

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE: LAWN MOWER



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INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1 - CHANGE THE OIL ON YOUR LAWN MOWER

This should be done before mower use every spring or subsequent season. You should check your oil after the first five hours of use then every eight hours throughout the season. Follow the owner's manual for instructions on how to best do this.

STEP 2 - INSTALL A NEW SPARK PLUG IF NECESSARY

Check your spark plug at the start of every season. If it has become dirty, it may just need cleaning. However, rust and corrosion on your lawn mower's spark plug will call for replacement. We recommend replacing your spark plug at the beginning of each season.

STEP 3 - INSPECT BELTS FOR WEAR AND CHECK TENSION

Always keep at least one replacement belt on hand, either in your garage or shed, so you can make replacements quickly when necessary. To avoid the danger and frustration of a belt breaking during use, replace your belts if there is any significant wear or tear. Also check belt tension and re-tension if necessary, improperly or inadequately tensioned belts are likely to fail prematurely.

STEP 4 - DRAIN FUEL TANK AND REPLACE W/ FRESH FUEL

Fuel, contrary to popular belief, does go bad and should be replaced before mower use each season. It is recommended that you drain the fuel from your lawn mower and flush the fuel lines before storage each year. If you did not do this, you can fill the mower tank with fresh fuel and fuel stabilizer then run the mower for a few minutes to circulate the stabilized fuel through the lines.

STEP 5 - REPLACE THE FUEL FILTER

The fuel filter should be replaced at the start of each season. Cleaning, rather than replacing, the fuel filter is not recommended due to the high risk of damage.

STEP 6 - CHECK THE BLADES

Dull blades tear, rather than cut grass. Check for bends and dents; if found, for safety purposes, replace immediately.

STEP 7 - CHECK THE AIR FILTER

The air filter keeps your engine from collecting dirt and other debris. It should be cleaned or replaced at the beginning of each season then checked after every 25 hours of use.

STEP 8 - CHECK TIRE PRESSURE

Check tire pressure and ensure they are aired properly. Varying tire pressures will lead to uneven or poor grass cutting.

STEP 9 - CLEAN MOWER DECK AND ENGINE COMPARTMENT

Always disconnect the spark plug and siphon out any fuel before attempting to clean your mower deck. Using a putty knife and wire brush, thoroughly scrape the mower deck, then follow by spraying down the rest of the mowers undercarriage. It is recommended that you spray down your mowers undercarriage after each use to avoid debris build up and to keep your mower in peak operating condition. You should also clean your mowers engine compartment by lifting off the hood and brushing away any foreign debris.

LAWN MOWER BELT TROUBLE SHOOTING

PROBLEM	MOST LIKELY CAUSE	OTHER POSSIBLE CAUSES
Stack is misplaced	Belt squeals or slips. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	Cracked underside.
Belts rubs the guard	Damaged tie band. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	Cover is worn.
Backside idler	Cover is worn.	Cracked underside.
Improper storage, stored too long	Cracked underside. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	
Not enough tension	Belts excessively vibrate. Belts comes off pulley. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	Belts or squeals or slips.
Improper installation of pulley		Wobbling pulley. Bushings are cracked.
Pulleys are misaligned	Belts excessively vibrate. Damaged tie band. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	
Pulleys are damaged	Hot bearings. Wobbling pulley. Cracked underside. Belts excessively vibrate. Bushings are cracked. Shaft bends.	Belts bottom out. Damaged tie band. Belt squeals or slips.

PROBLEM	MOST LIKELY CAUSE	OTHER POSSIBLE CAUSES
Too much tension	Belts excessively vibrate. Repeated breakage.	Hot bearings. Shaft bends.
Too much heat	Sidewall repeatedly worn.	Cracked underside.
Bearing too far from pulley	Hot bearings. Shaft bends.	
Poor bearing or shaft worn	Hot bearings. Wobbling pulley. Shaft bends.	
Belt has reached end of service life	Belts bottomout.	
Belts matched up wrong	Belts excessively vibrate. Sidewall repeatedly worn.	

!DO NOT HANG BELTS!

Belts should always be stored in a cool dry place.

Improperly stored belts will lead to premature failure.