lubricate as shown in the Customer Responsibilities 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 (See Fig. 15)

You can fold your lawn mower handle for storage.

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

IMPORTANT: WHEN FOLDING THE HANDLE FOR STORAGE OR TRANSPORTATION, BE SURE TO FOLD THE HANDLE AS SHOWN OR YOU MAY DAMAGE THE CONTROL CABLES.

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

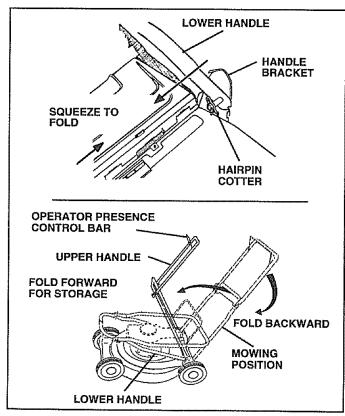


FIG. 15

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 Customer Responsibilities 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.

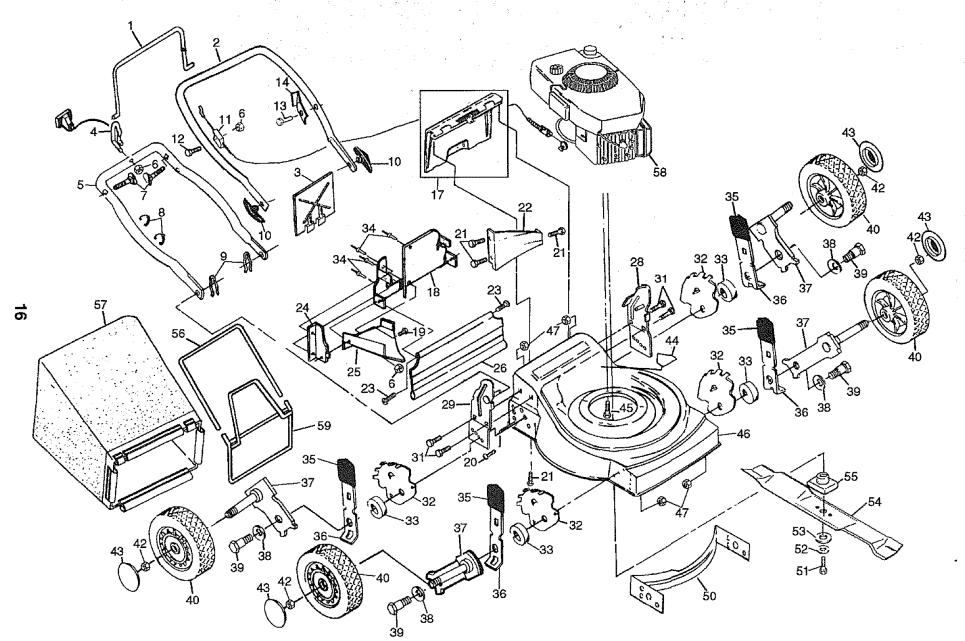
IMPORTANT: NEVER COVER MOWER WHILE ENGINE AND EXHAUST AREAS ARE STILL WARM.



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.

REPAIR PARTS

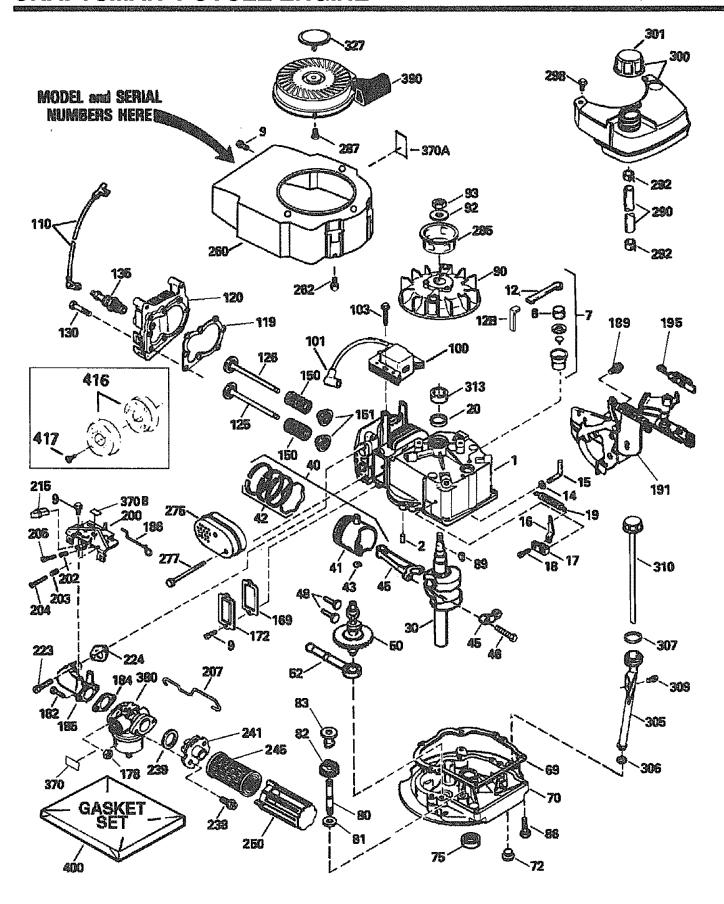
ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NO. 917.382781



REPAIR PARTS

ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NO. 917.382781

r	KEY NO.		DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
17	10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 29 31 32 33 34	86902 145646X479 133169X479 103672X 84676X479 STD541425 131959 85827 51793 136376 130861 74350424 750097 850733X004 147613 700357X479 STD622506 86344 54583 700063X479 133335X479 140657 140629X479 140628X479 55187 700325X007 84920 128415 87877	Control Bar Upper Handle Mulcher Plate Rope Guide Lower Handle Locknut 1/4-20 Handle Bolt Cable Clip Hairpin Cotter Handle Knob Engine Zone Control Cable Hex Head Bolt 1/4-20 x 1-1/2 Hex Washer Head Screw 10-24 x 1/2 Up-Stop Bracket Rear Door Assembly Kit Back Plate Self Tapping Screw 10-24 x 5/8 Self Tapping Screw 10-24 x 1/2 Hex Head Tapping Screw 1/4-20 x 1/2 Rear Baffle Hinge Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4 Side Baffle Discharge Baffle Rear Deflector Handle Bracket Assembly (Left) Handle Bracket Assembly (Right) Screw 5/16-18 x 3/4 Wheel Adjusting Bracket Spacer Pop Rivet Selector Knob	36 37 38 39 40 42 43 44 45 55 55 57 58 59 	700331X004 145935X004 62335 84921 146248 83923 77400 85463 850998 48395 751592 700938X479 851084 850263 851074 146749 850977 144748 141245 146381 144747 149061 able accessorie 71 33303 71 33723 71 33623 71 33500 71 33300 71 33316	Selector Spring Axle Arm Assembly Belleville Washer Shoulder Bolt Wheel and Tire Assembly Hex Flange Locknut Hubcap Danger Decal Hex Head Thread Rolling Screw 3/8-16 x 1 Lawn Mower Housing (Incl. Key #18, 22, 24, 44, 50) Locknut 3/8-16 Front Baffle Hex Head Machine Screw 3/8-24 x 1-3/8 (Grd. 8) Helical Lockwasher 3/8 Washer Blade 20" Blade Adapter Tube Frame Grass Bag Engine - Craftsman Model No.143.954502 Throat Frame Owner's Manual (English/Spanish) es not included with lawn mower: Clipping Deflector Hi-Wheel Kit Gas Can (2.5 gal.) Fuel Stabilizer SAE 30W Oil (20 oz.) Dust Shield Mower Cover

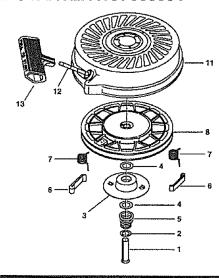


REF NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION		PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	36478A	Cylinder (Includes Reference		31673	Valve Spring Cap
		Numbers 2, 7, 20 and 125)			Valve Cover Gasket
2	26727	Dowel Pin			Valve Cover
6	33734	Breather Element			Nut and Lock Washer 1/4-28
7	36557	Breather Body Assembly (Includes Reference Numbers 6 and 12)			Screw 1/4-28 x 7/8 Carburetor To Intake Pipe Gasket
9	30200	Screw #10-24 x 9/16			Intake Pipe (Includes Ref. #224)
12	36558	Breather Tube			Governor Link
	00000	(Includes Reference Number 12B)			Screw 1/4-20 x 3/8
12B	34695	Breather Tube Elbow		36559	S.E. Brake Bracket (Includes #195)
14	28277	Washer			Terminal
15	30589	Governor Rod	200	35727	Control Bracket (Includes
16 17	31383A 31335	Governor Lever Governor Lever Clamp	202	36482	Reference Numbers 202 thru 205) Compression Spring
	650548	Screw #8-32 x 5/16			Compression Spring
	31361	Extension Spring			Screw #5-40 x 7/16
20	32600	Oil Seal		650777	Screw #6-32 x 21/32
30	35798	Crankshaft			Throttle Link
40	36073	Piston, Pin & Ring Set, Std. Size			Control Knob
	36074	Piston, Pin & Ring Set, .010" Over			Screw 1/4-20 x 1
44	36075	Piston, Pin & Ring Set, .020" Over		34690A * 650932	Intake Pipe Gasket Screw #10-32 x 49/64
41	36070 36071	Piston & Pin Assembly, Std. Size Piston & Pin Assembly, .010" Over			Air Cleaner Gasket
	36072	Piston & Pin Assembly, .020" Over			Air Cleaner Collar
	000.2	(Assemblies Include Ref. #43)			Air Cleaner Filter
42	36076	Ring Set, Piston, Standard Size			Air Cleaner Cover
	36077	Ring Set, Piston, .010" Oversize			Blower Housing
	36078	Ring Set, Piston, .020" Oversize			Screw 1/4-20 x 1/2
43	20381	Piston Pin Retaining Ring			Muffler (Includes Reference #277)
45	30963B	Connecting Rod Assembly (Includes Reference Number 46)		650988 35000A	Screw 1/4-20 x 2-13/64 Starter Cup
46	32610A	Connecting Rod Bolt			Screw #8-32 x 21/64
48	27241	Valve Lifter			Fuel Line
50	35990	Camshaft (BCR)	292	26460	Fuel Line Clamp
	29914	Oil Pump Assembly			Screw #10-32 x 35/64
69	35261	* Mounting Flange Gasket			Fuel Can (Includes #292 and 301)
70	34311D	Mounting Flange (Includes Reference Numbers 72 thru 83)			Fuel Cap Oil FIII Tube
72	36083	Oil Drain Plug			O-Ring
73	28833	Drain Plug Gasket			O-Ring
80	30574A	Governor Shaft			Screw #10-32 x 1/2
81	30590A	Washer		35648	Dipstick
82	30591	Governor Gear Assembly		34080	Spacer Starter Plus
83	30588A	(includes Reference Number 81) Governor Spool		35392 36260	Starter Plug Primer Decal
86	650488	Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4		36261	Lubrication Decal
	611004	Flywheel Key		3 35167	Control Decal
	611112	Flywheel		632569	Carburetor (Includes Ref. #184)
	650815	Belleville Washer		590694	Rewind Starter
	650816	Flywheel Nut	400	36481	Gasket Set
	34443A	Solid State Ignition	440	0000	(Includes All Items Marked *)
	610118 650814	Spark Plug Cover Screw, Torx T-15 #10-24 x 1	410	36085	Spark Arrestor Kit (Optional) (Includes Reference Number 417)
	34961	Ground Wire	417	650760	Screw #8-32 x 3/8 (Optional)
		* Cylinder Head Gasket			out of our of optionary
	36476	Cylinder Head		RPM Settings:	Low Speed: 2450-2750
125	36471	Exhaust Valve, Standard Size			High Speed: 3000-3300
106	36472 29314B	Exhaust Valve, 1/32" Oversize Intake Valve, Standard Size	МОТ	re. Thia	could have been built with 100000
120	29315C	Intake Valve, Standard Size Intake Valve, 1/32" Oversize	Stan	ter Refer to de	could have been built with 590686 sign of air intake louvers for part
	च्याच्याच्या के चित्र जिल्ला व	(All Valves Include Reference #151)			dual starter parts do not interchange.
	6021A	Screw 5/16-18 x 1-1/2			,
	35395	Resistor Spark Plug (RJ19LM)	ГОИ	E: All compone	ent dimensions given in U.S. inches
150	35991	Valve Spring		1 inch = 25.4	4 mm

CARBURETOR NO. 632569

	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
	632569	Carburetor, Complete (Includes #184 of Engine Parts List)
1	631615	Throttle Shaft and Lever Assembly
2 4 5 6 7	631767	Throttle Return Spring
4	631184	Dust Seal Washer, Throttle
5	631183	Dust Seal, Throttle
6	631616	Throttle Shutter
	650506	Shutter Screw
	631775	Fuel Fitting
	631700	Float Bowl
	631024	Float Shaft
	632019	Float
29	631028	Float Bowl "O" Ring
30	631021	Inlet Needle, Seat & Clip
		(Includes Reference Number 31)
31	631022	Spring Clip
35	632047	Primer Bulb/Retaining Ring
40	632071	High Speed Bowl Nut
44	631334	Bowl Nut Washer
48	631027	Welch Plug, Atmospheric Vent

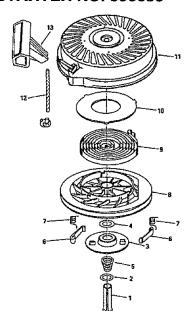
REWIND STARTER NO. 590694



NO.	NO.	DESCRIPTION
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13	590694 590599A 590600 590696 590601 590697 590698 590699 590700 590695	Recoil Starter, Complete Spring Pin (Includes Reference #4) Washer Retainer Washer Brake Spring Starter Dog Dog Spring Pulley & Rewind Spring Assembly Starter Housing Assembly (40 Degree Grommet) Starter Rope (98" Long, 9/64" Dia.) Starter Handle

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

REWIND STARTER NO. 590686



REF NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
	590686	Recoil Starter
1	590599A	Spring Pin (Includes Reference #4)
2	590600 590615 590601 590598 590616	Washer
3	590675	Retainer
4	590601	Washer
5	590598	Brake Spring
6	590616	Starter Dog
7	590617	Dog Spring
8	590618A	Pulley Assembly (Includes
		Reference Numbers 9 and 10)
9	590619	Rewind Spring
10	590620	Spring Cover
	590687	Starter Housing Assembly
		(40 Degree Grommet)
12	590535	Starter Rope (98" Long, 9/64" Dia.)
	590452	Starter Handle
10	COUTUE	Otalier Handle

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

TROUBLESHOOTING POINTS

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION		
Does not start	 Dirty air filter. Out of fuel. Stale fuel. Water in fuel. Spark plug wire is disconnected. Bad spark plug. Loose blade or broken blade adapter. Control bar in released position Control bar defective 	 Clean/replace air filter. Fill fuel tank. Drain tank and refill with fresh clean fuel. Drain fuel tank and carburetor and refill tank with fresh gasoline. Connect wire to plug. Replace spark plug. Tighten blade bolt or replace blade adapter. Depress control bar to handle. Replace control bar. 		
Loss of power 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.		 Set in "Higher Cut" position. Set in "Higher Cut" position. Clean/replace air filter. Clean underside of mower housing. Check oil level. Cut at slower walking speed. 		
Poor cut - uneven 1. Worn, bent or loose blade. 2. Wheel heights uneven. 3. Low engine speed. 4. Buildup of grass, leaves, and trash under mower.		 Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. Set all wheels at same height. Contact an authorized service center/department. Clean underside of mower housing. 		
Excessive vibration 1. Worn, bent or loose blade. 2. Bent engine crankshaft.		Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. Contact an authorized service center/department.		
Starter rope hard to pull	 Engine flywheel brake is on when control bar is released. Bent engine crankshaft Blade adapter broken. Blade dragging in grass. 	 Depress control bar to upper handle before pulling starter rope. Contact an authorized service center/department. Replace blade adapter. Move lawn mower to cut grass or to hard surface to start engine. 		
Grass catcher not filling (If so equipped)	Cutting height too low. Lift on blade worn off. Catcher not venting air. Low engine speed.	Raise cutting height. Replace blade. Clean grass catcher. Contact an authorized service center/department.		
Hard to push	 Grass is too high or wheel height is too low. Rear of lawn mower housing/blade dragging in grass. Grass catcher too full. Handle height position not right for you. 	 Raise cutting height. Raise rear of lawn mower housing one (1) setting higher. Empty grass catcher. Adjust handle height to suit. 		

SEARS

OWNER'S MANUAL

MODEL NO. 917.382781

IF YOU NEED REPAIR SERVICE OR PARTS:

FOR REPAIR SERVICE, CALL THIS TOLL FREE NUMBER:

1-800-4-REPAIR (1-800-473-7247)

FOR REPLACEMENT PARTS INFORMATION AND ORDERING, CALL THIS TOLL FREE NUMBER:

1-800-FON-PART (1-800-366-7278)

CREFTSMEN®

4.5 HORSEPOWER 20" REAR DISCHARGE 3 in ONE Convertible ROTARY LAWN MOWER

Each lawn mower has its own model number. Each engine has its own model number.

The model number for your lawn mower will be found on a decal attached to the rear of the lawn mower housing.

The model number for your engine will be found on the blower housing of the engine.

All parts listed herein may be ordered from any Sears, Roebuck and Co. Service Center/Department and most Retail Stores.

WHEN ORDERING REPAIR PARTS, ALWAYS GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- PRODUCT LAWN MOWER
- MODEL NUMBER 917.382781
- ENGINE CRAFTSMAN MODEL NO. 143.954502
- PART NUMBER
- PART DESCRIPTION

Your Sears merchandise has added value when you consider Sears has service units nationwide staffed with Sears trained technicians... professional technicians specifically trained to insure that we meet our pledge to you, we service what we sell.