

# **Lawnmower Operation & Assembly Instructions**



**WARNING** - Read all instructions supplied with this product before use.

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# IMPORTANT NOTES

Congratulations on your purchase of a new lawnmower. This instruction manual will aid in the assembly, operation and maintenance of your new lawnmower. Please read this manual carefully to ensure safety and the long life of your product.

Please read the Warranty leaflet carefully.

Keep this operators manual in a safe place for future refere service is required on your unit.



**Do not operate the unit before reading this manual.**

**Do not operate before reading the 'Engine Manual'.**

## Intended Use

This product is intended for domestic lawn mowing only. The cutting blade should rotate approximately parallel to the ground over which it is being wheeled. All four wheels should touch the ground while mowing. It is a pedestrian controlled walk behind mower.

**NOTE:** The mower should never be operated with the wheels off the ground, it should not be pulled or ridden on. It should not be used to cut anything other than domestic grass lawns.

Do not use the product for any task, except for that which it is intended.

## Safety Marking and Symbols



**Warning!**



**Caution! Rotating blades.**



**Read the directions for use before operating the machine.**



**Read the manual before carrying out any maintenance work.**



**Be careful of objects being thrown out!**



**Keep safe distance.**



**Remove spark plug.**



**Protect the machine from rain and damp.**

## Unit Details

When unpacking the unit, please make sure all the components listed below have been provided. In case of any missing components, please notify the place of purchase.

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • 1 x Lawnmower                 | • 1 x Assembled Grasscatcher |
| • 1 x Upper Handle+Lower Handle | • 1 x Mulch Plug             |
| • 1 x Side Chute Cover          | • 1 x Accessories Pack       |
| • 1 x Instruction Manual        | • 1 x Warranty Card          |



## Safety Instructions

### Transporting the mower

- Turn the engine off, by moving the throttle lever to the 'STOP' position and switching the fuel tap off (where fitted).
- Disconnect the spark plug lead and wedge it well away from the spark plug.
- Do not transport the mower in a vehicle if there is fuel in the fuel tank.
- Remove the battery and starting key, where fitted (In-Start models only).

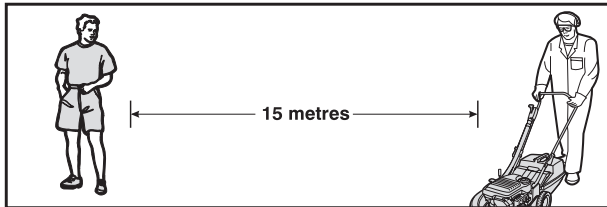
### Before using the mower



**ENGINE HAS NO OIL IN THE SUMP. BEFORE USING, ENGINE MUST HAVE SAE 30 OIL ADDED BEFORE STARTING ENGINE. PLEASE REFER TO THE ENGINE MANUAL FOR OIL CAPACITY AND FILLING METHOD. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL CAUSE ENGINE DAMAGE AND WILL VOID ENGINE WARRANTY.**

- Do not allow children, or people unfamiliar with these instructions, to use the mower.
- Ensure that the blade assembly is not worn or damaged. Always replace worn or damaged blades and bolts in sets to preserve correct balance. Damaged or worn blades and bolts are major hazards. Use genuine spare parts only.
- Please note: blades may be tucked under blade disc for safety and transport reasons before use. Once the engine is started they will relocate themselves for cutting.
- Check all fasteners regularly. Always ensure the mower is in a safe operating condition. Use genuine spare parts only.
- Check for grass build up around the engine and muffler which may cause overheating and/or a fire hazard.
- For 4-stroke engines, SAE 30 oil must be placed in engine sump before starting the engine. Please refer to Engine Owner's Manual, for filling volume and method. Failure to do so will cause engine damage and will void engine warranty.
- Do not start the engine unless the rear flap and/or grasscatcher are securely in position.
- Know the mower controls. Learn how to stop the engine quickly in an emergency by moving the throttle to the 'STOP' position or releasing the brake bale arm on models fitted with presence control

### Operating the mower



- Do not mow while people, especially children, or pets are in the vicinity of the mower or within the mowing area. Ensure that bystanders are a minimum of 15 metres away.
- Do not mow in bare feet or open shoes. Wear long trousers heavy footwear and eye protection.



# SAFETY & HANDLING

## Safety Instructions cont'd

- Make sure the lawn is clear of sticks, stones, bones, wire and debris before mowing. These could be thrown by the blades and cause injury or damage.
- Start the engine carefully with feet well clear of blades. Do not tilt the mower when starting the engine.
- Stop the engine whenever you leave the mower, even for a moment.
- Mow only in good daylight.
- Keep hands and feet away from rotating parts beneath mower when engine is running.
- Do not over speed the engine or alter the governor settings. Excessive engine speed is dangerous and shortens mower life.
- **Never lift, carry or tilt the mower when the engine is running.**
- Stop the engine before pushing the mower across gravel, paths or roads. Stop the engine before the mower leaves the lawn.
- Stop the engine before adjusting the cutting height.
- Mow across the face of a slope, never up or down. Use extreme caution when changing direction on a slope. Do not mow on excessively steep slopes.
- Never mow by pulling the mower towards you. You may slip and pull the mower on top of your feet. Never mow grass while walking backwards.
- Walk with the mower, never run.
- The safety distance determined by the guiding handles must be maintained at all times.
- At the conclusion of mowing, always turn the mower off using the throttle lever then turn fuel tap off (where fitted). To stop the mower on models with presence control, release the brake bale arm.
- Do not operate the mower in confined spaces where exhaust fumes (carbon monoxide) can collect.
- Stop the engine when emptying the grasscatcher.
- Stop the engine and disconnect spark plug wire before clearing blockages, checking, or working on the mower.
- If you strike an obstruction, stop the engine and check the blades for damage.
- Bystanders must be at least 15 metres away during operation of the mower, as rocks and other materials may be thrown at high velocities. Switch the unit off immediately if approached.
- Never use the mower unless the grasscatcher and/or the rear flap are correctly assembled and fitted.
- Wear suitable eye protection when operating mower.
- Never use an electrically powered mower in the rain or when grass is wet.

## Maintaining the mower

- If the mower begins to vibrate abnormally, or if it strikes a foreign object - STOP the engine. Disconnect the spark plug lead from the spark plug and carefully wedge it well away from the spark plug. Inspect the mower and blades for any damage.
- It is recommended that all maintenance, repair and inspection work be carried out by an Authorised Service Centre.



## Safety Instructions cont'd

- Store the mower in a well ventilated area, away from any naked flames such as those found in hot water heaters.

### Refuelling the mower

- Refuel the mower outdoors only.
- Do not smoke while operating or refuelling the mower. Never add fuel or remove the fuel cap while the engine is running or hot. If fuel is spilt, do not start the engine. Move the mower away from the area of the spill. Do not create any source of ignition until fuel vapours have dissipated.
- Store fuel in a cool place and in a container specifically designed for the purpose. Plastic containers are unsuitable, except those specifically designed to hold fuel.

## Hazards

The following safety precautions must be strictly observed to avoid the risk of damage or personal injury.

- Do not smoke while operating or refuelling the mower. Never add fuel or remove the fuel cap while the engine is running or hot. If fuel is spilt, do not start the engine. Move the mower away from the area of the spill. Do not create any source of ignition until the fuel vapours have dissipated.
- Check all fasteners regularly. Always ensure that the mower is in safe operating condition. Use genuine spare parts only.
- Do not operate the mower in confined spaces where exhaust fumes (carbon monoxide) can collect.
- Stop the engine whenever you leave the mower, even if only for a moment.
- Stop the engine when emptying the grasscatcher. Never try to clear grass from inside the mower while the engine is running.
- Never lift, carry or tilt the mower when the engine is running.
- Bystanders must be at least 15 metres away during operation of the mower, as rocks and other materials may be thrown at high velocities. Switch the unit off immediately if approached.
- Never use the mower unless the grasscatcher and/or the rear flap are correctly assembled and fitted.

## Personal Protective Equipment

Recommended personal protection equipment to wear when working with your lawnmower:



A set of ear muffs.



A pair of safety boots.



A pair of protective gloves.

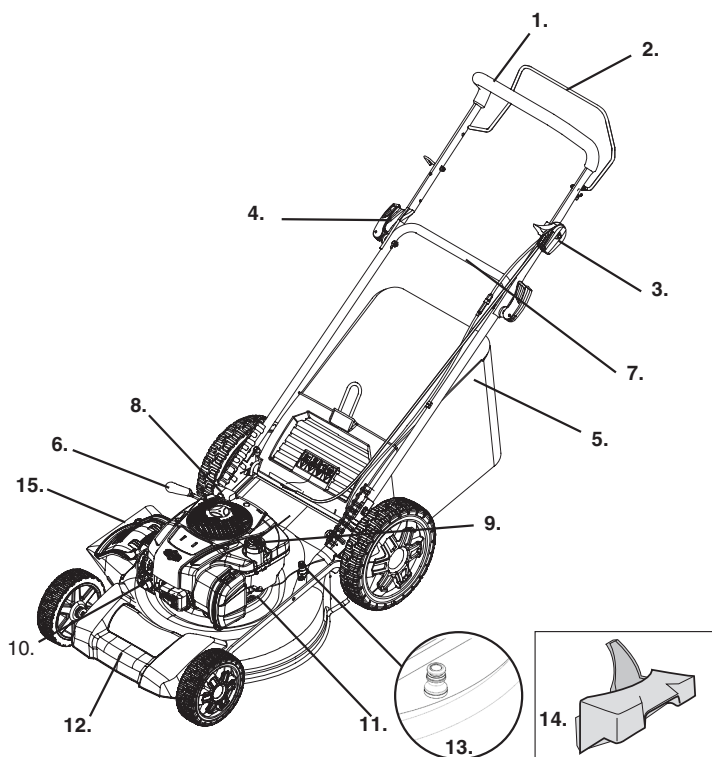


Eye protection.



# PRODUCT FEATURES

## Features



|                          |                        |                |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Upper Handle          | 5. Grass Catcher       | 9. Fuel Cap    | 13. Wash Port *  |
| 2. Self Propelled Bail * | 6. Height Adjust Lever | 10. Spark Plug | 14. Mulch Plug * |
| 3. Throttle Control      | 7. Lower Handle        | 11. Primer *   | 15. Side Chute * |
| 4. Handle Knob/Lever     | 8. Pull Start *        | 12. Deck       |                  |

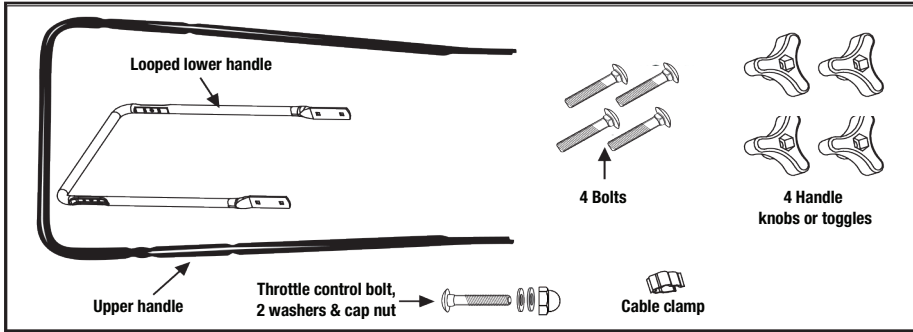
\* Present on specific models only



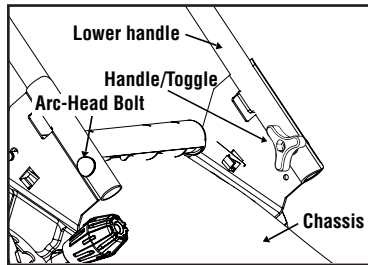
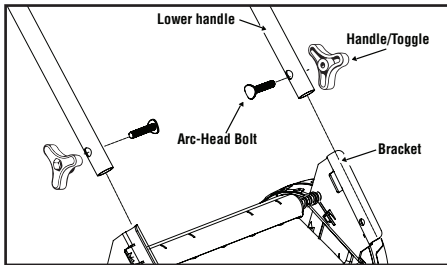


## Handle Assembly Parts

(Your lawnmower should include a kit with the following parts).



## Attaching the Lower Handle



**CAUTION!** Ensure the spark plug is disconnected.

Ensure the lower handle is securely fastened to the bracket using the fasteners supplied.

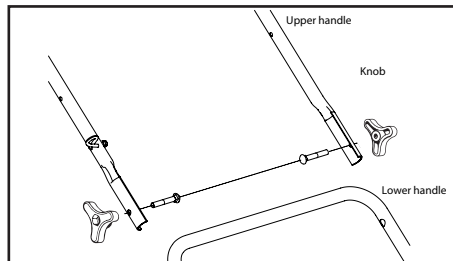
1. Tighten the handle knobs to secure the lower handle to the mounting bracket as shown.
2. The knobs should be on the outside.

## Attaching the Upper Handle



When folding or unfolding the handles ensure that the Throttle cable is not caught or stretched.

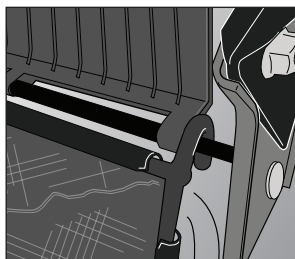
1. Tighten the handle knobs to secure the upper handle to the lower handle.
2. The knobs should be on the outside.





# ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES

## Attaching the Grasscatcher

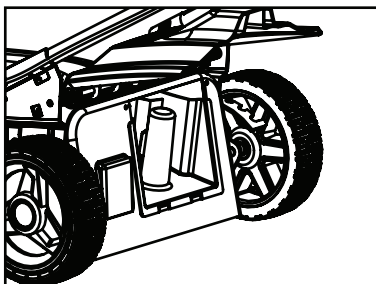
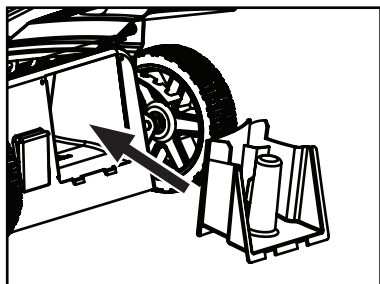


**STOP** the engine before fitting or removing the grasscatcher.

**Never use the mower unless the rear flap is closed or the grass catcher is correctly fitted.**

1. Stop the engine and raise the rear flap as shown in the figure above.
2. Hook the grasscatcher on the bar at the rear of the mower and lower the rear flap.
3. To remove the grasscatcher, lift the rear flap and grasp the handle on the grasscatcher and unhook from the rear bar.

## Mulching Plug



**STOP** the engine before inserting or removing the mulch plug.

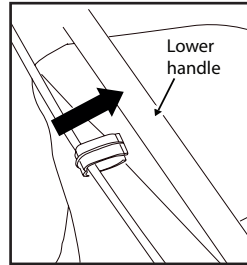
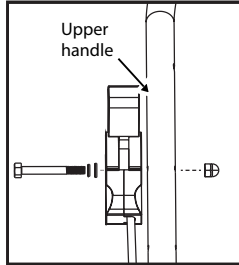
**Never use the mower unless the rear flap is closed or the mulch plug is correctly fitted.**

1. Stop the engine and raise the rear flap.
2. Insert the mulching plug into the baseplate as shown in the figure. **NOTE** the orientation of the mulching plug.
3. Ensure the mulching plug is locked in position. This can be ensured by a distinct ("CLICK") sound.
4. Close the rear flap ensuring that it closes fully.



## Attaching the Throttle Control

1. Attach the throttle control to the inside of the upper handle, so that the lever lifts upwards toward the user.
2. Secure the throttle cable to the lower handle with the cable clamp.



## Attaching the Side Chute\*

\* On selected models only.

Your lawnmower may come with an option of side discharge. Follow the steps below to attach the side chute attachment (provided with the mower) on the side discharge flap.



**STOP** the engine before attaching the side chute attachment.

**Never use the mower unless the side discharge flap is closed or the side chute attachment is fitted correctly.**

1. Stop the engine and remove the grasscatcher or mulch plug.
2. Push the side flap lock back and raise the side flap as shown above.
3. Hook the side chute attachment on the side flap mounting rod.

**NOTE:** The attachment should be hooked properly from both ends.

4. Lower the side flap gently on the attachment.



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## Engine Oil


The following warning labels are attached to your mower on purchase. Please read labels before discarding.



### 4 Stroke Label



#### WARNING WARNING WARNING WARNING

ENGINE HAS NO  OIL IN SUMP  
ADD SAE 30 OIL TO SUMP PRIOR TO STARTING ENGINE  
REFER TO ENGINE MANUAL FOR OIL VOLUME  
**FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS INSTRUCTION WILL  
VOID ENGINE WARRANTY**



Engine must have SAE 30 Oil added to the Engine Sump before starting. Refer to the Engine Manual for oil filling information.

Please use the engine's dipstick to ensure correct oil fill level.

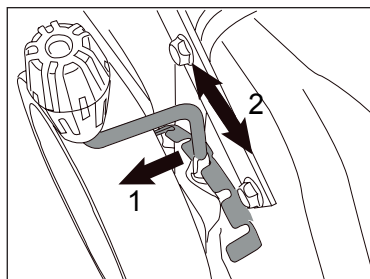
Failure to add oil to your engine before attempting to start it will damage the engine and void the Engine Warranty.

## Height Adjustment

Height adjustment allows lawn to be cut at different lengths. Set cut height by adjusting the height lever.



**STOP the engine before adjusting the cutting height**



## Starting & Stopping

These notes supplement the information on starting and stopping your lawnmower engine found in the Engine Operator's Manual supplied with your lawnmower. Please read your Engine Operator's Manual prior to attempting to start your engine for the first time. If your engine model is not covered by the notes below please read the Engine Manual supplied with your lawnmower.

- Always check your engine oil level before starting the engine at the start of mowing.
- Check that the spark plug is connected before attempting to start the engine.
- Ensure you have fresh petrol in the engine's fuel tank.
- Ensure the fuel tap, where fitted is ON before attempting to start the engine.



## Starting & Stopping Cont.



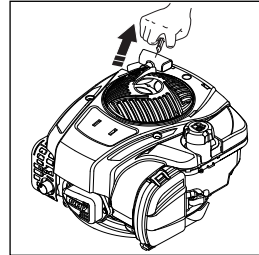
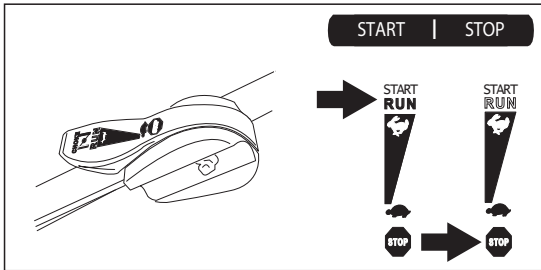
Do not operate the machine in an enclosed or poorly ventilated areas as the exhaust gas contains toxic substances.

The exhaust and other parts of the machine will become hot during use.



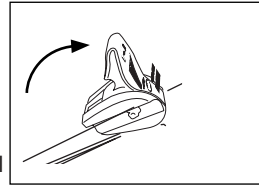
Make sure that the blade is securely fastened before starting the engine.

Keep hands, feet, hair and clothing away from all the moving parts of the machine.



See the steps below to start and stop your engine:

1. Push the throttle control to the START/RUN position.
2. For 'COLD START' push the Primer Button three times. Primer button is usually located on or near the air filter. For 'HOT START' Priming is not required.
3. Firmly hold the starter handle and pull the starter slowly until resistance is felt, then pull the cord rapidly.
4. If the engine does not start after a couple of repeated attempts, repeat the priming step before further starting attempts.
5. Return the starter handle gently. Do not allow the starter handle to fly back and strike the engine cowl as damage may result.
6. To stop the engine move the throttle control lever to the STOP position.

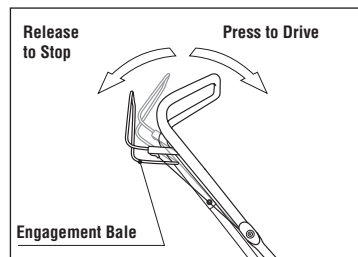


## Self Propelled Drive\*

\* On selected models only.

Your lawnmower may come with an option of self propelled drive. Follow the steps below to operate.

- To engage drive - press Engagement Bale against the mower handle.
- Hold lever against handle while the drive is required.
- To disengage drive - release to stop.





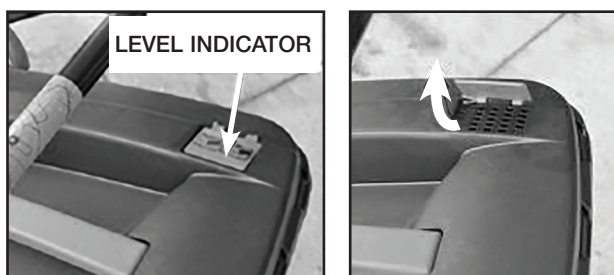
# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## Grasscatcher Level Indicator

Some models will have the grasscatcher level indicator to show whether the catcher is empty or full:

- The level indicator inates if the catcher is not full during the moving.
- If the catcher is full, the indicator collapses; once this happens, stop moving immediately and empty the catcher, make sure it is clean and ensure its meshwork is ventilated.

**IMPORTANT:** If the level indicator opening is very dirty, the indicator will not inate-in this case. Clean the position of indicator opening immediately.



## Grasscatcher Level Indicator

- A mulching mower is designed to cut, retain, and recut the clippings until they have reached a very small size. These are then blown down into the root system as nutrients for your lawn.
- For best mulching results only mow the top 2.5cm of lawn growth. If grass has become excessively long choose a height setting and gradually reduce the cutting height after each
- pass, or use grasscatcher.
- Dry grass will aid in the mulching action of the mower.
- Cut the grass regularly to avoid it becoming too long and making it dicult to mulch.
- As a general rule, only cut the top one third of the grass length (approximately). More than this may leave an untidy appearance and nish.
- Mulching is sensitive to the chosen height setting. If the height setting is too low cut grass may be left on top of the lawn. In this case raise the height setting.
- Cut the grass in the late afternoon or morning. This will stop the grass being damaged by direct sunlight.
- To maintain cutting performance keep the underside of the mower clean.
- The cutting pattern should be varied from week to week (eg. North-South to East-West).
- When using a mulcher the grass tends to be carried along with the mower. Mow from the thick grass to light grass as this will deposit clippings and encourage growth in these areas.
- Excessively long grass will not be mulched adequately, in this case, it is recommended to use grasscatcher.
- Worn or incorrect blades will reduce lawn nish and will not mulch properly. Use only genuine blades and replace them regularly.



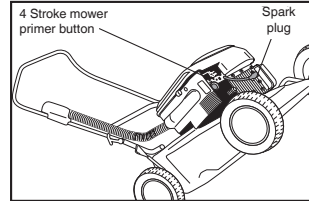
## Cleaning



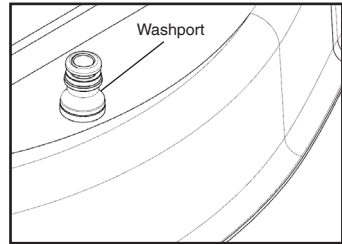
**Before cleaning the mower, ensure the throttle lever is in the 'STOP' position.**

**Turn the fuel tap off, disconnect the spark plug lead and wedge it well away from the spark plug, and remove the battery on Instart models.**

- Remove grass build up from the air intakes on the top of the mower cowl, around the engine and carburettor, and around the air filter body.
- The underside of the mower should be cleaned regularly to remove dirt and grass build up; any build up will adversely affect grass catching and mulching performance and can promote corrosion on steel baseplates.



- **When cleaning the underside of the mower, always tilt handle back to ground level so the front wheels are off the ground and spark plug is pointing to the sky. Tilting in other direction can cause the oil to contaminate the fuel & damage air filter causing starting difficulties.**



(Only on some baseplate models)

- A hose may be used on the underside of your mower ONLY. Care must be taken to NOT get water into the engine, as it may damage the magneto or get into the fuel system.
- If your mower is fitted with a washport, simply attach a garden hose whilst the engine is running and turn on the water.
- To prevent chassis corrosion, the underside of your mower should be cleaned immediately after mowing an area which has been recently dressed with sulphate of ammonia or fertiliser.
- After cleaning, run the engine briefly to dry off excess moisture before storing.

## Storage

Fuel can become stale when stored over 30 days. Stale fuel causes acid and gum deposits to form in the fuel system. Drain the fuel for long term storage.



# MAINTENANCE & CARE

## Blade Replacement

### For Your Safety

- Never use the mower unless the grasscatcher or the guards supplied by the manufacturer are in position.
- Before starting the mower check blades and bolts for damage or wear.
- If you strike an obstruction, stop the engine and check the blades for damage.



**Worn and damaged blades are major hazards.**

**DO NOT lay mower on its side.**

- **CAUTION:** Be sure to disconnect and ground the spark plug wire before working on the cutting blade to prevent accidental engine starting. Protect hands by using heavy duty gloves or a rag to grasp the cutting blade.
- We recommend changing blade bar, washer and bolt as a set. Metal fatigue and damage may occur which may not be visible to the operator. Always replace all blades to ensure correct engine balance, reducing vibration and wear. Tighten nuts on blade bolts to 14-19 Nm.
- Always turn the nut to check tightness, not the bolt.



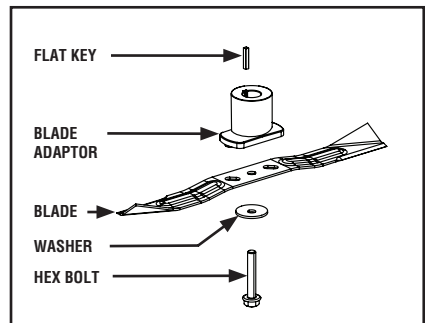
**WARNING: Periodically inspect the blade adaptor for cracks, especially if you strike a foreign object. Replace when necessary.**



**Use only genuine replacement parts made and guaranteed by Briggs & Stratton. Insist on them from your parts and service dealer.**

**Detailed fitting instructions are printed on genuine Briggs & Stratton blade packs. Use of non-genuine blades may void your warranty and could result in damage or injury.**

- Remove the grass catcher.
- Lift the mower from the front to access the blade.
- Assembly: Fit as per the drawing remembering to push the head of the bolt into the blade disc (this will stop the bolt head from turning). Ensure correct order of assembly.







## Maintenance Chart

Refer to the following table for routine maintenance.

| Features                 | Requirements               | Time Period  |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------|-------|-----------|------------|
|                          |                            | Before start | After finish | Refuelling | Week | Month | If faulty | If damaged |
| Lawnmower                | Visual inspection (leaks)  | •            |              | •          |      |       |           |            |
| Throttle lever           | Check operation            |              | •            |            |      |       |           |            |
| Remote air filter hose   | Check                      | •            |              |            |      | •     |           |            |
| Cutting system (Blades)  | Inspect and check assembly | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       | •         | •          |
| Rear flap                | Inspect and check assembly | •            |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Chassis                  | Check for buildup of grass |              | •            |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Clean                      |              | •            |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Air filter               | Check                      | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Clean                      | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       | •         | •          |
| Engine cylinder fins     | Clean                      |              |              |            |      | •     |           | •          |
| Spark plug               | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       | •         | •          |
| All accessible fasteners | Check                      | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Retighten                  |              |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Engine mounting bolts    | Check and retighten        |              |              |            |      | •     |           |            |
| Mulching plug            | Inspect and check assembly | •            |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Muffler                  | Inspect                    |              |              |            |      | •     |           | •          |
|                          | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Grasscatcher             | Check                      | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Clean                      |              | •            |            |      |       |           |            |
|                          | Replace                    |              |              |            |      |       |           | •          |
| Check oil                | Check                      | •            |              |            |      |       |           |            |



**Before carrying out maintenance, STOP the engine, disconnect the spark plug lead from the spark plug and wedge it between the cylinder head fins. Remove the starter key from the ignition switch of Keystart models and disconnect the battery.**



**Never attempt maintenance that is not outlined in this manual. All repair work must be carried out by an Authorised Service Centre.**



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## Troubleshooting

| Problem                  | Possible cause  | Correction  |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Does not start           | Out of fuel   | Refill tank with correct fuel   |
|                          | Throttle lever in incorrect position                                | Refer to 'Starting Procedures'  |
|                          | Spark plug lead not connected                                       | Press terminal cover fully onto the spark plug                                      |
|                          | Engine flooded  | Turn fuel tap 'OFF'. Pull starter cord until engine starts, then turn fuel tap 'ON' |
|                          | Dirty spark plug  | Replace spark plug  |
|                          | Stale fuel in tank from last season                                 | Contact Service Centre  |
|                          | Water in fuel tank  | Contact Service Centre  |
|                          | Service required  | Contact Service Centre  |
|                          | Engine worn   | Contact Service Centre  |
| Loss of power            | Low or no oil (4 stroke)  | Top up with correct oil   |
|                          | Incorrect throttle setting  | Set throttle lever in the 'RUN' position  |
|                          | Dirty air filter element  | Clean or replace  |
|                          | Too low height adjustment   | Raise cutting height  |
| Poor cutting or catching | Low or no oil (4 stroke)  | Top up with correct oil   |
|                          | Blades worn or damaged  | Replace   |
|                          | Blade disc loose  | Contact Service Centre  |
|                          | Slow running  | Refer to 'Loss of Power' above  |
|                          | Blades restricted by grass and dirt accumulated under the baseplate | Remove spark plug lead and clean under the baseplate                                |
| Excessive vibrations     | Blocked vents in grasscatcher                                       | Clean vents   |
|                          | Build up of grass and dirt on upper surface of blade disc           | Clean   |
|                          | Blades out of balance   | Replace both blades   |
|                          | Bent or damaged disc or blade                                       | Replace disc or both blades   |
|                          | Looseness of assembly   | Check all nuts for tightness  |
| Engine stops frequently  | Low or no oil (4 stroke)  | Top up with correct oil   |
|                          | Fuel supply blocked   | Check fuel line   |
|                          | Engine worn or seized   | Contact Service Centre  |
|                          | Fuel cap not venting  | Check / Loosen cap slightly   |
|                          | Low or no oil (4 stroke)  | Top up with correct oil   |

**If running difficulties continue, please contact Customer Service on (1800 356 632). New Zealand Customers Phone (09) 477 0827.**



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