SEARS

# CRAFTSMAN®

MODEL NUMBER 917.378590 OWNER'S MANUAL

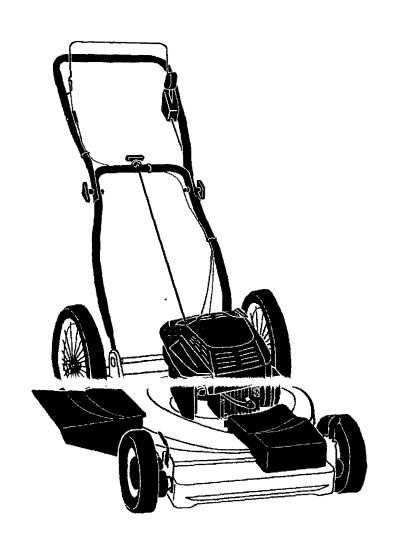
- Assembly
- Operation
- Customer Responsibilities
- Service

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Repair Parts

#### Caution:

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



#### SAFETY RULES



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



#### **IMPORTANT**

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

#### TRAINING:

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

#### PREPARATION:

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

#### **OPERATION:**

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

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

#### **MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE:**

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



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

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

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

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

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	RECORD BOTH SERIAL NUMBER AND CHASE AND KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE REFERENCE.

#### PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

HORSEPOWER:	5.5
DISPLACEMENT:	9.0 CU. IN.
GASOLINE CAPACITY AND TYPE:	1.6 QUARTS UNLEADED REGULAR
OIL TYPE (API-SG):	SAE 30 (ABOVE 32°F) SAE 5W-30 (below 32°F)
OIL CAPACITY:	20 OZS.
SPARK PLUG: (GAP: .030")	CHAMPION RJ19-LM STD361458
VALVE CLEARANCE:	INTAKE: .008" EXHAUST: .008"
SOLID STATE IGNITION AIR GAP:	.0125 IN.
BLADE BOLT TORQUE:	35-40 FT. LBS.

#### MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

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

#### **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

#### LIMITED TWO YEAR WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN POWER MOWER

For two years from date of purchase, when this Craftsman Lawn Mower is maintained, lubricated, and tuned up according to the operating and maintenance instructions in the owner's manual, Sears will repair free of charge any defect in material or workmanship.

If this Craftsman Lawn Mower is used for commercial or rental purposes, this warranty applies for only 90 days from the date of purchase.

This Warranty does not cover:

- Expendable items which become worn during normal use, such as rotary mower blades, blade adapters, belts, air cleaners and spark plug.
- Repairs necessary because of operator abuse or negligence, including bent crankshafts and the failure to maintain
  the equipment according to the instructions contained in the owner's manual.

WARRANTY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE BY RETURNING THE CRAFTSMAN POWER MOWER TO THE NEAREST SEARS SERVICE CENTER/DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS WARRANTY APPLIES ONLY WHILE THIS PRODUCT IS IN USE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO., D/817 WA, HOFFMAN ESTATES, ILLINOIS 60179

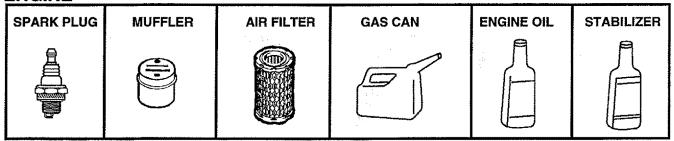
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## LAWN MOWER ACCESSORIES

These accessories were available when this lawn mower was produced. They are also available at most Sears retail outlets and service centers. Most Sears stores can also order repair parts for you, when you provide the model number of your lawn mower. Some of these accessories may not apply to your lawn mower.

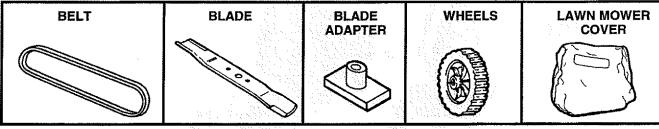
#### **ENGINE**



#### LAWN MOWER PERFORMANCE



#### LAWN MOWER MAINTENANCE



# **ASSEMBLY**

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

# TO REMOVE LAWN MOWER FROM CARTON

- Remove loose parts included with mower.
- Cut down two end corners of carton and lay end panel down flat.
- Remove all packing materials except padding between upper and lower handle and padding holding operator presence control bar to upper handle.
- Roll lawn mower out of carton and check carton thoroughly for additional loose parts.

# HOW TO SET UP YOUR LAWN MOWER

#### TO UNFOLD HANDLE (See Fig. 1)

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

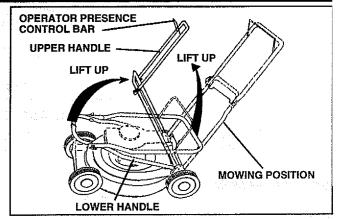


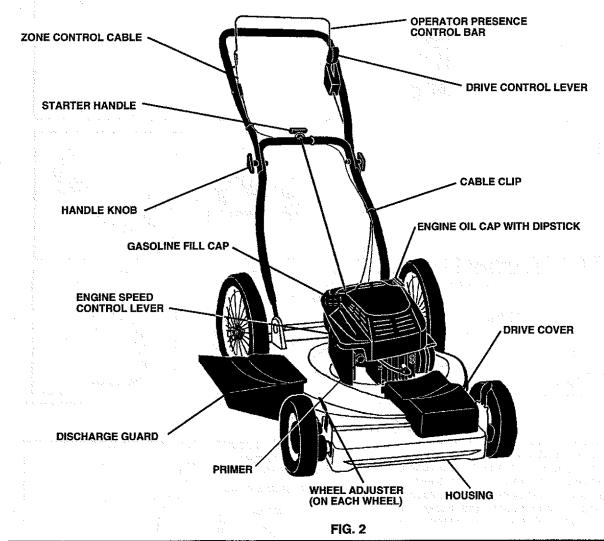
FIG. 1

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

### **OPERATION**

#### **KNOW YOUR LAWN MOWER**

READ THIS OWNER'S MANUAL AND SAFETY RULES BEFORE OPERATING YOUR LAWN MOWER. Compare the illustrations with your lawn mower to familiarize yourself with the location of various controls and adjustments. Save this manual for future reference.



#### MEETS CPSC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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

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

STARTER HANDLE - used for starting the engine.

**DRIVE CONTROL LEVER -** used to engage power-propelled forward motion of lawn mower.

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

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

### **OPERATION**

# HOW TO USE YOUR LAWN MOWER ENGINE SPEED (See Fig. 3)

The engine speed is controlled by a lever located on the side of the engine. Fast ( ) position is for starting engine, normal cutting and better grass bagging. Slow ( ) position is for light cutting, trimming and fuel economy.

#### **ENGINE ZONE CONTROL**



CAUTION: Federal regulations require an engine control to be installed on this lawn mower in order to minimize the risk of blade contact injury. Do not under any circumstances attempt to defeat the function of the operator control. The blade turns when the engine is running.

Your lawn mower is equipped with an operator presence control bar which requires the operator to be positioned behind the lawn mower handle to start and operate the lawn mower.

#### DRIVE CONTROL (See Fig. 4)

- Self-propelling is controlled by holding the operator presence control bar down to the handle and pushing the drive control lever forward until it clicks; then release the lever.
- Forward motion will stop when the operator presence control bar is released. To stop forward motion without stopping engine, release the operator presence control bar slightly until the drive control disengages. Hold operator presence control bar down to handle to continue mowing without self-propelling.
- To keep drive control engaged when turning corners, push down on handle and lift front wheels off ground while turning lawn mower.

#### **TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT (See Fig. 5)**

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

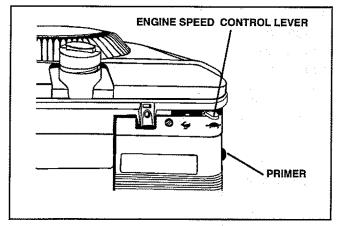


FIG. 3

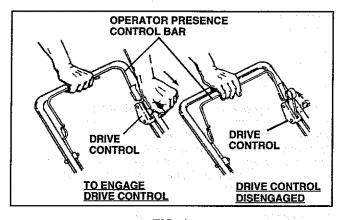


FIG. 4

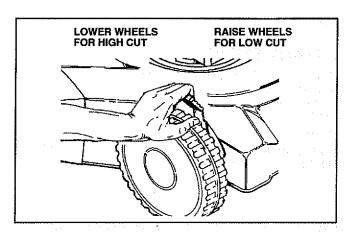


FIG. 5

### **OPERATION**

# BEFORE STARTING ENGINE OIL (See Fig. 6)

Your lawn mower is shipped without oil in the engine.

- Be sure mower is level and area around oil fill is clean.
- Remove engine oil cap w/dipstick and fill to the full line on the dipstick.
- Use 20 ozs, of oil. For type and grade of oil to use, see "ENGINE" in Customer Responsibilities section of this manual.
- Pour oil slowly. Do not over fill.
- Check oil level before each use. Add oil if needed. Fill to full line on dipstick.
- · To read proper level, tighten engine oil cap each time.
- Reinstall engine oil cap and tighten.
- After the first two (2) hours of mowing, change the oil, and every 25 hours thereafter. You may need to change the oil more often under dusty, dirty conditions.

#### GAS (See Fig. 6)

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

WARNING: Experience indicates that alcohol blended fuels (called gasohol or using ethanol or methanol) can attract moisture which leads to separation and formation of acids during storage. Acidic gas can damage the fuel system of an engine while in storage. To avoid engine problems, the fuel system should be emptied before storage of 30 days or longer. Drain the fuel tank, start the engine and let it run until fuel lines and carburetor are empty. Use fresh fuel next season. See Storage Instructions for additional information. Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.

#### TO START ENGINE

- To start a cold engine, push primer three (3) times before trying to start. Use a firm push. This step is not usually necessary when starting an engine which has already run for a few minutes.
- Push engine speed control lever to fast ( ) position.
- Hold operator presence control bar down to the handle and pull starter handle quickly. DO NOT allow starter rope to snap back.
- To STOP engine, release operator presence control bar.

**NOTE**: In cooler weather it may be necessary to repeat priming steps. In warmer weather over priming may cause flooding and engine will not start. If you do flood engine, wait a few minutes before attempting to start and DO NOT repeat priming steps.

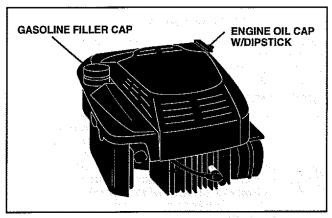


FIG. 6

#### **MOWING TIPS**

- Under certain conditions, such as very tall grass, it may be necessary to raise the height of cut to reduce pushing effort and to keep from overloading the engine and leaving clumps of grass clippings.
- For extremely heavy cutting, reduce the width of cut by overlapping previously cut path and mow slowly.
- For better grass bagging and most cutting conditions, the engine speed should be set in the fast (\*) position.
- For side discharge lawn mowers, cutting in a counterclockwise direction, starting at the outside of the area to be cut, spreads grass clippings more evenly and puts less load on the engine. To keep clippings off of walkways, flower beds, etc., make the first cuts in a clockwise direction.
- Pores in cloth grass catchers can become filled with dirt and dust with use and catchers will collect less grass.
   To prevent this, regularly hose catcher off with water and let dry before using.
- Keep top of engine around starter clear and clean of grass clippings and chaff. This will help engine air flow and extend engine life.

# **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

	MAINTENANCE SCHED	ULE			HUS	USE	25/3	RS O	RS ON	GAGI		
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Ν	Check for Loose Fasteners Clean/Inspect Grass Catcher (If Equipped)	V	·					V V				
O W E	Clean Lawn Mower Inspect/Clean Drive Wheels (Self-Propelled Mowers)	-	V		.,			V				
R	Sharpen/Replace Mower Blade Lubrication Chart	F				<b>V</b> <sub>3</sub>		<b>1</b>				
	Clean Battery/Recharge (Electric Start Mowers)					V		1/4				
EZC	Check Engine Oil Level Change Engine Oil Clean Air Filter	1		V	~	1,2						
G N	Inspect Muffler Replace Spark Plug					V 2	<b>V</b>					
	Replace Air Filter Paper Cartridge						1/2					

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

#### **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

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

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

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

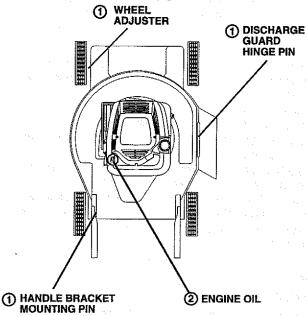
#### **BEFORE EACH USE**

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

#### LUBRICATION

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

### **LUBRICATION CHART**



- (1) SPRAY LUBRICANT
- ② REFER TO CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES "ENGINE" SECTION.

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

### **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **LAWN MOWER**

Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

#### **TIRES**

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

#### **BLADE CARE**

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

#### TO REMOVE BLADE (See Fig. 7)

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with spark plug.
- Turn lawn mower on its side. Make sure air filter and carburetor are up.
- Use a wood block between blade and mower housing to prevent blade from turning when removing blade bolt.
- Protect your hands with gloves and/or wrap blade with heavy cloth.
- Remove blade bolt by turning counter-clockwise. Use a 9/16" box or open-end wrench.
- Remove blade and attaching hardware (bolt, lock washer and hardened washer).

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

#### TO REPLACE BLADE (See Fig. 7)

- Position the blade adapter on the engine crankshaft.
   Be sure key in adapter and crankshaft keyway are aligned.
- Position blade on the blade adapter aligning the two (2) holes in the blade with the raised lugs on the adapter.
- Be sure the trailing edge of blade (opposite sharp edge) is up toward the engine.
- Install the blade boil with the lock washer and hardened washer into blade adapter and crankshaft.
- Use block of wood between blade and lawn mower housing and tighten the blade bolt, turning clockwise.
- The recommended tightening torque is 35-40 ft. lbs.

#### IMPORTANT: BLADE BOLT IS GRADE 8 HEAT TREATED.

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

#### TO SHARPEN BLADE

Care should be taken to keep the blade balanced. An unbalanced blade will cause eventual damage to lawn mower or engine.

- The blade can be sharpened with a file or on a grinding wheel. Do not attempt to sharpen while on the mower.
- To check blade balance, drive a nail into a beam or wall. Leave about one inch of the straight nail exposed. Place center hole of blade over the head of the nail. If blade is balanced, it should remain in a horizontal position. If either end of the blade moves downward, sharpen the heavy end until the blade is balanced.

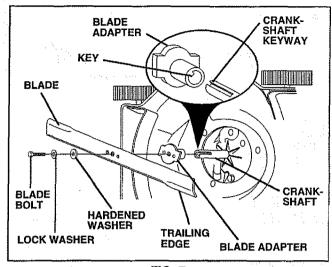


FIG. 7

#### **DRIVE WHEELS**

Check front drive wheels each time before you mow to be sure they move freely.

The wheels not turning freely means trash, grass cuttings, etc. are in the drive wheel area and must be cleaned to free drive wheels.

If necessary to clean the drive wheels, check both front wheels.

- Remove hubcaps, hairpin cotters and washers.
- · Remove wheels from wheel adjusters.
- Remove any trash or grass cuttings from inside the dust cover, pinion and/or drive wheel gear teeth.
- Put wheels back in place.
- If after cleaning, the drive wheels do not turn freely, contact your nearest authorized service center.

#### **GEAR CASE**

- To keep your drive system working properly, the gear case and area around the drive should be kept clean and free of trash build-up. Clean under the drive cover twice a season.
- The gear case is filled with lubricant to the proper level at the factory. The only time the lubricant needs attention is if service has been performed on the gear case.
- If lubricant is required, use only Texaco Starplex Premium 1 Grease, Part No. 750369. Do not substitute.

#### **GRASS CATCHER**

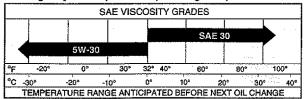
(If purchased as an accessory)

- The grass catcher may be hosed with water, but must be dry when used.
- Check your grass catcher often for damage or deterioration. Through normal use it will wear. If catcher needs replacing, replace only with a manufacturer approved replacement catcher. Give the lawn mower model number when ordering.

### **CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES**

# ENGINE LUBRICATION

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



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

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

Check the crankcase oil level before starting the engine and after each five (5) hours of continuous use. Add SAE 30 motor oil or equivalent. Tighten oil plug securely each time you check the oil level.

TO CHANGE ENGINE OIL (See Fig. 8)

**NOTE:** Before tipping lawn mower to drain oil, drain fuel tank by running engine until fuel tank is empty.

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with spark plug.
- Remove engine oil cap; lay aside on a clean surface.
- Tip lawn mower on its side and drain oil into a suitable container. Rock lawn mower back and forth to remove any oil trapped inside of engine.
- Wipe off any spilled oil on lawn mower and on side of engine.
- Fill engine with oil. Fill only to the "FULL" line on the dipstick. DO NOT OVER FILL.
- Replace engine oil cap.
- · Reconnect spark plug wire to spark plug.

#### **AIR FILTER**

Your engine will not run properly and may be damaged by using a dirty air filter.

Replace the air filter every year, more often if you mow in very dusty, dirty conditions.

TO SERVICE AIR FILTER (See Fig. 9)

- Loosen screw and tilt cover as shown.
- Carefully remove cartridge.

 Clean by tapping gently on a flat surface. If very dirty, replace cartridge or clean as follows:

 Wash in a low or non-sudsing detergent and warm water solution. Rinse thoroughly with flowing water from mesh side until water runs clear. Let cartridge air dry thoroughly before using.



CAUTION: Petroleum solvents, such as kerosene, are not to be used to clean cartridge. They may cause deterioration of the cartridge. Do not oil cartridge. Do not use pressurized air to clean or dry cartridge.

 Install cartridge, then replace cover making sure the tabs are aligned with the slots in back plate. Fasten screw securely.

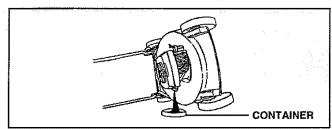


FIG. 8

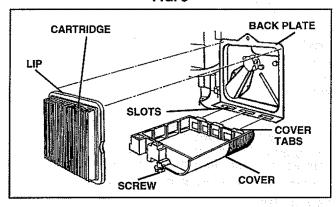


FIG. 9

#### **MUFFLER**

Inspect and replace corroded muffler as it could create a fire hazard and/or damage.

#### SPARK PLUG

Change your spark plug each year to make your engine start easier and run better. Set spark plug gap at .030 inch.

#### CLEANING

IMPORTANT: FOR BEST PERFORMANCE, KEEP MOWER HOUSING FREE OF BUILT-UP GRASS AND TRASH. CLEAN THE UNDERSIDE OF YOUR MOWER AFTER EACH USE.



CAUTION: Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with the spark plug.

- Turn lawn mower on its side. Make sure air filter and carburetor are up. Clean the underside of your lawn mower by scraping to remove build-up of grass and trash.
- Clean engine often to keep trash from accumulating. A clogged engine runs hotter and shortens engine life.
- Keep finished surfaces and wheels free of all gasoline, oil,etc.
- We do not recommend using a garden hose to clean lawn mower unless the electrical system, muffler, air filter and carburetor are covered to keep water out.
   Water in engine can result in shortened engine life.

#### **CLEAN UNDER DRIVE COVER**

Clean under drive cover at least twice a season. Scrape underside of cover with putty knife or similar tool to remove any build-up of trash or grass on underside of drive cover.

### SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS



#### **CAUTION: BEFORE PERFORMING ANY SERVICE OR ADJUSTMENTS:**

- · Release control bar.
- Make sure the blade and all moving parts have completely stopped.
- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place where it cannot come in contact with plug.

#### **LAWN MOWER**

#### TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT

See "TO ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT" in the Operation section of this manual.

#### **DISCHARGE GUARD**

The discharge guard, attached to the discharge opening of your lawn mower, is provided to prevent the possibility of injury resulting from objects being thrown out of the discharge opening into the operator mowing position. If the discharge guard becomes damaged, it should be replaced.

# TO REMOVE/REPLACE DRIVE BELT (See Fig. 10)

- Remove drive cover. Remove belt by pushing down on gear case pulley.
- Turn lawn mower on its side with carburetor and fuel cap up.
- Remove blade.
- · Remove debris shield.
- Remove belt from engine pulley on crankshaft.
- Install new belt by reversing above steps.
- Always use factory approved belt to assure fit and long life.

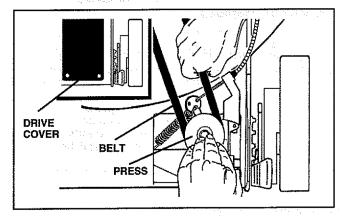


FIG. 10

### **SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS**

#### TO ADJUST HANDLE (See Figs. 11 Thru 13)

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

- To change from medium low to medium high position, the upper and lower handle sections will have to be turned over (See Fig. 11B).
- Remove the controls and operator presence control bar from the upper handle.
- Remove the starter rope guide from the lower handle.
- · Remove hairpin cotters.
- Disconnect the lower handle from the handle brackets (See Fig. 13).
- Turn the handle over and reassemble the hairpin cotters that have been removed.
- · Reassemble the starter rope guide.
- Reassemble the controls and the operator presence control bar to the upper handle.



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

- To change from medium low to high position only the upper handle section will have to be turned over (See Fig. 12A).
- To change from medium low to low position, only the lower handle section will have to be turned over (See Fig. 12B).

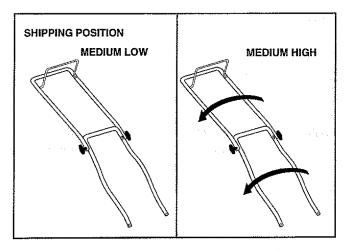
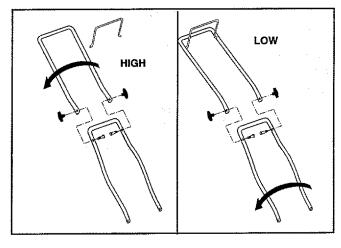


FIG. 11A

FIG. 11B



**FIG. 12A** 

FIG. 12B

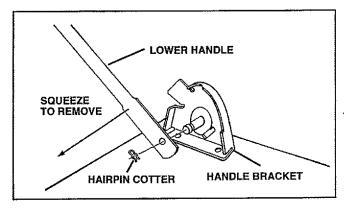


FIG. 13

### **SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS**

# ENGINE SPEED

Your engine speed has been factory set. Do not attempt to increase engine speed or it may result in personal injury. If you believe that engine is running too fast or too slow, take your mower to an authorized service center for repair and adjustment.

#### TO ADJUST CARBURETOR (See Fig. 14)

Minor carburetor adjustments may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude or load. The air cleaner and air cleaner cover must be assembled to carburetor when running.

#### **INITIAL ADJUSTMENT-**

With the engine not running, gently turn idle mixture screw clockwise until it just closes. Screw may be damaged by turning it in too far.

Next open the screw one turn counter-clockwise. This initial adjustment will permit the engine to be started and warmed up (approximately 5 minutes) prior to final adjustment

**NOTE:** DO NOT adjust top no load adjusting screw. It was pre-set at the factory.

#### FINAL ADJUSTMENT-

Place engine speed control lever in "IDLE" or "SLOW" ( ) position. Adjust idle RPM by turning idle speed adjusting screw to obtain 1700 RPM. Next, turn idle mixture screw in (clockwise - lean mixture) until engine just starts to slow. Then turn idle mixture screw out (counter-clockwise - rich

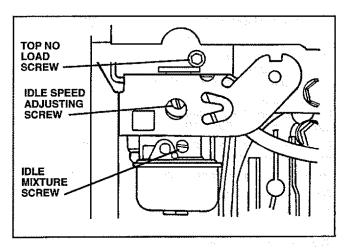


FIG. 14

mixture) until engine runs unevenly. Now turn idle mixture screw midway between rich and lean. Engine should accelerate smoothly. If engine does not accelerate properly, the carburetor should be readjusted, usually to a richer mixture, by turning the idle mixture screw counter-clockwise 1/8 turn more.

IMPORTANT: NEVER TAMPER WITH THE ENGINE GOVERNOR, WHICH IS FACTORY SET FOR PROPER ENGINE SPEED. OVERSPEEDING THE ENGINE ABOVE THE FACTORY HIGH SPEED SETTING CAN BE DANGEROUS. IF YOU THINK THE ENGINE-GOVERNED HIGH SPEED NEEDS ADJUSTING, CONTACT YOUR NEAREST AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER, WHICH HAS PROPER EQUIPMENT AND EXPERIENCE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS.

### **STORAGE**

Immediately prepare your lawn mower for storage at the end of the season or if the unit will not be used for 30 days or more.

#### LAWN MOWER

When lawn mower is to be stored for a period of time, clean it thoroughly, remove all dirt, grease, leaves, etc. Store in a clean, dry area.

- Clean entire lawn mower (See "CLEANING" in the Customers Responsibilities section of this manual).
- Lubricate as shown in the Customers Responsibilities section of this manual.
- Be sure that all nuts, bolts, screws, and pins are securely fastened. Inspect moving parts for damage, breakage and wear. Replace if necessary.
- Touch up all rusted or chipped paint surfaces; sand lightly before painting.

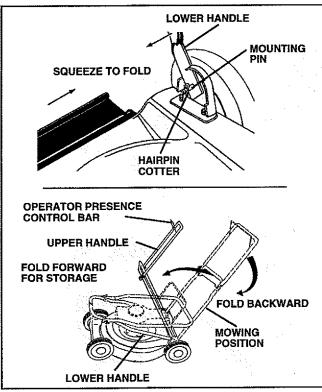
#### HANDLE (See Fig. 15)

You can fold your lawn mower handle for storage.

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

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

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



#### **ENGINE**

#### **FUEL SYSTEM**

IMPORTANT: IT IS IMPORTANT TO PREVENT GUM DEPOSITS FROM FORMING IN ESSENTIAL FUEL SYSTEM PARTS SUCH AS CARBURETOR, FUEL FILTER, FUEL HOSE, OR TANK DURING STORAGE. ALSO, EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT ALCOHOL BLENDED FUELS (CALLED GASOHOL OR USING ETHANOL OR METHANOL) CAN ATTRACT MOISTURE WHICH LEADS TO SEPARATION AND FORMATION OF ACIDS DURING STORAGE. ACIDIC GAS CAN DAMAGE THE FUEL SYSTEM OF AN ENGINE WHILE IN STORAGE.

- Drain the fuel tank.
- Start the engine and let it run until the fuel lines and carburetor are empty.
- Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in the fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.
- Use fresh fuel next season.

**NOTE:** Fuel stabilizer is an acceptable alternative in minimizing the formation of fuel gum deposits during storage. Add stabilizer to gasoline in fuel tank or storage container. Always follow the mix ratio found on stabilizer container. Run engine at least 10 minutes after adding stabilizer to allow the stabilizer to reach the carburetor. Do not drain the gas tank and carburetor if using fuel stabilizer.

#### **ENGINE OIL**

Drain oil (with engine warm) and replace with clean engine oil. (See "ENGINE" in the Customers Responsibilities section of this manual).

#### **CYLINDER**

- Remove spark plug.
- Pour one ounce (29 ml) of oil through spark plug hole into cylinder.
- Pull starter handle slowly a few times to distribute oil.
- · Replace with new spark plug.

#### OTHER

- Do not store gasoline from one season to another.
- Replace your gasoline can if your can starts to rust. Rust and/or dirt in your gasoline will cause problems.
- If possible, store your unit indoors and cover it to give protection from dust and dirt.
- Cover your unit with a suitable protective cover that does not retain moisture. Do not use plastic. Plastic cannot breathe which allows condensation to form and will cause your unit to rust.

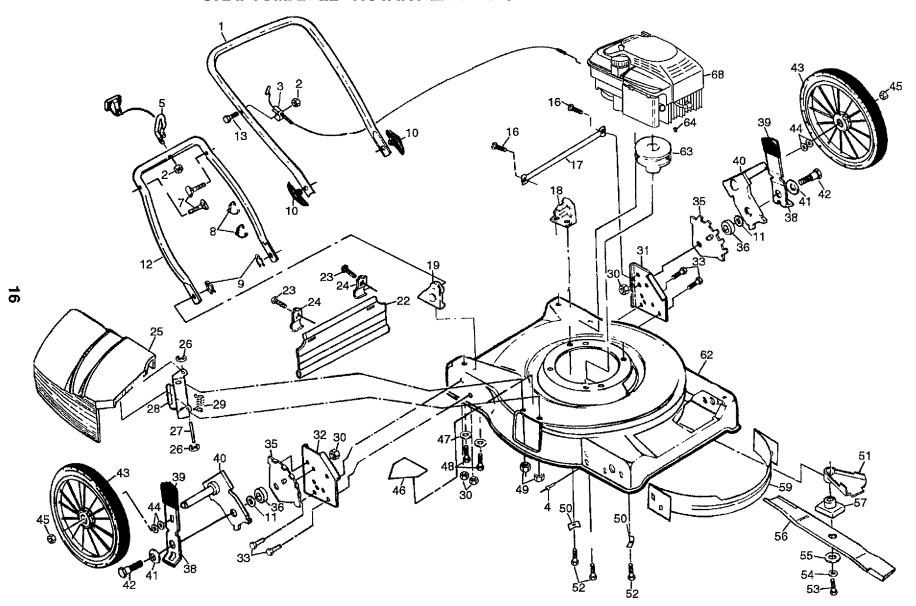
IMPORTANT: NEVER COVER MOWER WHILE ENGINE AND EXHAUST AREAS ARE STILL WARM.



CAUTION: Never store the lawn mower with gasoline in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.

FIG. 15

### CRAFTSMAN 22" ROTARY LAWN MOWER - MODEL NO. 917.378590

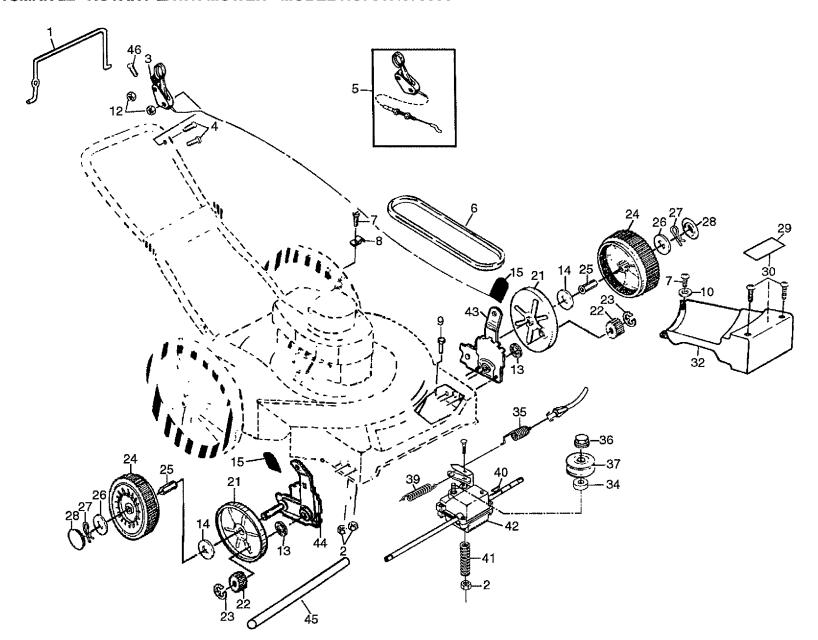


#### CRAFTSMAN 22" ROTARY LAWN MOWER - MODEL NO. 917.378590

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	133088X479	Upper Handle	42	84921	Shoulder Bolt
2	STD541425	Locknut		88017	Wheel & Tire Assembly
3	130861	Zone Control Cable		57143	Wave Washer
4	128415	Pop Rivet		83923	Locknut 3/18-16
5	103672X	Rope Guide		85463	Danger Decal
7	131959	Handle Bolt		59289	Flat Washer
8	85827	Cable Clip	48	55187	Thread Cutting Screw 5/16-18 x 3/4
9	51793	Hairpin Cotter	49	STD541425	Locknut
10	136376	Handle Knob	50	851201X004	Washer
11	88348	Flat Washer 3/8	51	134612	Debris Shield
12	84676X479		52	850998	Hex Head Thread Rolling Screw 3/8-16 x 1-1/8
	74350424	Hex Head Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/2	53	851084	Hex Head Screw 3/8-24 x 1-3/8 (Grd. 8)
16	54583	Hex Tapping Screw 1/4-20 x 1/2		850263	Helical Lock Washer
17	750157	Support Rod		851074	Hardened Washer
18	701971X479			850973	Blade 22"
19	701969X479	Handle Bracket Assembly (Right)		851514	Blade Adapter
22	128797	Rear Deflector		700869X479	Front Baffle
23	750097	Hex Washer Head Screw #10-24 x 1/2		48324	Lawn Mower Housing (Incl. Ref. #46,59)
24	87584X004	Deflector Bracket	63	84596	Engine Pulley
25	750149	Discharge Guard		87677	Hi-Pro Key #HP 505
26	12000014	E-Ring	68	141131	Engine - Briggs & Stratton - Model No. 128802,
27	87590	Hinge Rod			Type No. 0519-21
28	87593	Housing Bracket		134027X479	Rear Baffle (Not Shown)
29	87589	Torsion Spring		141192	Owner's Manual (English)
30	751592	Locknut Control (Control Control Contr		141193	Owner's Manual (Spanish)
31	750388X459	Support Bracket (Left)			
32	750386X459	Support Bracket (Right)	Avai	lable accessorie	es not included with lawn mower:
33	74760612	Hex Head Bolt 3/8-16 x 3/4			
35	750085X007	Wheel Adjusting Bracket		<u>71</u> 33072	Grass Catcher
36	84920	Spacer		<u>71</u> 33201	Mulcher Kit
38	850855X004	Selector Spring		<u>71</u> 33623	Gas Can (2.5 gal.)
39	87877	Selector Knob		<u>71</u> 33500	Fuel Stabilizer
40	750913X004	Axie Arm Assembly		<u>71</u> 33300	SAE 30W Oil (20 oz.)
41	61651	Rear Spring Washer H/W		<u>71</u> 33316	Mower Cover

REPAIR PARTS

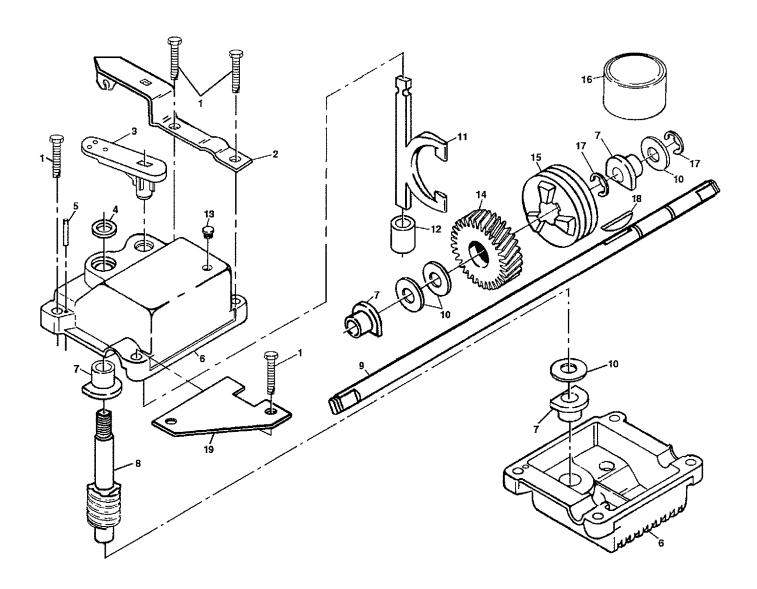
CRAFTSMAN 22" ROTARY LAWN MOWER - MODEL NO. 917.378590



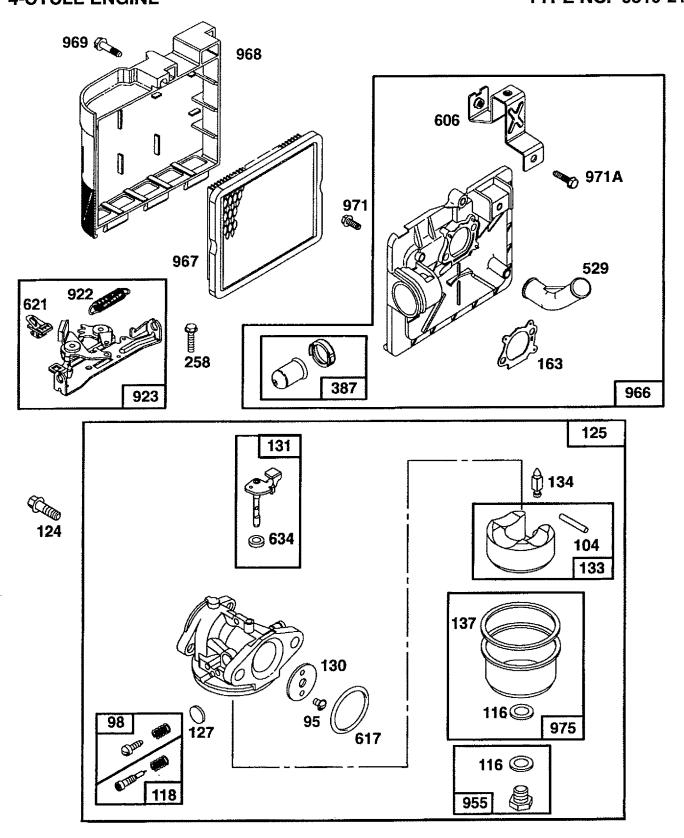
#### CRAFTSMAN 22" ROTARY LAWN MOWER - MODEL NO. 917.378590

	KE NO		DESCRIPTION	KEY PART NO. NO.	DESCRIPTION
19	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 2 11 15 1 22 23 24 1	851509 STD541425 48029 750029 137076 137078 750097 87930 700875 4802 69180 88118 67725 87877 88080 137054 12000058 700953	Control Bar Locknut 1/4-20 Control Head Kit Screw #10-24 x 2 Control Cable Assembly V-Belt Hex Washer Head Screw #10-24 x 1/2 Clip Guide (Housing) Carriage Bolt 1/4-20 x 2 Washer Locknut #10-24 Felt Washer Washer 1/2 x 1-1/2 x .134 Selector Knob Dust Cover Pinion E-Ring Wheel & Tire Assembly	26 52160 27 85179 28 77400 29 702182 30 87866 32 137088 34 77881 35 48323 36 132010 37 137052 39 75192 40 850848 41 137090 42 702511 43 751809 44 751810 45 86012 46 851552	Flat Washer Retainer Clip Hubcap Drive Cover Decal Pan Head Tapping Screw #10-24 x 2-3/4 Drive Cover Spacer Drive Control Cable Kit Flanged Locknut 3/8-16 Drive Pulley Spring Hi-Pro Key Spring Gear Case Assembly (Complete) Wheel Adjuster Assembly (Left) Wheel Adjuster Assembly (Right) Drive Shaft Cover Pan Head Hi Lo Screw #10-16 x .63
	25	86960	Wheel Bushing		

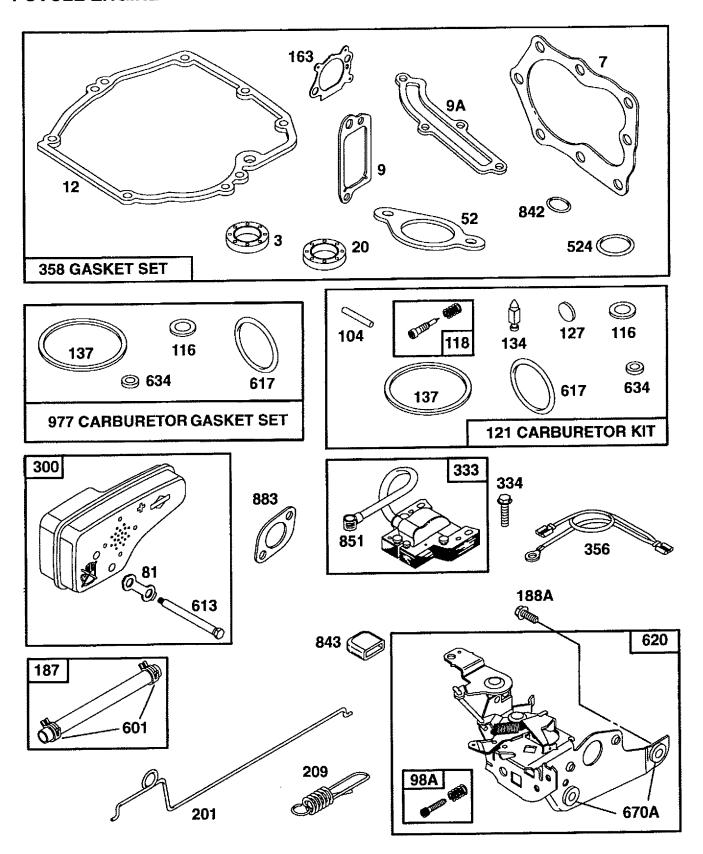
# 22" CRAFTSMAN ROTARY LAWN MOWER - - MODEL NO. 917.378590 GEAR CASE ASSEMBLY PART NUMBER 702511



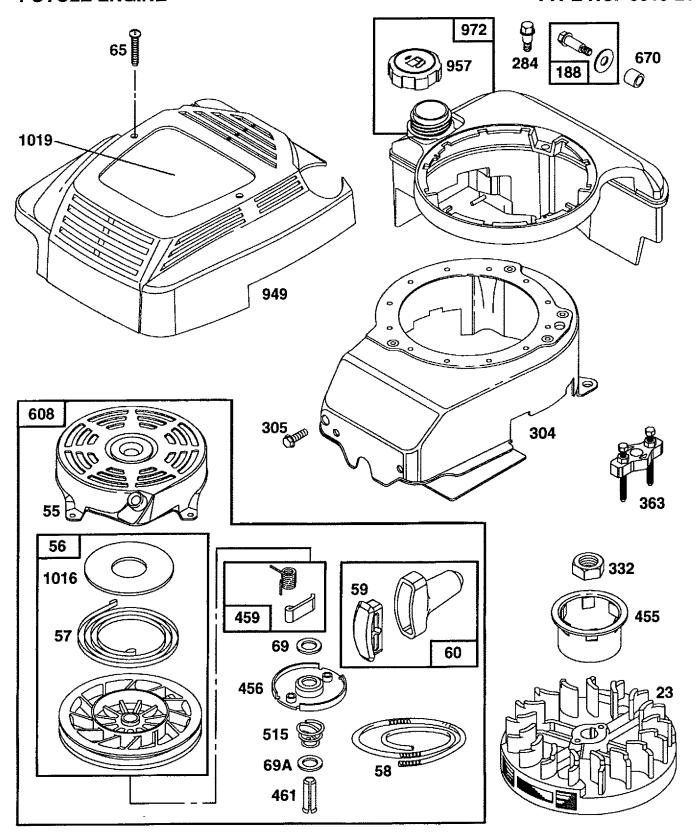
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
5 6 7 8 9	17490416 137055X004 137053 57072 702710 48373 77881 137051 137074 57079 131484 700343	Tapping Screw 1/4-20 x 1-1/4 Engagement Bracket Shifter Seal Grooved Pin 1/8 x 5/8 Gear Case Halves Kit (Includes Key Nos. 4, 5, and 7) Bearing Worm Shaft Drive Shaft Hardened Washer Clutch Yoke Bushing		Part No. 77	nent dimensions given in U.S. inches.



#### **MODEL NO. 128802 BRIGGS & STRATTON TYPE NO. 0519-21 4-CYCLE ENGINE** annon ( 27 C 230 34 562 *℅* **9A \*** 869 **\* 871 %** 10 ★ REQUIRES SPECIAL TOOLS TO INSTALL. SEE REPAIR INSTRUCTION MANUAL. **\* 870**



#### MODEL NO. 128802 TYPE NO. 0519-21



### MODEL NO. 128802 TYPE NO. 0519-21

7 0	7 OTOLL ENGINE					
	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY PART NO. NO.	DESCRIPTION		
1	493260	Cylinder Assembly	47 493737	Slinger, Oil		
	293708	Bushing, Cylinder	52 272199	* Gasket, Intake Elbow		
2 3	299819	* Seal, Oil	54 94526	Screw, Hex Head		
5	214193	Head, Cylinder	55 492831	Housing, Rewind Starter		
	272200	* Gasket, Cylinder Head	56 493824	Pulley, Rewind Starter		
7			57 262594	Spring, Rewind Starter		
8 9	495786 272481	Breather Assembly * Gasket, Valve Cover	58 280399	Rope, Rewind Starter		
	272238	* Gasket, Baffle Plate	00 Z00000	(Cut To 88-5/8")		
9A 10	94650	Screw, Hex Head	59 396892	Insert, Starter Grip		
11	231685	Tube, Breather	60 393152	Grip, Starter Rope		
12	272198	* Gasket, Crankcase	65 94696	Screw, Hex Head		
13	94547	Screw, Cylinder Head	69 280973	Washer, Spring		
15	94720	Plug, Oil Drain	69A 224322	Washer, Flat		
16	493362	Crankshaft	81 223664	Lock, Muffler Screw		
10	94388	Timing Gear Key	95 94098	Screw, Round Head		
18	493279	Sump, Engine	98 398185	Screw, Idle Adjustment		
20	399781	* Seal, Oil	98A 493280	Screw, Speed Adjustment		
22	94220	Screw, Hex Head	104 231371	** Pin, Float Hinge		
~~	94612	Screw, Hex Head	116	*** Gasket, Sealing (Sold in Kit Only)		
	34012	(Used in Hole Nearest Breather)	118 493765	** Valve Kit, Needle		
23	492177	Flywheel	121 493762	Carburetor Kit		
24	222698	Key, Flywheel	124 94525	Screw, Carburetor Mounting		
25	493262	Piston Assembly, Standard Size	125 496625	Carburetor		
25	493385	Piston Assembly, .010" Oversize	127	** Plug, Welch (Sold in Kit Only)		
	493386	Piston Assembly, .020" Oversize	130 223470	Valve, Throttle		
	493387	Piston Assembly, .030" Oversize	131 493267	Shaft, Throttle		
26	493261	Ring Set, Piston, Standard Size	133 398187	Float, Carburetor		
20	493388	Ring Set, Piston, .010" Oversize	134 398188	Valve, Inlet (Includes Seat)		
	493389	Ring Set, Piston, .020" Oversize	137	*** Gasket, Bowl (Sold in Kit Only)		
	493390	Ring Set, Piston, .030" Oversize	163 272653	* Gasket, Air Cleaner		
27	26026	Lock, Piston Pin	187 492790	Hose, Fuel		
28	298909	Pin, Piston, Standard Size	188 398540	Screw, Hex Head		
	298908	Pin, Piston, .005" Oversize	188A 94644	Screw, Hex Head		
29	490566	Rod, Connecting	201 262579	Link, Governor		
	490743	Rod, Connecting, .020" Undersize				
32	94699	Screw, Connecting Rod	* Included i	n Gasket Set (496117)		
33	262651	Valve, Exhaust	** Included i	n Carburetor Kit (493762)		
34	262652	Valve, Intake	*** Included i	n both Carburetor Kit (493762),		
35	262224	Spring, Valve	and Carbu	uretor Gasket Set (490937)		
40	93312	Retainer, Valve Spring				
45	262204	Tappet, Valve		ponent dimensions given in U.S. inches		
46	492830	Gear, Ćam	1 inch =	= 25.4 mm		

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY PART NO. NO.	DESCRIPTION	
	262660	Spring, Governor	625 28102	5 Tube, Fuel Intal	
	492349	Lever, Governor	634	*** Washer, Shaft (	(Sold in Kit Only)
	67072	Washer, Thrust	635 66538		
	94512	Screw, Hex Head	670 28051		
	94511	Screw, Hex Head	670A 493		I
	496106	Muffler, Exhaust	741 26259		
	493293	Housing, Blower	842 28096		
	94786	Screw, Sems Shield, Cylinder	843 27261		Oil.
	224324	Screw, Hex Head	847 49526		
	94515 92284	Nut, Flywheel	851 22179		
	802574	Armature, Magneto	869 21351 870 21351		
	94731	Screw, Sems	871 26200		
	802592	Plug, Spark	63709		
	398808	Wire, Ground	883 27225		
	496117	Gasket Set	922 26264		
	19069	Puller, Flywheel	923 49344		٧
	89838	Wrench, Spark Plug	949 49664		,
	496115	Primer, Carburetor	955 49363		wl
	224250	Cup, Starter	957 39797		
	224321	Retainer, Starter	966 49611		
	492833	Pawl, Rachet	967 49158	8 Filter, Air	
	262626	Pin, Shaft	968 28134		ner
515	262625	Spring, Retainer	969 94120	Screw, Hex He	ad
	495264	Cap, Oil Filler	971 94121		
524	280393	* Seal, Filler Tube	971A 947		ad
	495265	Tube, Oil Fill	972 49522		
	281299	Grommet	975 49364		
	92613	Bolt, Governor Lever	977 49093		rburetor
	224328	Baffle, Cylinder	1016 224		
	231082	Nut, Hex	1019 496	558 Label Kit	
	93807	Clamp, Hose			00.0400
	224815	Strap, Bracket	RPM	Settings: Low Speed: 19	
608	493295	Starter, Rewind		High Speed: 30	100-3200
	Includes:	94128 Screw, Sems	* Includ	ad in Cooket Set (40811)	7\
640	04001	92987 Nut, Hex Screw, Hex Head	inciuu ** Includ	ed in Gasket Set (49611	7) (769)
	94231	Fastener	*** Includ	ed in Carburetor Kit (493	//02) ·//03762\
	94474 262578	Crank, Governor	includ	ed in both Carburetor Kit arburetor Gasket Set (49	(433702), MQ37)
		*** Seal, Intake Elbow	and C	albuletoi Gasket Get (43	,0001)
	495976	Bracket, Carburetor	NOTE: All	component dimensions g	iven in U.S. inches
621	396847	Switch, Stop	1 ir	ch = 25.4 mm	,

# TROUBLESHOOTING POINTS

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

# SEARS

# OWNER'S MANUAL

MODEL NO. 917.378590

# HOW TO ORDER REPAIR PARTS

# **CRAFTSMAN®**

### 5.5 HORSEPOWER 22" SIDE DISCHARGE POWER PROPELLED ROTARY LAWN MOWER

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

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

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

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

## WHEN ORDERING REPAIR PARTS, ALWAYS GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- PRODUCT LAWN MOWER
- MODEL NUMBER 917.378590
- ENGINE BRIGGS & STRATTON MODEL
   NO. 128802, TYPE NO. 0519-21
- PART NUMBER
- PART DESCRIPTION

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