TimeCutter® Z380 and Z420 Riding Mowers
Model No. 74301—Serial No. 260020000 and Up
Model No. 74327—Serial No. 260020000 and Up
**Warning**

**CALIFORNIA Proposition 65 Warning**

The engine exhaust from this product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

**Important**: This engine is not equipped with a spark arrester muffler. It is a violation of California Public Resource Code Section 4442 to use or operate the engine on any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land. Other states or federal areas may have similar laws.

This spark ignition system complies with Canadian ICES-002.

The enclosed Engine Owner’s Manual is supplied for information regarding the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Emission Control Regulation of emission systems, maintenance, and warranty. Replacements may be ordered through the engine manufacturer.

For models with stated engine horsepower, the gross horsepower of the engine was laboratory rated by the engine manufacturer in accordance with SAE J1940. As configured to meet safety, emission, and operating requirements, the actual engine horsepower on this class of lawn mower will be significantly lower.

**Introduction**

Read this information carefully to learn how to operate and maintain your product properly and to avoid injury and product damage. You are responsible for operating the product properly and safely.

You may contact Toro directly at www.Toro.com for product and accessory information, help finding a dealer, or to register your product.

Whenever you need service, genuine Toro parts, or additional information, contact an Authorized Service Dealer or Toro Customer Service and have the model and serial numbers of your product ready. Figure 1 identifies the location of the model and serial numbers on the product. Write the numbers in the space provided.

Write the product model and serial numbers in the space below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model No.</th>
<th>Serial No.</th>
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This manual identifies potential hazards and has safety messages identified by the safety alert symbol (Figure 2), which signals a hazard that may cause serious injury or death if you do not follow the recommended precautions.

This manual uses two other words to highlight information. **Important** calls attention to special mechanical information and **Note** emphasizes general information worthy of special attention.

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Safety

This machine meets or exceeds the B71.1-2003 specifications of the American National Standards Institute, in effect at the time of production. However, improper use or maintenance by the operator or owner can result in injury. To reduce the potential for injury, comply with these safety instructions and always pay attention to the safety alert symbol, which means CAUTION, WARNING, or DANGER-"personal safety instruction." Failure to comply with the instruction may result in personal injury or death.

Safe Operating Practices

The following instructions are from ANSI standard B71.1-2003.

This product is capable of amputating hands and feet and throwing objects. Always follow all safety instructions to avoid serious injury or death.

General Operation

- Read, understand, and follow all instructions in the operator’s manual and on the machine before starting.
- Do not place hands or feet near rotating parts or under the machine. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times.
- Allow only responsible adults who are familiar with the instructions to operate the machine.
- Clear the area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, etc., which could be picked up and thrown by the blade.
- Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop the machine if anyone enters the area.
- Never carry passengers.
- Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while backing up.
- Be aware of the mower discharge direction and do not point it at anyone. Avoid discharging material against a wall or obstruction. Material may ricochet back toward the operator. Stop the blade(s) when crossing gravel surfaces.
- Do not operate the mower without either the entire grass catcher or the guard in place.
- Be alert, slow down and use caution when making turns. Look behind and to the side before changing directions.
- Never leave a running machine unattended. Always turn off blades, set parking brake, stop engine, and remove key before dismounting.
- Turn off blades when not mowing. Stop the engine and wait for all parts to come to a complete stop before cleaning the machine, removing the grass catcher or unclogging the discharge chute.
- Operate the machine only in daylight or good artificial light.
- Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
- Use extra care when loading or unloading the machine into a trailer or truck.
- Always wear eye protection when operating the mower.
- Data indicates that operators, age 60 years and above, are involved in a large percentage of riding mower-related injuries. These operators should evaluate their ability to operate the riding mower safely enough to protect themselves and others from serious injury.
- Always follow the recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights.

Slope Operation

Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents, which can result in severe injury. Operation on all slopes requires extra caution. If you feel uneasy on a slope, do not mow it.

- Watch for ditches, holes, rocks, dips, and rises that change the operating angle, as rough terrain could overturn the machine.
- Choose a low ground speed so you will not have to stop while operating on a slope.
- Do not mow slopes when grass is wet. Slippery conditions reduce traction and could cause sliding and loss of control.
- Always keep the machine in gear when going down slopes. Do not shift to neutral and coast downhill.
- Reduce speed and use extreme caution on slopes.
- Do not make sudden turns or rapid speed changes.
- Use a walk behind mower and/or a hand trimmer near drop-offs, ditches, steep banks or water.
- Remove or mark obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc. from the mowing area. Tall grass can hide obstacles.
- Avoid sudden starts when mowing uphill because the mower may tip backwards.
- Be aware that loss of traction may occur going downhill. Weight transfer to the front wheels may cause drive wheels to slip and cause loss of braking and steering.
- Always avoid sudden starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly off the slope.
- Use extreme care with grass catchers or other attachments. These can change the stability of the machine and cause loss of control.
- Do not try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.
- Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches, steep banks or water. Wheels dropping over edges can cause rollovers, which may result in serious injury, death or drowning.

**Children**

Tragic accidents can occur if the operator is not alert to the presence of children. Children are often attracted to the machine and the mowing activity. Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them.

- Keep children out of the mowing area and under the watchful care of another responsible adult, not the operator.
- Be alert and turn the machine off if children enter the area.
- Before and while backing or changing direction, look behind, down, and side-to-side for small children.
- Never carry children, even with the blades off. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe machine operation.
- Children who have been given rides in the past may suddenly appear in the mowing area for another ride and be run over or backed over by the mower.
- Never allow children to operate the machine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, the end of a fence or other objects that may obscure vision.

**Towing**

- Tow only with a machine that has a hitch designed for towing. Do not attach towed equipment except at the hitch point.
- This product has a limited towing capacity for small attachments up to 100 lbs; such as leaf sweepers and spreaders. Towing of attachments should be limited to flat ground.
- Never allow children or others in or on towed equipment.
- On slopes, the weight of towed equipment may cause a loss of traction and control. Towing on slopes is not recommended.
- Travel slowly and allow extra distance to stop.

**Service**

Safe Handling of Gasoline:

To avoid personal injury or property damage, use extra care when handling gasoline and other fuels. They are flammable and the vapors are explosive.

- Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.
- Use only an approved container.
- Never remove the gas cap or add fuel when the engine is running. Allow the engine to cool before refueling.
- Never refuel the machine indoors.
- Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, such as near a water heater or furnace.
- Never fill containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer with a plastic liner. Always place containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
- Remove gas-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment with a portable container, rather than from a gasoline dispenser nozzle.
• Keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until the fueling is complete. Do not use a nozzle lock-open device.

• If fuel is spilled on clothing, change clothing immediately.

• Never overfill the fuel tank. Replace gas cap and tighten securely.

General Service:

• Never run a machine inside a closed area.

• Keep nuts and bolts tight, especially the blade attachment bolts. Keep equipment in good condition.

• Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.

• Keep the machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean up oil or fuel spillage fuel soaked debris. Allow the machine to cool before storing.

• Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair, if necessary, before restarting.

• Never make any adjustments or repairs with the engine running.

• Grass catcher components are subject to wear, damage and deterioration, which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. Frequently check components and replace with manufacturer’s recommended parts, when necessary.

• Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.

• Check for proper brake operation frequently. Adjust and service as required.

• Maintain or replace safety and instruction decals as necessary.

• Use only genuine Toro replacement parts to ensure that original standards are maintained.

• Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, which is an odorless, deadly poison that can kill you. Do not run engine indoors or in an enclosed area.

• Stop the engine, disconnect spark plug wire(s) and remove key before performing any service, repairs, maintenance or adjustments.

• Keep hands, feet, hair, and loose clothing away from attachment discharge area, underside of mower and any moving parts while engine is running.

• Do not touch equipment or attachment parts which may be hot from operation. Allow to cool before attempting to maintain, adjust or service.

• Battery acid is poisonous and can cause burns. Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing. Protect your face, eyes, and clothing when working with a battery.

• Battery gases can explode. Keep cigarettes, sparks and flames away from battery.

• Use only Toro approved attachments. Warranty may be voided if used with unapproved attachments.

• If loading the machine onto a trailer or truck, use a single, full-width ramp only. The ramp angle should not exceed 12.5 degrees.

Note: Determine the left and right sides of the machine from the normal operating position.

**Toro Riding Mower Safety**

The following list contains safety information specific to Toro products or other safety information that you must know that is not included in the ANSI standards.

• Do not mow slopes greater than 12.5 degrees.
Fold along appropriate line

Example: Compare slope with folded edge.

THIS IS A 5° SLOPE
THIS IS A 10° SLOPE
THIS IS A 12.5° SLOPE

Align this edge with a vertical surface (Tree, Building, Fence post, pole, etc.)
Safety and Instructional Decals

Safety decals and instructions are easily visible to the operator and are located near any area of potential danger. Replace any decal that is damaged or lost.

93-6677

1. Warning—don’t operate the mower with the deflector up or removed; keep the deflector in place.
2. Cutting/dismemberment hazard of hand or foot, mower blade—stay away from moving parts.

93-7009

1. Warning—don’t operate the mower with the deflector up or removed; keep the deflector in place.
2. Cutting/dismemberment hazard of hand or foot, mower blade—stay away from moving parts.

110-1868

1. Thrown object hazard, mower—keep the deflector in place.
2. Thrown object hazard—keep bystanders a safe distance from the machine; Do not operate the without grass collection system in place.
3. Cutting/dismemberment of hand or foot—stay away from moving parts.

93-7010

1. Thrown object hazard—keep bystanders a safe distance from the machine.
2. Thrown object hazard, mower—keep the deflector in place.
3. Cutting/dismemberment of hand or foot—stay away from moving parts.

Manufacturer’s Mark

1. Indicates the blade is identified as a part from the original machine manufacturer.
1. To push the machine, move tow levers forward and then out to lock them into position.

1. Read the instructions before servicing or performing maintenance.
2. Check tire pressure every 25 operating hours.
3. Grease every 25 operating hours.
4. Engine

1. Parking brake

1. Height of cut
Some or all of these symbols are on your battery:

1. Explosion hazard
2. No fire, open flame, or smoking.
3. Caustic liquid/chemical burn hazard
4. Wear eye protection
5. Read the Operator’s Manual.
6. Keep bystanders a safe distance from the battery.
7. Wear eye protection; explosive gases can cause blindness and other injuries.
8. Battery acid can cause blindness or severe burns.
9. Flush eyes immediately with water and get medical help fast.
10. Contains lead; do not discard.

2. Warning—read the instructions before servicing or performing maintenance; move the motion control levers to the brake position, remove the ignition key and disconnect the spark plug wire.
3. Cutting/dismemberment hazard, mower blade; entanglement hazard, belt—do not open or remove safety shields while engine is running.
4. Loss of traction/control hazard, slopes—loss of traction/control on a slope, disengage the blade control switch (PTO), proceed off the slope slowly.
5. Crushing/dismemberment hazard of bystanders, reversing; crushing/dismemberment hazard of bystanders—do not carry passengers, look behind and down when reversing.
6. Tipping hazard—do not mow up and down slopes, only mow across slopes less than 15 degrees, avoid sudden and sharp turns while on slopes.
7. Thrown object hazard—keep bystanders a safe distance from the machine, pick up debris before operating, keep deflector in place.
Product Overview

Controls

Become familiar with all of the controls Figure 5 and Figure 4 before you start the engine and operate the machine.
Figure 5

1. Ignition switch  
2. Throttle/Choke  
3. Blade control switch (power take-off)

Parking Brake

The parking brake is automatically set when the motion control levers are in the brake position.

Always position the motion control levers into the brake position when you stop the machine or leave it unattended.
Operation

Note: Determine the left and right sides of the machine from the normal operating position.

Think Safety First

Please carefully read all of the safety instructions and decals in the safety section. Knowing this information could help you, your family, pets or bystanders avoid injury.

Mowing on wet grass or steep slopes can cause sliding and loss of control.

Wheels dropping over edges can cause rollovers, which may result in serious injury, death or drowning.

To avoid loss of control and possibility of rollover:

• Do not mow near drop-offs or near water.
• Do not mow slopes greater than 12.5 degrees.
• Reduce speed and use extreme caution on slopes.
• Avoid sudden turns or rapid speed changes.

Recommended Gasoline

Use UNLEADED Regular Gasoline suitable for automotive use (87 pump octane minimum). Leaded regular gasoline may be used if unleaded regular is not available.

Important: Never use methanol, gasoline containing methanol, or gasohol containing more than 10% ethanol because the fuel system could be damaged. Do not mix oil with gasoline.

In certain conditions, gasoline is extremely flammable and highly explosive. A fire or explosion from gasoline can burn you and others and can damage property.

• Fill the fuel tank outdoors, in an open area, when the engine is cold. Wipe up any gasoline that spills.
• Never fill the fuel tank inside an enclosed trailer.
• Do not fill the fuel tank completely full. Add gasoline to the fuel tank until the level is 1/4 to 1/2 inch (6 to 13 mm) below the bottom of the filler neck. This empty space in the tank allows gasoline to expand.
• Never smoke when handling gasoline, and stay away from an open flame or where gasoline fumes may be ignited by a spark.
• Store gasoline in an approved container and keep it out of the reach of children. Never buy more than a 30-day supply of gasoline.
• Do not operate without entire exhaust system in place and in proper working condition.

Figure 6

1. Safe Zone-use the TimeCutter here
2. Use walk behind mower and/or hand trimmer near drop-offs and water.
3. Water
In certain conditions during fueling, static electricity can be released causing a spark which can ignite the gasoline vapors. A fire or explosion from gasoline can burn you and others and can damage property.

- Always place gasoline containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
- Do not fill gasoline containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer bed because interior carpets or plastic truck bed liners may insulate the container and slow the loss of any static charge.
- When practical, remove gas-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel the equipment with its wheels on the ground.
- If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment on a truck or trailer from a portable container, rather than from a gasoline dispenser nozzle.
- If a gasoline dispenser nozzle must be used, keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until fueling is complete.

Gasoline is harmful or fatal if swallowed. Long-term exposure to vapors can cause serious injury and illness.

- Avoid prolonged breathing of vapors.
- Keep face away from nozzle and gas tank or conditioner opening.
- Keep gas away from eyes and skin.

Using Stabilizer/Conditioner

Use a fuel stabilizer/conditioner in the machine to provide the following benefits:

- Keeps gasoline fresh during storage of 30 days or less. For longer storage it is recommended that the fuel tank be drained.
- Cleans the engine while it runs
- Eliminates gum-like varnish buildup in the fuel system, which causes hard starting

Important: Do not use fuel additives containing methanol or ethanol.

Add the correct amount of gas stabilizer/conditioner to the gas.

Note: A fuel stabilizer/conditioner is most effective when mixed with fresh gasoline. To minimize the chance of varnish deposits in the fuel system, use fuel stabilizer at all times.

Filling the Fuel Tank

1. Shut the engine off and set the parking brake.
2. Clean around the fuel tank cap and remove the cap. Add unleaded regular gasoline to the fuel tank until the level is 1/4 to 1/2 inch (6 to 13 mm) below the bottom of the filler neck. This space in the tank allows gasoline to expand. Do not fill the fuel tank completely full.
3. Install the fuel tank cap securely. Wipe up any gasoline that may have spilled.

Checking the Engine Oil Level

Before you start the engine and use the machine, check the oil level in the engine crankcase; refer to Checking the Oil Level in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

Starting and Stopping the Engine

Starting the Engine

1. Sit down on the seat and move the motion controls to the brake position.
2. Disengage the blades by moving the blade control switch to Off (Figure 7).
Move the throttle lever to Choke before starting a cold engine (Figure 8).

**Note:** A warm or hot engine may not require choking.

4. Turn the ignition key to Start to energize the starter. When the engine starts, release the key.

**Important:** Do not engage the starter for more than 10 seconds at a time. If the engine fails to start, allow a 60 second cool-down period between attempts. Failure to follow these instructions can burn out the starter motor.

5. After the engine starts, move the throttle lever to Fast (Figure 8). If the engine stalls or hesitates, move the throttle lever back to Choke for a few seconds. Then move the throttle lever to the desired setting. Repeat this as required.

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**Stopping the Engine**

1. Move the throttle lever to Fast (Figure 8).
2. Disengage the blades by moving the blade control switch to Off (Figure 7).
3. Turn the ignition key to Off (Figure 9).
4. Pull the wire off of the spark plug(s) to prevent the possibility of someone accidentally starting the machine before transporting or storing the machine.
5. Close the fuel shut-off valve under the front of the fuel tank before transporting or storing the machine.

**Important:** Make sure the fuel shut-off valve is closed before transporting or storing the machine, as fuel leakage may occur.

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**Operating the Blades**

The blade control switch, represented by a power take-off (PTO) symbol, engages and disengages power to the mower blades. This switch controls power to any attachments that draw power from the engine, including the mower deck and cutting blades.

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**Engaging the Blades**

1. Release pressure on the traction control levers and place the machine in neutral.
2. Move the throttle to the Fast position.
3. Pull out on the blade control switch to engage blades (Figure 10).

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**Disengaging the Blades**

Push the blade control switch to Off to disengage the blades (Figure 10).
The Safety Interlock System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safety Interlock System</th>
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<tr>
<td>If safety interlock switches are disconnected or damaged the machine could operate unexpectedly causing personal injury.</td>
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- Do not tamper with the interlock switches.
- Check the operation of the interlock switches daily and replace any damaged switches before operating the machine.

Understanding the Safety Interlock System

The safety interlock system is designed to prevent the engine from starting unless:

- The blades are disengaged.
- The motion control levers are in the brake position.

The safety interlock system also is designed to stop the engine when the control levers are out of the brake position and you rise from the seat when the blades are engaged.

Testing the Safety Interlock System

Test the safety interlock system before you use the machine each time. If the safety system does not operate as described below, have an Authorized Service Dealer repair the safety system immediately.

1. While sitting on the seat, with the control levers in brake position, and move the blade control switch to On. Try starting the engine; the engine should not crank.
2. While sitting on the seat, move the blade control switch to Off. Move either motion control lever to the center, unlocked position. Try starting the engine; the engine should not crank. Repeat with the other motion control lever.
3. While sitting on the seat, move the blade control switch to Off, and lock the motion control levers in neutral. Start the engine. While the engine is running, engage the blade control switch, and rise slightly from the seat; the engine should stop.
4. While sitting on the seat, move the blade control switch to Off, and lock the motion control levers in neutral. Start the engine. While the engine is running, move the motion control levers to the center, unlocked position, engage the blade control switch, and rise slightly from the seat; the engine should stop.

Driving Forward or Backward

The throttle control regulates the engine speed as measured in rpm (revolutions per minute). Place the throttle control in the Fast position for best performance. Always operate in the full throttle position.

- Use caution when making turns.
- Slow the machine down before making sharp turns.

Forward

1. Move the levers to the center, unlocked position.
2. To go forward, slowly push the motion control levers forward (Figure 11).
To go straight, apply equal pressure to both motion control levers (Figure 11).

To turn, release pressure on the motion control lever toward the direction you want to turn (Figure 11).

The farther you move the traction control levers in either direction, the faster the machine will move in that direction.

To stop, pull the motion control levers to neutral.

**Backward**

1. Move the levers to the center, unlocked position.
2. To go backward, slowly pull the motion control levers rearward (Figure 11).

   To go straight, apply equal pressure to both motion control levers (Figure 11).

   To turn, release the pressure on the motion control lever toward the direction you want to turn (Figure 11).

   To stop, push the motion control levers to neutral.

**Stopping the Machine**

To stop the machine, move the traction control levers to neutral and separate to the brake position, disengage the blade control switch, ensure the throttle is in the fast position, and turn the ignition key to off. Remember to remove the key from the ignition switch.

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**Adjusting the Height of Cut**

The height of cut is adjusted from 1-1/2 to 4-1/2 inch (38 to 114 mm) in 1/2 inch (13 mm) increments by moving the height-of-cut lever in different locations.

1. Raise the height-of-cut lever to the transport position (also the 4-1/2 inch (114 mm) cutting height position (Figure 12).
2. To adjust, pull up on the height-of-cut lever and move it to the desired position (Figure 12).

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**Positioning the Seat**

The seat can move forward and backward. Position the seat where you have the best control of the machine and are most comfortable.

1. Raise the seat and loosen the adjustment knobs enough to move the seat (Figure 13).
**Important:** Make sure that the spacers stay in place when loosening the knobs to move the seat. Loss of the spacers can result in damage to the seat.

2. Move the seat to the desired position and tighten the knobs.

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**Figures 13 and 14**

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**Adjusting the Motion Control Levers**

The motion control levers can be adjusted higher or lower for maximum operator comfort.

1. Remove the 2 bolts holding the control lever to the control arm shaft (Figure 14).
2. Move the control lever to the next set of holes. Secure the lever with the 2 bolts (Figure 14).

---

**Pushing the Machine by Hand**

**Important:** Always push the machine by hand. Never tow the machine because damage may occur.

**To Push the Machine**

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.
2. Move the motion control levers outward to engage the parking brake, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.
3. Raise the seat to access the bypass levers (Figure 15).
4. Move the two bypass levers forward and then outward to lock them in place as shown in Figure 15.
5. Move the motion control levers inward to disengage the parking brake.

The machine is now able to be pushed by hand.
To Operate the Machine

Move the bypass levers to the inside and pull them rearward, to the end the slot (Figure 15).

Note: The machine will not drive unless the bypass levers are disengaged.

Adjusting the Footrest

The footrest can be adjusted forward or backward for maximum operator comfort.

Lift up the footrest and place the rods in the same hole positions (Figure 16).

Side Discharge

The mower has a hinged grass deflector that disperses clippings to the side and down toward the turf.

Without the grass deflector, discharge cover, or complete grass catcher assembly mounted in place, you and others are exposed to blade contact and thrown debris. Contact with rotating mower blade(s) and thrown debris will cause injury or death.

- Never remove the grass deflector from the mower because the grass deflector routes material down toward the turf. If the grass deflector is ever damaged, replace it immediately.
- Never put your hands or feet under the mower.
- Never try to clear discharge area or mower blades unless you move the blade control switch to Off and rotate the ignition key to Off. Also remove the key and pull the wire off the spark plug(s).

Operating Tips

Fast Throttle Setting

For best mowing and maximum air circulation, operate the engine at the Fast position. Air is required to thoroughly cut grass clippings, so do not set the height-of-cut so low as to totally surround the mower by uncut grass. Always try to have one side of the mower free from uncut grass, which allows air to be drawn into the mower.

Cutting a Lawn for the First Time

Cut grass slightly longer than normal to ensure that the cutting height of the mower does not scalp any uneven ground. However, the cutting height used in the past is generally the best one to use. When cutting grass longer than six inches tall, you may want to cut the lawn twice to ensure an acceptable quality of cut.
Cut 1/3 of the Grass Blade

It is best to cut only about 1/3 of the grass blade. Cutting more than that is not recommended unless grass is sparse, or it is late fall when grass grows more slowly.

Mowing Direction

Alternate mowing direction to keep the grass standing straight. This also helps disperse clippings which enhances decomposition and fertilization.

Mow at Correct Intervals

Normally, mow every four days. But remember, grass grows at different rates at different times. So to maintain the same cutting height, which is a good practice, mow more often in early spring. As the grass growth rate slows in mid summer, mow less frequently. If you cannot mow for an extended period, first mow at a high cutting height; then mow again two days later at a lower height setting.

Cutting Speed

To improve cut quality, use a slower ground speed.

Avoid Cutting Too Low

If the cutting width of the mower is wider than the mower you previously used, raise the cutting height to ensure that uneven turf is not cut too short.

Long Grass

If the grass is ever allowed to grow slightly longer than normal, or if it contains a high degree of moisture, raise the cutting height higher than usual and cut the grass at this setting. Then cut the grass again using the lower, normal setting.

When Stopping

If the machine’s forward motion must be stopped while mowing, a clump of grass clippings may drop onto your lawn. To avoid this, move onto a previously cut area with the blades engaged.

Keep the Underside of the Mower Clean

Clean clippings and dirt from the underside of the mower after each use. If grass and dirt build up inside the mower, cutting quality will eventually become unsatisfactory.

Blade Maintenance

Maintain a sharp blade throughout the cutting season because a sharp blade cuts cleanly without tearing or shredding the grass blades. Tearing and shredding turns grass brown at the edges, which slows growth and increases the chance of disease. Check the cutter blades daily for sharpness, and for any wear or damage. File down any nicks and sharpen the blades as necessary. If a blade is damaged or worn, replace it immediately with a genuine Toro replacement blade.

Safe Towing Practices

Tow only with a machine that has a hitch designed for towing. Do not attach towed equipment except at the hitch point. This product has a limited towing capacity for small attachments up to 100 lbs (45 kg); such as leaf sweepers and spreaders. Towing of attachments should be limited to flat ground. Never allow children or others in or on towed equipment. On slopes, the weight of towed equipment may cause a loss of traction and control. Towing on slopes is not recommended. Travel slowly and allow extra distance to stop.
Maintenance

Note: Determine the left and right sides of the machine from the normal operating position.

Recommended Maintenance Schedule(s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintenance Service Interval</th>
<th>Maintenance Procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After the first 5 operating hours</td>
<td>• Change the engine oil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before each use or daily</td>
<td>• Check the safety interlock system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check the engine oil level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check the cutting blades.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Clean the mower housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every 25 hours</td>
<td>• Grease all lubrication points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Clean the foam air filter element (more often in dirty or dusty conditions).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check tire pressure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check the belts for wear/cracks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every 100 hours</td>
<td>• Replace the paper air filter element (more often in dirty or dusty conditions).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Change the oil filter (model 74327 only).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace spark plug.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace fuel filter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before storage</td>
<td>• Drain the fuel tank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Charge the battery and disconnect battery cables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Perform all maintenance procedures listed above before storage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Paint any chipped surfaces.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important: Refer to your engine operator's manual for additional maintenance procedures.

⚠️

If you leave the key in the ignition switch, someone could accidently start the engine and seriously injure you or other bystanders.

Remove the key from the ignition and disconnect the wire from the spark plug before you do any maintenance. Set the wire aside so that it does not accidentally contact the spark plug.
**Premaintenance Procedures**

**Removing and Installing the Engine Hood**

1. To remove the hood, loosen the knobs and then pull the hood back and up (Figure 17).

2. To install the hood, put the hooks into the slots and slide forward (Figure 18).

3. Tighten the knobs in the engine hood (Figure 17).

**Lubrication**

**Greasing the Bearings**

Grease Type: No. 2 General Purpose Lithium Base Grease

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Clean the grease fittings (Figure 19 and Figure 20) with a rag. Make sure to scrape any paint off of the front of the fitting(s).

4. Connect a grease gun to each fitting (Figure 19 and Figure 20). Pump grease into the fittings until grease begins to ooze out of the bearings.

5. Wipe up any excess grease.
**Engine Maintenance**

**Servicing the Air Cleaner**

Foam Element: Clean after every 25 operating hours, or yearly, whichever occurs first.

Paper Element: Replace after every 100 operating hours or yearly, whichever occurs first.

*Note:* Service the air cleaner more frequently (every few hours) if operating conditions are extremely dusty or sandy.

**Removing the Foam and Paper Elements**

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Clean around the air cleaner to prevent dirt from getting into the engine and causing damage. Pull up on the air cleaner cover handle and rotate it toward the engine (Figure 21). Remove the air cleaner cover.

**Cleaning the Foam Element**

1. Wash the foam element in liquid soap and warm water. When the element is clean, rinse it thoroughly.

2. Dry the element by squeezing it in a clean cloth. Do not oil the element.

*Important:* Replace the foam element if it is torn or worn.

*Important:* Do not clean or oil the paper element. Replace the paper element if it is damaged or cannot be cleaned thoroughly.

**Installing the Foam and Paper Elements**

*Important:* To prevent engine damage, always operate the engine with the complete foam and paper air cleaner assembly installed.

1. Place the foam element and paper element into the blower housing.

   *Note:* Make sure that the rubber seal is flat against the air cleaner base.

2. Align the tabs on the air cleaner cover with the slots of the blower housing (Figure 22). Hook the handle onto the cover and press down on the handle to lock the cover in place.
**Servicing the Engine Oil**

Check the oil level daily or after every 8 hours.

Change the oil after the first 5 operating hours and every 50 operating hours thereafter.

Oil Type: Detergent oil (API service SF, SG, SH, SJ, or higher)

Crankcase Capacity:
- 48 oz./1-1/2 qt. (1400 cc/1.4 l) when the filter is not changed;
- 56 oz./1-3/4 qt. (1700 cc/1.7 l) when the filter is changed (Model 74327 only)

Viscosity: See the table below.

**USE THESE SAE VISCOSITY OILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAE Viscosity</th>
<th>Temperature (°F)</th>
<th>Temperature (°C)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5W-30, 10W-30</td>
<td>5W-30, 10W-30</td>
<td>5W-30, 10W-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYNTHETIC 5W-30, 10W-30</td>
<td>SYNTHETIC 5W-30, 10W-30</td>
<td>SYNTHETIC 5W-30, 10W-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Checking the Oil Level**

1. Park the machine on a level surface, disengage the blade control switch, stop the engine, and remove the key.
2. Clean around the oil dipstick (Figure 24) so that dirt cannot fall into the fill hole and damage the engine.
3. Unscrew the oil dipstick and wipe the end clean (Figure 25).
4. Screw the oil dipstick fully onto the fill hole. Unscrew the dipstick, pull it out, and look at the end. If the oil level is low, slowly pour only enough oil into the fill hole to raise the level to, but not over, the Full mark on the dipstick.

**Important:** Do not overfill the crankcase with oil because the engine may be damaged.

**Changing the Oil**

1. Start the engine and let it run until warm. This warms the oil so it drains better.
2. Park the machine so that the drain side is slightly lower than the opposite side to assure the oil drains completely.
3. Disengage the blade control switch and set the parking brake.
4. Stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.
5. Slide the drain hose over the drain valve.

6. Place a pan below the drain hose. Rotate oil drain valve to allow oil to drain (Figure 26).

7. When oil has drained completely, close the drain valve.

8. Remove the drain hose (Figure 26).

   **Note:** Dispose of the used oil at a recycling center.

9. Change the oil filter, if necessary (Figure 27).

10. Clean around the oil dipstick and unscrew the cap (Figure 24).

11. Slowly pour approximately 80% of the specified oil into the filler tube (Figure 24).

12. Check the oil level; refer to Checking the Oil Level in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

13. Slowly add additional oil to bring it to the full mark.

### Changing the Oil Filter (For Model 74327 only)

Replace the oil filter every 100 hours or every other oil change.

**Note:** Change the oil filter more often in dusty, dirty conditions.

1. Drain the oil from the engine; refer to Changing and Draining the Oil in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

2. Remove the old filter and wipe the filter adapter gasket surface (Figure 27).

3. Apply a thin coat of clean oil to the rubber gasket on the replacement filter (Figure 27).

4. Install the replacement oil filter to the filter adapter. Turn the oil filter clockwise until the rubber gasket contacts the filter adapter; then tighten the filter an additional 1/2 to 3/4 turn (Figure 27).

5. Fill the crankcase with the proper type of new oil; refer to Changing and Draining the Oil in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

### Servicing the Spark Plug

Replace the spark plug after every 100 operating hours. Make sure that the air gap between the center and side electrodes is correct before installing the spark plug. Use a spark plug wrench for removing and installing the spark plug(s) and a gapping tool/feeler gauge to check and adjust the air gap. Install a new spark plug if necessary.

**Type:** Champion RC12YC (or equivalent)

**Air Gap:** 0.030 inch (0.76 mm)

### Removing the Spark Plug

1. Disengage the blade control switch, set the parking brake, stop the engine, and remove the key.

2. Pull the wire off of the spark plug (Figure 28). Clean around the spark plug to prevent dirt from falling into the engine and potentially causing damage.

3. Remove the spark plug and metal washer.
Checking the Spark Plug

1. Look at the center of the spark plug (Figure 29). If you see light brown or gray on the insulator, the engine is operating properly. A black coating on the insulator usually means the air cleaner is dirty.

**Important:** Never clean the spark plug. Always replace the spark plug when it has a black coating, worn electrodes, an oily film, or cracks.

2. Check the gap between the center and side electrodes (Figure 29). Bend the side electrode (Figure 29) if the gap is not correct.

Installing the Spark Plug

1. Install the spark plug. Make sure that the air gap is set correctly.

2. Tighten the spark plug to 30 ft-lb (41 N·m).

3. Push the wire onto the spark plug (Figure 28).

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**Fuel System Maintenance**

**Draining the Fuel Tank**

In certain conditions, gasoline is extremely flammable and highly explosive. A fire or explosion from gasoline can burn you and others and can damage property.

- Drain gasoline from the fuel tank when the engine is cold. Do this outdoors in an open area. Wipe up any gasoline that spills.

- Never smoke when draining gasoline, and stay away from an open flame or where a spark may ignite the gasoline fumes.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Close the fuel shut-off valve located under the front of the fuel tank.

4. Loosen the hose clamp at the fuel filter and slide it up the fuel line away from the fuel filter (Figure 30).
5. Pull the fuel line off of the fuel filter (Figure 30).

6. Open the fuel shut-off valve. Allow gasoline to drain into a gas can or drain pan.

**Note:** Now is the best time to install a new fuel filter because the fuel tank is empty.

7. Install the fuel line onto the fuel filter. Slide the hose clamp close to the fuel filter to secure the fuel line (Figure 30).

### Replacing the Fuel Filter

Replace the fuel filter after every 100 operating hours or yearly, whichever occurs first.

Never install a dirty filter if it is removed from the fuel line.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.
2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.
3. Close the fuel shut-off valve located under the front of the fuel tank.
4. Squeeze the ends of the hose clamps together and slide them away from the filter (Figure 30).
5. Remove the filter from the fuel lines.
6. Install a new filter and move the hose clamps close to the filter (Figure 30).
7. Open the fuel shut-off valve.

---

**Electrical System Maintenance**

### Warning

**CALIFORNIA Proposition 65 Warning**

Battery posts, terminals, and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.

### Charging the Battery

#### Removing the Battery

- Battery terminals or metal tools could short against metal machine components causing sparks. Sparks can cause the battery gasses to explode, resulting in personal injury.
  - When removing or installing the battery, do not allow the battery terminals to touch any metal parts of the machine.
  - Do not allow metal tools to short between the battery terminals and metal parts of the machine.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.
2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.
3. Tip the seat forward to see the battery.
4. Disconnect the negative (black) ground cable from the battery post (Figure 31).
Incorrect battery cable routing could damage the machine and cables causing sparks. Sparks can cause the battery gasses to explode, resulting in personal injury.

- Always disconnect the negative (black) battery cable before disconnecting the positive (red) cable.
- Always connect the positive (red) battery cable before connecting the negative (black) cable.

5. Slide the rubber cover up the positive (red) cable. Disconnect the positive (red) cable from the battery post (Figure 31).

6. Remove the battery hold-down (Figure 31) and lift the battery from the battery tray.

---

Note: Do not run the machine with the battery disconnected, electrical damage may occur.

### Installing the Battery

1. Position the battery in the tray with the terminal posts toward the rear (Figure 31).
2. Install the positive (red) battery cable to the positive (+) battery terminal.
3. Install the negative battery cable to the negative (-) battery terminal.
4. Secure the cables with 2 carriage bolts (1/4 x 3/4 inch), washers (1/4 inch), and wing nuts (1/4 inch) (Figure 31).
5. Slide the red terminal boot onto the positive (red) battery post.
6. Secure the battery with the hold-down (Figure 31).

### Servicing the Fuses

The electrical system is protected by fuses. It requires no maintenance; however, if a fuse blows, check the component/circuit for a malfunction or short.

**Fuse:**
- Main F1-30 amp, blade-type
- Charge Circuit F2-25 amp, blade-type
- Optional Headlight Kit-10 amp, blade type

1. Raise the seat to gain access to the fuse holder (Figure 33).
2. To replace a fuse, pull out on the fuse to remove it (Figure 33).
Drive System Maintenance

Checking the Tire Pressure

Maintain the air pressure in the front and rear tires as specified. Uneven tire pressure can cause uneven cut. Check the pressure at the valve stem after every 50 operating hours or monthly, whichever occurs first (Figure 34). Check the tires when they are cold to get the most accurate pressure reading.

Rear Tires: 13 psi (90 kPa)
Front Tires (castor wheels): 35 psi (139 kPa)

Servicing the Cutting Blades

Maintain sharp blades throughout the cutting season because sharp blades cut cleanly without tearing or shredding the grass blades. Tearing and shredding turns grass brown at the edges, which slows growth and increases the chance of disease.

Check the cutter blades daily for sharpness, and for any wear or damage. File down any nicks and sharpen the blades as necessary. If a blade is damaged or worn, replace it immediately with a genuine Toro replacement blade. For convenient sharpening and replacement, you may want to keep extra blades on hand.

**Warning**

A worn or damaged blade can break, and a piece of the blade could be thrown into the operator's or bystander's area, resulting in serious personal injury or death.

- Inspect the blade periodically for wear or damage.
- Replace a worn or damaged blade.

Before Inspecting or Servicing the Blades

Park the machine on a level surface, disengage the blade control switch, and move the motion control levers to the brake position. Stop the engine, remove the key, and disconnect the spark plug wire(s) from the spark plug(s).

Inspecting the Blades

1. Inspect the cutting edges (Figure 35). If the edges are not sharp or have nicks, remove and sharpen the blades; refer to Sharpening the Blades.

2. Inspect the blades, especially the curved area (Figure 35). If you notice any damage, wear, or a slot forming in this area (item 3 in Figure 35), immediately install a new blade.
Checking for Bent Blades

1. Rotate the blades until the ends face forward and backward (Figure 36). Measure from a level surface to the cutting edge, position A, of the blades (Figure 36). Note this dimension.

2. Rotate the opposite ends of the blades forward.

3. Measure from a level surface to the cutting edge of the blades at the same position as in step 1. The difference between the dimensions obtained in steps 1 and 2 must not exceed 1/8 inch (3 mm). If this dimension exceeds 1/8 inch (3 mm), the blade is bent and must be replaced. Refer to Removing the Blades and Installing the Blades.

Removing the Blades

The blades must be replaced if a solid object is hit, if the blade is out of balance, or the blade is bent. To ensure optimum performance and continued safety conformance of the machine, use genuine Toro replacement blades. Replacement blades made by other manufacturers may result in non-conformance with safety standards.

Hold the blade end using a rag or thickly-padded glove. Remove the blade bolt, curved washer, blade stiffener, and blade from the spindle shaft (Figure 37).

Sharpening the Blades

1. Use a file to sharpen the cutting edge at both ends of the blade (Figure 38). Maintain the original angle. The blade retains its balance if the same amount of material is removed from both cutting edges.
Figure 38
1. Sharpen at original angle

2. Check the balance of the blade by putting it on a blade balancer (Figure 39). If the blade stays in a horizontal position, the blade is balanced and can be used. If the blade is not balanced, file some metal off the end of the sail area only (Figure 38). Repeat this procedure until the blade is balanced.

Figure 39
1. Blade
2. Balancer

Installing the Blades
1. Install the blade onto the spindle shaft (Figure 37).

   **Important:** The curved part of the blade must be pointing upward toward the inside of the mower to ensure proper cutting.

2. Install the blade stiffener, the curved washer (cupped side toward the blade) and the blade bolt (Figure 37).

3. Torque the blade bolt to 35-65 ft-lb (47-88 N·m).

Leveling the Mower from Side-to-Side
The mower blades must be level from side to side. Check the side-to-side level any time you install the mower or when you see an uneven cut on your lawn.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Check the air pressure of all four tires. If needed, adjust to the recommended inflation; refer to Checking the Tire Pressure in Drive System Maintenance, page 29.

4. Set the height-of-cut lever to position D (3 inch (76 mm)).

5. Carefully rotate the blade(s) side to side (Figure 40). Measure between the outside cutting edges and the flat surface (Figure 40). If both measurements are not within 3/16 inch (5 mm), an adjustment is required; continue with this procedure.

6. Remove the hairpin cotter and washer from the leveling bracket (Figure 41).

7. To level the blade(s), reposition the leveling bracket(s) in a different hole and install the washer and hairpin cotter. (Figure 41 and Figure 42). A front hole lowers the blade height and a rear hole raises its height. Adjust both sides as required.
Figure 41
42 inch leveler bracket shown
1. Hairpin cotter and washer 3. Front hole
2. Leveling bracket 4. Rear hole

8. Check the front-to-rear blade slope; refer to Adjusting the Front-to-Rear Blade Slope.

Adjusting the Front-to-Rear Blade Slope

Check the front-to-rear blade level any time you install the mower. If the front of the mower is more than 5/16 inch (7.9 mm) lower than the rear of the mower, adjust the blade level using the following instructions:

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.
2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.
3. Check the air pressure of all four tires. If needed, adjust to the recommended inflation; refer to Checking the Tire Pressure in Drive System Maintenance, page 29.
4. Check and adjust the side-to-side blade level if you have not checked the setting; refer to Leveling the Mower from Side-to-Side.
5. Measure the length of the rod extending out of the adjusting block on the sides of the chassis (Figure 43).
6. If the rod length is not a 3/4 inch (19 mm), remove the hairpin cotter and washer from the end of the adjusting rod (Figure 43) and turn the rod until the 3/4 inch (19 mm) dimension is obtained.
7. Install the end of the rod into the hole in the mower mount and secure it with the washer and hairpin cotter.
8. Repeat steps 5 through 7 for the opposite side of the mower.
9. Set the height-of-cut at position D [3 inch (76 mm)] and carefully rotate the blades so they are facing front to rear (Figure 44).
10. Measure from the tip of the front blade to the flat surface and the tip of the rear blade to the flat surface (Figure 44). If the front blade tip is not 1/16-5/16 inch (1.6-7.9 mm) lower than the rear blade tip, adjust the front locknuts.

Figure 42
38 inch leveler bracket shown
1. Hairpin cotter and washer 3. Front hole
2. Leveling bracket 4. Rear hole

Figure 43
38 inch leveler bracket shown
1. Leveling bracket 3. Adjusting rod
2. Adjusting block 4. Hairpin cotter and washer
11. To adjust the front-to-rear blade slope, remove the locknuts and then rotate the adjustment nuts in the front of the mower (Figure 45).

12. To raise the front of the mower, tighten the adjustment nuts. To lower the front of the mower, loosen the adjustment nuts.

13. After adjusting both adjustment nuts evenly, check the front-to-rear slope again. Continue adjusting the nuts until the front blade tip is 1/16-5/16 inch (1.6-7.9 mm) lower than the rear blade tip (Figure 45).

**Note:** After adjusting the adjustment nuts, make sure there is no slack in either support rod (Figure 46). Tighten either one to remove the slack (Figure 45).

14. When the front-to-rear blade slope is correct, tighten the lock nuts and check the side-to-side level of the mower; refer to Leveling the Mower from Side-to-Side.

## Removing the Mower

**Note:** Before removing the mower, make a note for which holes are used in the leveling brackets (Figure 47).

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Lower the height-of-cut lever to the lowest position.

4. Remove the hairpin cotter and clevis pin from the front support rod on each side of the mower (Figure 46).

5. Remove the hairpin cotter and washer from the adjusting rod (Figure 47) on each side of the mower.

6. Remove the hairpin cotter and washer at the mower leveling brackets (Figure 47) on each side of the mower. Note which hole the leveling bracket is mounted in for future installation. Slide the brackets off of the mounting pin.
7. Slide the mower rearward to remove the mower belt from the engine pulley.

8. Slide the mower out from underneath the machine.

**Note:** Retain all parts for future installation.

## Mower Belt Maintenance

### Inspecting the Belts

Inspect all belts every 100 hours.

Check the belts for cracks, frayed edges, burn marks, or any other damage. Replace damaged belts.

### Replacing the Mower Belt

Squealing when the belt is rotating, blades slipping when cutting grass, frayed belt edges, burn marks, and cracks are signs of a worn mower belt. Replace the mower belt if any of these conditions are evident.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Set the height-of-cut at A [1-1/2 inch (38 mm)].

4. Remove the belt covers over the outside spindles and loosen the belt guide (Figure 48).

5. Pull the idler pulley in the direction shown in Figure 48 and roll the belt off of the pulleys.

---

The spring is under tension when installed and can cause personal injury.

Be careful when removing the spring.

6. Route the new belt around the engine pulley and mower pulleys (Figure 48).

7. Pull the idler pulley in the direction shown in Figure 48 and route the belt onto the idler pulley (Figure 48).

8. Rotate the belt guide, on the idler arm, towards the pulley until it stops (Figure 48).

9. Tighten the belt guide (Figure 48).

10. Install the belt covers over the outside spindles.

### Installing the Mower

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and
wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Slide the mower under the machine.

4. Lower the height-of-cut lever to the lowest position.

5. Attach the adjusting rod to the machine with the washer and hairpin cotter (Figure 47) on each side of the mower.

6. Slide the leveling brackets onto the mounting pins and secure them with the washers and hairpin cotters (Figure 47).

7. Attach the front support rods to the machine with the clevis pins and hairpin cotters (Figure 46).

8. Install the mower belt onto the engine pulley; refer to Replacing the Mower Belt.

**Replacing the Grass Deflector**

**Warning:**
An uncovered discharge opening could allow the lawn mower to throw objects in the operator's or bystander's direction and result in serious injury. Also, contact with the blade could occur.

Never operate the lawn mower unless you install a cover plate, a mulch plate, or a grass chute and catcher.

1. Locate items shown in Figure 49.

2. Remove the nut (3/8 inch) from the rod under the mower (Figure 49).

3. Slide the rod out of the short stand-off, internal lock washer, spring, and grass deflector (Figure 49). Remove the damaged or worn grass deflector.

4. Replace the grass deflector and internal lock washer (Figure 49).

5. Slide rod, straight end, through the rear grass deflector bracket.

6. Place the spring on the rod, with end wires down, and between the grass deflector brackets.

7. Insert rod at front of grass deflector into short stand-off on deck. Secure rear end of rod into the mower with a nut (3/8 inch) (Figure 49).

**Important:** The grass deflector must be spring loaded in the down position. Lift the deflector up to test that it snaps to the full down position.

![Figure 49](image)

**Cleaning**

**Washing the Underside of the Mower**

After each use, wash the underside of the mower to prevent grass buildup for improved mulch action and clipping dispersal.

1. Park the machine on a level surface and disengage the blade control switch.

2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position, stop the engine, remove the key, and wait for all moving parts to stop before leaving the operating position.

3. Attach the hose coupling to the end of the mower washout fitting, and turn the water on high (Figure 50).

**Note:** Spread petroleum jelly on the washout fitting O-ring to make the coupling slide on easier and protect the O-ring.
4. Lower the mower to the lowest height-of-cut.
5. Sit on the seat and start the engine. Engage the blade control switch and let the mower run for one to three minutes.
6. Disengage the blade control switch, stop the engine, and remove the ignition key. Wait for all moving parts to stop.
7. Turn the water off and remove the coupling from the washout fitting.

**Note:** If the mower is not clean after one washing, soak it and let it stand for 30 minutes. Then repeat the process.

8. Run the mower again for one to three minutes to remove excess water.

---

**A broken or missing washout fitting could expose you and others to thrown objects or blade contact. Contact with blade or thrown debris can cause injury or death.**

- Replace broken or missing washout fitting immediately, before using mower again.
- Plug any hole(s) in mower with bolts and locknuts.
- Never put your hands or feet under the mower or through openings in the mower.
Storage

Cleaning and Storage

1. Disengage the blade control switch, set the parking brake, stop the engine, and remove the key.

2. Remove grass clippings, dirt, and grime from the external parts of the entire machine, especially the engine. Clean dirt and chaff from the outside of the engine cylinder head fins and blower housing.

   **Important:** You can wash the machine with mild detergent and water. Do not pressure wash the machine. Avoid excessive use of water, especially near the control panel, engine, hydraulic pumps, and motors.

3. Service the air cleaner; refer to Servicing the Air Cleaner in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

4. Grease and oil the machine; refer to Lubrication, page 22.

5. Change the crankcase oil and filter; refer to Servicing the Engine Oil in Engine Maintenance, page 23.

6. Check the tire pressure; refer to Checking the Tire Pressure in Drive System Maintenance, page 29.

7. Charge the battery; refer to Servicing the Battery in Electrical System Maintenance, page 27.

8. Check the condition of the blades; refer to Servicing the Cutting Blades in Mower Maintenance, page 29.

9. Prepare the machine for storage when non-use occurs over 30 days. Prepare the machine for storage as follows.

10. Add a petroleum based stabilizer-conditioner to the fuel in the tank. Follow the mixing instructions from the stabilizer manufacturer. Do not use an alcohol based stabilizer (ethanol or methanol).

    **Note:** A fuel stabilizer-conditioner is most effective when mixed with fresh gasoline and used at all times.

    Run the engine to distribute the conditioned fuel through the fuel system (5 minutes).

    Stop the engine, allow it to cool, and drain the fuel tank; refer to Draining the Fuel Tank in Fuel System Maintenance, page 26.

    Restart the engine and run it until it stops.

    Choke or prime the engine. Start and run the engine until it will not start. Operate the primer, if equipped, several times to ensure no fuel remains in the primer system.

    Dispose of fuel properly. Recycle as per local codes.

    **Important:** Do not store stabilizer-conditioned gasoline over 30 days.

11. Remove the spark plug(s) and check its condition; refer to Servicing the Spark Plug in Engine Maintenance, page 23. With the spark plug(s) removed from the engine, pour two tablespoons of engine oil into the spark plug hole. Use the starter to crank the engine and distribute the oil inside the cylinder. Install the spark plug(s). Do not install the wire on the spark plug(s).

12. Clean any dirt and chaff from the top of the mower.

13. Scrape any heavy buildup of grass and dirt from the underside of the mower, then wash the mower with a garden hose.

14. Check the condition of the drive and mower belts.

15. Check and tighten all bolts, nuts, and screws. Repair or replace any part that is worn or damaged.

16. Paint all scratched or bare metal surfaces. Paint is available from your Authorized Service Dealer.

17. Store the machine in a clean, dry garage or storage area. Remove the key from the ignition switch and keep it in a memorable place. Cover the machine to protect it and keep it clean.
## Troubleshooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Possible Cause</th>
<th>Corrective Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The engine overheats.</td>
<td>1. The engine load is excessive.</td>
<td>1. Reduce ground speed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The oil level in the crankcase is low.</td>
<td>2. Add oil to the crankcase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The cooling fins and air passages under the engine blower housing are plugged.</td>
<td>3. Remove the obstruction from the cooling fins and air passages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. The air cleaner is dirty.</td>
<td>4. Clean or replace the air cleaner element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Dirt, water, or stale fuel is in fuel system.</td>
<td>5. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The starter does not crank</td>
<td>1. The blade control switch is engaged.</td>
<td>1. Move the blade control switch to Disengaged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The motion control levers are not in the brake position.</td>
<td>2. Move the motion control levers to the brake position.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The operator is not seated.</td>
<td>3. Sit on the seat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. The battery is dead.</td>
<td>4. Charge the battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. The electrical connections are corroded or loose.</td>
<td>5. Check the electrical connections for good contact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. A fuse is blown.</td>
<td>6. Replace the fuse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. A relay or switch is damaged.</td>
<td>7. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem</td>
<td>Possible Cause</td>
<td>Corrective Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The engine will not start, starts hard, or</td>
<td>1. The fuel tank is empty.</td>
<td>1. Fill the fuel tank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fails to keep running.</td>
<td>2. The fuel valve turned off.</td>
<td>2. Open the fuel valve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The choke is not on.</td>
<td>3. Move the choke lever to On.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. The air cleaner is dirty.</td>
<td>4. Clean or replace the air cleaner element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. The spark plug wire(s) is loose or disconnected.</td>
<td>5. Install the wire(s) on the spark plug.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. The spark plug(s) is pitted, fouled, or the gap is incorrect.</td>
<td>6. Install a new, correctly gapped spark plug(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. There is dirt in fuel filter.</td>
<td>7. Replace the fuel filter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Dirt, water, or stale fuel is in fuel system.</td>
<td>8. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. There is incorrect fuel in the fuel tank.</td>
<td>9. Drain the tank and replace the fuel with the proper type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. The oil level in the crankcase is low.</td>
<td>10. Add oil to the crankcase.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The engine loses power.</td>
<td>1. The engine load is excessive.</td>
<td>1. Reduce ground speed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The air cleaner is dirty.</td>
<td>2. Clean the air cleaner element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The oil level in the crankcase is low.</td>
<td>3. Add oil to the crankcase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. The cooling fins and air passages under the engine blower housing are</td>
<td>4. Remove the obstruction from the cooling fins and air passages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>plugged.</td>
<td>5. Install a new, correctly gapped spark plug(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. The spark plug(s) is pitted, fouled, or the gap is incorrect.</td>
<td>6. Open the vent in the fuel cap.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. The vent in the fuel cap is closed.</td>
<td>7. Replace the fuel filter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. There is dirt in the fuel filter.</td>
<td>8. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Dirt, water, or stale fuel is in fuel system.</td>
<td>9. Drain the tank and replace the fuel with the proper type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. There is incorrect fuel in the fuel tank.</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>The machine does not drive.</td>
<td>1. The traction belts are worn, loose, or broken.</td>
<td>1. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The traction belts are off the pulleys.</td>
<td>2. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem</td>
<td>Possible Cause</td>
<td>Corrective Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is abnormal vibration.</td>
<td>1. The engine mounting bolts are loose.</td>
<td>1. Tighten the engine mounting bolts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The engine pulley, idler pulley, or blade pulley is loose.</td>
<td>2. Tighten the appropriate pulley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The engine pulley is damaged.</td>
<td>3. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. The cutting blade(s) is/are bent or unbalanced.</td>
<td>4. Install a new cutting blade(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. A blade mounting bolt is loose.</td>
<td>5. Tighten the blade mounting bolt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. A blade spindle is bent.</td>
<td>6. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uneven cutting height.</td>
<td>1. The blade(s) is not sharp.</td>
<td>1. Sharpen the blade(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. A cutting blade(s) is/are bent.</td>
<td>2. Install a new cutting blade(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The mower is not level.</td>
<td>3. Level the mower from side-to-side and front-to-rear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. An anti-scalp wheel is not set correctly.</td>
<td>4. Adjust the anti-scalp wheel height.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. The underside of the mower is dirty.</td>
<td>5. Clean the underside of the mower.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. The tire pressure is incorrect.</td>
<td>6. Adjust the tire pressure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. A blade spindle is bent.</td>
<td>7. Contact an Authorized Service Dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The blades do not rotate.</td>
<td>1. The drive belt is worn, loose or broken.</td>
<td>1. Install a new drive belt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The drive belt is off of the pulley.</td>
<td>2. Install the drive belt and check the adjusting shafts and belt guides for the correct position.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The mower belt is worn, loose, or broken.</td>
<td>3. Install a new mower belt.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schematics

Wire Color Codes

- **BK**: Black
- **PK**: Pink
- **BN**: Brown
- **PR**: Red
- **BU**: Blue
- **TN**: Tan
- **GR**: Green
- **MV**: Violet
- **GY**: Grey
- **OR**: White
- **OR**: Orange
- **YW**: Yellow

Schematic Diagram:

- SW1 (Ignition)
- SW2 (PTO) Shown in Off Position
- SW3 (Brake) Shown with Park Brake Disengaged
- SW5 (Brake) Shown with Park Brake Disengaged
- SW4 (Seat) Shown With Operator in Seat
- K1 (Kill Relay)
- Fuel Solenoid
- Magneto
- Regulator
- Power Take-Off (PTO) Clutch

Electrical Diagram (Rev. B)
Introduction

The California Air Resources Board and The Toro Company are pleased to explain the evaporative emission control system’s warranty on your 2006 model year equipment. In California, new equipment that use small off-road engines must be designed, built, and equipped to meet the State’s stringent anti-smog standards. The Toro Company must warrant the evaporative emission control system on your equipment for two years provided there has been no abuse, neglect or improper maintenance of your equipment. Your evaporative emission control system may include parts such as: fuel lines, fuel line fittings, and clamps.

Manufacturer’s Warranty Coverage:

This evaporative emission control system is warranted for two years. If any evaporative emission-related part on your equipment is defective, the part will be repaired or replaced by The Toro Company.

Owner’s Warranty Responsibilities:

- As the equipment owner, you are responsible for performance of the required maintenance listed in your Operator’s Manual. The Toro Company recommends that you retain all receipts covering maintenance on your equipment, but The Toro Company cannot deny warranty solely for the lack of receipts.
- As the equipment owner, you should however be aware that The Toro Company may deny warranty coverage if your emission warranty parts have failed due to abuse, neglect, or improper maintenance or unapproved modifications.
- You are responsible for presenting your equipment to an Authorized Service Dealer as soon as the problem exists. The warranty repairs should be completed in a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 30 days. If you have a question regarding your warranty coverage, you should contact The Toro Company at 1-952-948-4027 or call us toll free at the number listed in your Toro Warranty statement.

Defects Warranty Requirements:

1. The warranty period begins on the date the engine or equipment is delivered to an ultimate purchaser.
2. General Evaporative Emissions Warranty Coverage. The emission warranty parts must be warranted to the ultimate purchaser and any subsequent owner that the evaporative emission control system when installed was:
   A. Designed, built, and equipped so as to conform with all applicable regulations; and
   B. Free from defects in materials and workmanship that causes the failure of a warranted part for a period of two years.
3. The warranty on evaporative emissions-related parts will be interpreted as follows:
   A. Any warranted part that is not scheduled for replacement as required maintenance in the written instructions must be warranted for the warranty period of two years. If any such part fails during the period of warranty coverage, it must be repaired or replaced by The Toro Company. Any such part repaired or replaced under the warranty must be warranted for a time not less than the remaining warranty period.
   B. Any warranted part that is scheduled only for regular inspection in the written instructions must be warranted for the warranty period of two years. A statement in such written instructions to the effect of “repair or replace as necessary” will not reduce the period of warranty coverage. Any such part repaired or replaced under warranty must be warranted for a time not less than the remaining warranty period.
   C. Any warranted part that is scheduled for replacement as required maintenance in the written instructions must be warranted for the period of time prior to the first scheduled replacement point for that part. If the part fails prior to the first scheduled replacement, the part must be repaired or replaced by The Toro Company. Any such part repaired or replaced under warranty must be warranted for a time not less than the remainder of the period prior to the first scheduled replacement point for the part.
   D. Repair or replacement of any warranted part under the warranty provisions of this article must be performed at no charge to the owner by an Authorized Service Dealer.
   E. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (D) above, warranty services or repairs must be provided at an Authorized Service Dealer.
   F. The owner must not be charged for diagnostic labor that leads to the determination that a warranted part is in fact defective, provided that such diagnostic work is performed at an Authorized Service Dealer.
   G. Throughout the evaporative emission control system’s two year warranty period, The Toro Company must maintain a supply of warranted parts sufficient to meet the expected demand for such parts.
   H. Manufacturer approved replacement parts must be used in the performance of any warranty maintenance or repairs and must be provided without charge to the owner. Such use will not reduce the warranty obligations of The Toro Company.
   I. The use of any add-on or modified parts will be grounds for disallowing a warranty claim made in accordance with this article. The Toro Company will not be liable under this Article to warrant failures of warranted parts caused by the use of an add-on or modified part.
   J. The Toro Company shall provide any documents that describe the warranty procedures or policies within five working days of request by the Air Resources Board.

Emission Warranty Parts List:

The following lists includes the parts covered under this warranty:

- Fuel Lines
- Fuel Line Fittings
- Clamps
The Toro Total Coverage Guarantee
A Two-Year Full Warranty (Limited Warranty for Commercial Use)

Conditions and Products Covered
The Toro Company and its affiliate, Toro Warranty Company, pursuant to an agreement between them, jointly promise to repair any Toro Product used for normal residential purposes* if defective in materials or workmanship. The following time periods apply from the date of purchase:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Warranty Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All TimeCutter Mowers and</td>
<td>2 year full warranty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attachments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Batteries</td>
<td>1 year full warranty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This warranty covers both the cost of parts and labor, and transportation within a fifteen mile radius of the servicing dealer. This warranty applies to all consumer TimeCutter Mowers and their attachments.

Normal residential purposes means use of the product on the same lot as your home. Use at more than one location is considered commercial use, and the commercial use warranty would apply.

Limited Warranty for Commercial Use
Toro Consumer Products and attachments used for commercial, institutional, or rental use are warranted against defects in materials or workmanship for the following time periods from the date of purchase:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Warranty Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Cooled Gas Engines</td>
<td>90 day limited warranty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other items</td>
<td>30 day limited warranty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructions for Obtaining Warranty Service
If you think that your Toro Product contains a defect in materials or workmanship, follow this procedure:

1. Contact any Toro Authorized or Master Service Dealer to arrange service at their dealership. To locate a dealer convenient to you, refer to the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory (look under "Lawn Mowers") or access our website at www.Toro.com. U.S. Customers may also call toll free: 866-854-9035 to use our 24-hour Toro dealer locator system.
2. Bring the product and your proof of purchase (sales receipt) to the Service Dealer.

Owner Responsibilities
You must maintain your Toro Product by following the maintenance procedures described in the operator’s manual. Such routine maintenance, whether performed by a dealer or by you, is at your expense.

Items and Conditions Not Covered
There is no other express warranty except for special emission system coverage on some products. This express warranty does not cover:

- Cost of regular maintenance service or parts, such as filters, fuel, lubricants, tune-up parts, blade sharpening, brake and clutch adjustments.
- Any product or part which has been altered or misused or required replacement or repair due to normal wear, accidents, or lack of proper maintenance.
- Repairs necessary due to improper fuel, contaminants in the fuel system, or failure to properly prepare the fuel system prior to any period of non-use over three months.
- Pickup and delivery charges for distances beyond a fifteen mile radius from an Authorized Toro Service Dealer.

All repairs covered by this warranty must be performed by an Authorized Toro Service Dealer using Toro approved replacement parts.

General Conditions
Repair by an Authorized Toro Service Dealer is your sole remedy under this warranty.

Neither The Toro Company nor Toro Warranty Company is liable for indirect, incidental or consequential damages in connection with the use of the Toro Products covered by this warranty, including any cost or expense of providing substitute equipment or service during reasonable periods of malfunction or non-use pending completion of repairs under this warranty. Some states do not allow exclusions of incidental or consequential damages, or limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above exclusions and limitations may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Countries Other than the United States or Canada
Customers who have purchased Toro products exported from the United States or Canada should contact their Toro Distributor (Dealer) to obtain guarantee policies for your country, province, or state. If for any reason you are dissatisfied with your Distributor’s service or have difficulty obtaining guarantee information, contact the Toro importer. If all other remedies fail, you may contact us at Toro Warranty Company.