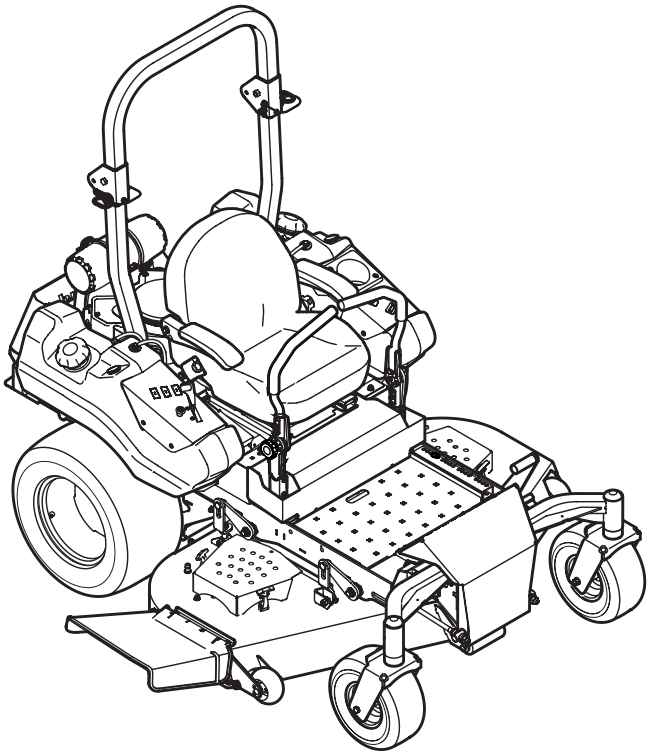
Safe Operation Practices • Set-Up • Operation • Maintenance • Service • Troubleshooting • Warranty

Cub Cadet®

# OPERATOR'S MANUAL



## Tank LZ

**⚠ WARNING**

**READ AND FOLLOW ALL SAFETY RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS MANUAL BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO OPERATE THIS MACHINE.**
**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY.**

**CUB CADET LLC, P.O. BOX 361131 CLEVELAND, OHIO 44136-0019**

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# To The Owner

# 1

## Thank You

Thank you for purchasing a Cub Cadet Zero-Turn Tractor. It was carefully engineered to provide excellent performance when properly operated and maintained.

Please read this entire manual prior to operating the equipment. It instructs you how to safely and easily set up, operate and maintain your machine. Please be sure that you, and any other persons who will operate the machine, carefully follow the recommended safety practices at all times. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or property damage.

All information in this manual is relative to the most recent product information available at the time of printing. Review this manual frequently to familiarize yourself with the machine, its features and operation. Please be aware that this Operator's Manual may cover a range of product specifications for various models. Characteristics and features discussed and/or illustrated in this manual may not be applicable to all models. We reserve the right to change product specifications, designs and equipment without notice and without incurring obligation.

If applicable, the power testing information used to establish the power rating of the engine equipped on this machine can be found at www.opei.org or the engine manufacturer's web site.

If you have any problems or questions concerning the machine, phone your local Cub Cadet dealer or contact us directly. Cub Cadet's Customer Support telephone numbers, website address and mailing address can be found on this page. We want to ensure your complete satisfaction at all times.

Throughout this manual, all references to *right* and *left* side of the machine are observed from the operating position

The engine manufacturer is responsible for all engine-related issues with regards to performance, power-rating, specifications, warranty and service. Please refer to the engine manufacturer's Owner's/Operator's Manual, packed separately with your machine, for more information.

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## Record Product Information

Before setting up and operating your new equipment, please locate the model plate on the equipment and record the information in the provided area to the right. The model plate is located under the seat on the seat frame. This information will be necessary, should you seek technical support via our web site or with your local Cub Cadet dealer.

**MODEL NUMBER**

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

**SERIAL NUMBER**

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

## Product Registration and Customer Support

Please register your product on our website, www.cubcadet.com.

If you have difficulty assembling this product or have any questions regarding the controls, operation, or maintenance of this machine, you can seek help from the experts. Choose from the options below:

◊ Visit us on the web at www.cubcadet.com

See How-to Maintenance and Parts Installation Videos at **www.cubcadet.com/tutorials**

◊ Call a Customer Support Representative at 1300 951 594

◊ Write to MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd. • P.O. Box 376 • Dandenong. Vic. • 3175

# Important Safe Operation Practices

# 2

**WARNING!** This symbol points out important safety instructions which, if not followed, could endanger the personal safety and/or property of yourself and others. Read and follow all instructions in this manual before attempting to operate this machine. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in personal injury.
When you see this symbol, **HEED ITS WARNING!**

## CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65

**WARNING!** Engine Exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

**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.

**WARNING!** This machine is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrestor meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrestor is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator. In the state of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrestor for the muffler is available through your nearest engine authorized service dealer or contact the service department, P.O. Box 361131, Cleveland, Ohio 44136-0019.
This spark ignition system complies with Canadian ICES-002.

**DANGER!** The engine manufacturer has supplied an engine owner's manual for information regarding US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and California Air resources Board (CARB) regulations relating to emission control systems, maintenance, and warranty. Making any unauthorized alterations or modifications to the engine, fuel, or venting systems may violate EPA and/or CARB regulations. Further information may be obtained from the engine manufacturer.

**DANGER!** This machine was built to be operated according to the safe operation practices in this manual. As with any type of power equipment, carelessness or error on the part of the operator can result in serious injury. This machine is capable of amputating hands and feet and throwing objects. Failure to observe the following safety instructions could result in serious injury or death.

## Training

1. Read the Operator's manual and other training material. If the operator(s) or mechanic(s) cannot read English it is the owner's responsibility to explain this material to them.
2. Become familiar with the safe operation of the machine, operator controls, and safety signs.
3. All operators and mechanics should be trained to operate or service the equipment. The owner is responsible for training them.
4. Never let children under the age of 16 or untrained people operate or service the equipment. Local regulations may further restrict the age of the operator.
5. The owner/operator can prevent and is responsible for accidents or injuries occurring to them, other people or property.

## General Operation

1. Read, understand, and follow all instructions on the machine and in the manual(s) before attempting to assemble and operate. Keep this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference by each operator and for ordering replacement parts.
2. Be familiar with all controls and their proper operation. Know how to stop the machine and disengage the controls quickly.
3. Do not allow anyone to operate or maintain this machine who has not read the manual. Never permit children under the age of 16 to operate this machine.
4. Do not remove any shields, guards, labels or safety devices. If a shield, guard, label or safety device is damaged or does not function, repair or replace it before operating the machine.
5. To help avoid blade contact or a thrown object injury, keep bystanders, helpers, children and pets at least 75 feet from the machine while it is in operation. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
6. Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used. Remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones, toys, and other foreign objects that could be picked up and thrown by the blade(s). Thrown objects can cause serious personal injury.
7. Evaluate the terrain to determine what accessories and attachments are needed to properly and safely perform the job. Only use accessories and attachments approved by the machine manufacturer.
8. Plan your mowing pattern to avoid discharge of material toward roads, sidewalks, bystanders and the like. Also, avoid discharging material against a wall or obstruction which may cause discharged material to ricochet back toward the operator.
9. Always wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment (e.g. safety glasses, long pants, gloves, hearing protection , safety shoes, hard hat) when operating or maintaining this machine. Long hair, loose fitting clothing or jewelry may get entangled in moving parts. Follow all federal, state and local guidelines regarding the use of personal protective equipment.
10. Be aware of the mower and attachment discharge direction and do not point it at anyone. Do not operate the mower without the discharge cover or entire grass catcher in its proper place.
11. Do not put hands or feet near rotating parts or under the cutting deck. Contact with the blade(s) can amputate hands and feet.
12. A missing or damaged discharge cover can cause blade contact or thrown object injuries.
13. Stop the blade(s) when crossing gravel drives, walks, or roads and while not cutting grass.
14. Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways. This machine is not intended for use on any public roadway.
15. Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
16. Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
17. Never carry passengers.
18. Back up slowly. Always look down and behind before and while backing to avoid a back-over accident.
19. Slow down before turning. Operate the machine smoothly. Avoid erratic operation and excessive speed. Be aware of your direction of travel to avoid accidents.
20. Disengage blade(s), set parking brake, stop engine and wait until the blade(s) come to a complete stop before removing grass catcher, emptying grass, unclogging chute, removing any grass or debris, or making any adjustments.
21. Never leave a running machine unattended. Always stop on level ground, turn off blade(s), place drive speed control levers in neutral, set parking brake, stop engine and remove key before leaving the operator position.
22. Use extra care when loading or unloading the machine on a trailer or truck. The machine should not be driven on unstable, unsecured or inadequate ramps because the machine could tip over causing serious personal injury.
23. Check overhead clearances carefully before driving under low hanging tree branches, wires, door openings etc., where the operator and/or ROPS may be struck which could result in serious injury and/or machine tip over.
24. Muffler and engine become hot and can cause a burn. Do not touch.
25. Disengage the blades, set the parking brake to the 'ON' position and make sure the speed control lever are in the neutral position before attempting to start the engine. Only start the engine from the operator's position.
26. Do not attempt to mow unusually tall, dry grass (e.g., pasture) or piles of dry leaves. Dry grass or leaves may contact the engine exhaust and/or build up on the mower deck presenting a potential fire hazard.
27. Do not stop or park the machine over dry leaves, grass, debris or other combustible material.

28. Never attempt to operate the machine without the mowing deck attached; the machine could tip over.
29. Keep the machine and especially the engine exhaust system and hydraulic components clean and free of grease, grass and leaves to reduce the potential for overheating and fire.
30. Allow the machine to cool at least 5 minutes before storing.
31. Use only accessories and attachments approved for this machine by the machine manufacturer. Read, understand and follow all instructions provided with the approved accessory or attachment.
32. Data indicates that operators, age 60 years and above, are involved in a large percentage of riding mower-related injuries. Operators should evaluate their ability to operate this machine safely enough to protect themselves and others from serious injury.
33. Do not operate or start machine if there is fuel or oil leaks; repair immediately.
34. When looking for oil leaks, never run your hand over hydraulic hoses, lines or fittings. Never tighten or adjust hydraulic hoses, lines or fittings while the system is under pressure. If high-pressure oil penetrates the skin seek immediate medical attention or gangrene and permanent damage may result. Do not check for hydraulic leaks with your hands, use paper or cardboard instead. Wear gloves and safety glasses when checking for leaks.
35. Do not operate machines that have been damaged or have not been properly maintained. If the machine has been damaged, then have it repaired.
36. When operating this machine in the forward direction, do not allow the speed control levers to return to the neutral position on their own. Always operate them smoothly and avoid any sudden movements of the levers when starting or stopping.
37. If situations occur which are not covered in this manual use care and good judgement. Contact your customer service representative for assistance.

## Slope Operation

Slopes are a major factor related to loss of control and tip-over accidents that can result in severe injury or death. All slopes require extra caution. If you cannot back up the slope or if you feel uneasy on it, do not mow it or drive on the slope.

For your safety, use the slope gauge included as part of this manual to measure slopes before operating this machine on a sloped or hilly area. If the slope is greater than 20 degrees as shown on the slope gauge, do not operate this machine on that area or serious injury could result.

### Do:

1. Mow across slopes, not up and down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.
2. Watch for holes, ruts, bumps, rocks, or other hidden objects. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. Tall grass can hide obstacles.
3. Use slow speed. Choose a low enough speed so that you will not have to stop while on the slope. Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If the tires are unable to maintain traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly and carefully straight down the slope.
4. Keep all movements on the slopes slow and gradual. Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction. Rapid acceleration could cause the front of the machine to lift and rapidly flip over backwards, which could cause serious injury or death.
5. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.
6. Use extra care with grass catchers or other attachments. These can change the stability of the machine.

### Do Not:

1. Do not turn on slopes unless necessary; then turn slowly uphill and use extra care while turning.
2. Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches or embankments. The machine could suddenly turn over if a wheel is over the edge of a cliff, ditch, or if an edge caves in.
3. Do not operate on slopes or near the edge of water such as a lake, pond, river or stream where the machine could slip, tip or roll-over into the water.
4. Do not try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.
5. Do not use a grass catcher on slopes steeper than 15 degrees.
6. Do not mow on wet grass. Reduced traction could cause sliding and/or loss of control.
7. Do not tow heavy pull behind attachments (e.g. loaded dump cart, lawn roller, etc.) on slopes greater than 5 degrees. When going downhill, the extra weight tends to push the machine and may cause loss of traction and loss of control (e.g. machine may speed up, braking and steering ability are reduced, attachment may jack-knife and cause machine to overturn).

## Children

1. 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. They do not understand the dangers. Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them.
    a. Keep children out of the mowing area and in watchful care of a responsible adult other than the operator.
    b. Be alert and turn machine off if a child enters the area.
    c. Always look behind and down for small children. Use slow speed.
    d. Never carry children, even with the blade(s) shut off. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe machine operation.
    e. Use extreme care when approaching blind corners, doorways, shrubs, trees or other objects that may block your vision of a child who may run into the path of the machine.
    f. To avoid back-over accidents, always disengage blades before traveling in reverse.
    g. Keep children away from hot or running engines. They can suffer burns from a hot muffler.
    h. Remove key when machine is unattended to prevent unauthorized operation.

2. Never allow children under 16 years of age to operate this machine. Children 16 and over should read and understand the instructions and safe operation practices in this manual and on the machine and should be trained and supervised by an adult.

### Towing

1. Do not tow heavy tow-behind attachments (e.g. loaded dump cart, lawn roller, etc.) on slopes greater than 5 degrees.
2. Tow only with a machine that has a hitch designed for towing. Do not attach towed equipment except at the hitch point.
3. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for weight limits for towed equipment and towing on slopes.
4. Never allow children or others in or on towed equipment.
5. On slopes, the weight of the towed equipment may cause loss of traction and loss of control.
6. Travel slowly and allow extra distance to stop.
7. Make wide turns to avoid jack knifing

## Transporting Machines

1. This machine is not intended for use on public roads. Machines operated on public roads must comply with state & local ordinances, SAE J137, and ANSI/ASABE S279 (lighting and marking requirements).
2. Use care when loading or unloading machines onto trailers and trucks.
3. If ramps are used, they must be full width, stable, have an adequate capacity rating and be secured to the trailer or truck. Ramp angle should not exceed 15 degrees and trailer or truck should be parked on level terrain.
4. Machines must be secured onto trailers and trucks with straps, chains, cables, ropes, or other means deemed adequate for that purpose. The front and rear of the machines must be secured to the trailer or truck in both the lateral and vertical directions.

## Operator Protective System (OPS)

1. This machine is equipped with an Operator Protective System (OPS), which includes:
    a. A Roll Over Protective Structure (ROPS) of the fixed or folding configuration.
    b. Seat belt assembly with retractable function.
2. ROPS are structures designed to provide a crush-resistant space for the operator when properly seat-belted within the designated seating area of the machine in the event of a machine tip-over or roll-over. Folding ROPS shall be used in their fully upright and locked configurations except in those circumstances whereby they need to be momentarily folded-down to avoid contact with items such as tree limbs, clothes lines, guy wires, utility poles, buildings, etc. At other times and conditions, ROPS shall be in their fully upright and locked configurations.



**DANGER:** Damaged ROPS must be replaced prior to operator use!

3. Seat belts shall be used and shall be properly fastened about the operator's waist at all times, except when the ROPS are:
    a. Not properly installed and/or not properly secured onto the machine.
    b. Damaged in such manner that their structural integrity has been compromised.
    c. Not in their fully upright and locked position.
4. Seat belts are attached to the movable portion of the seat when suspension seats are utilized, and therefore the seat-mounting base must be secured to its pivot means and the pivot means latched to the frame of the machine. Seat belts are attached to the seat or the frame of the machine when non-suspension (standard) seats are provided, however, if a suspension kit is added to a seat, the seat belt must be attached to the movable portion of the seat or suspension mechanism, the seat-mounting base must be secured to its pivot means, and the pivot means be latched to the frame of the machine.



**DANGER:** If ROPS are folded down or missing, seat belts shall not be fastened. Worn or damaged seat belt assemblies must be replaced prior to operator use.

5. A brush guard or canopy may deflect tree limbs, clothes lines, and other obstacles that otherwise could come in contact with the ROPS. Contact of ROPS and/or canopies by items such as tree limbs, clothes lines, guy wires, and buildings, could create hazardous conditions whereby the machine could experience a tip-over or roll-over. A canopy may provide protection for the operator from some environmental exposure (sunlight, rain, etc.).
6. The ROPS and seat belt are integral parts of this machine and should not be tampered with, modified in any manner, or removed.
7. Inspect the ROPS and seat belt assemblies on a regular basis for damage and improper operation. Replace all components that are damaged or are not functioning properly with authorized replacement parts.
8. The ROPS extends above and behind the operator position, and therefore the operator must be aware of potential contact of the ROPS with items such as trees, buildings, doorways, clothes lines, utility wires, etc., that could cause the machine to tip-over or rollover. Use caution in (or avoid) areas where the ROPS could come in contact with any structures, trees, etc.
9. Inspect the ROPS and seat belt assemblies on a regular basis for damage and improper operation. Replace all components that are damaged or are not functioning properly with authorized replacement parts.
10. Failure to use the seat belt properly could result in serious injury or death if an accidental overturn occurs. In order for the ROPS to be effective, the seat belt must be securely fastened around the operator at all times when the operator is on the machine. Contact with the ROPS during an overturn could cause serious injury or death.
11. The ROPS will not prevent machine from tip-overs or roll-overs.
12. Do not assume ROPS will protect you in a tip-over or roll-over. Injuries may still occur.

## Hydraulic Devices and Systems

Hydraulic fluid escaping under pressure may have sufficient force to penetrate skin and cause serious injury. If foreign fluid is injected into the skin or eyes, see immediate medical attention or gangrene and permanent damage may result.



**WARNING:** Keep body and hands away from pinholes or nozzles that could inject hydraulic fluid under high pressure. Use paper or cardboard, not your hands, to search for leaks! Wear gloves and safety glasses.

Safely relieve all pressure in the system before performing any work on the system, and make sure that:

- The ignition switch is OFF
- The key is removed
- The engine spark plug wire(s) removed
- All connections to the negative terminal of the battery are removed
- The park brake is set
- All by-pass valves, if so equipped, are open
- Hydraulic controls are actuated to release pressure on pumps, cylinders, etc. If "float" positions are available, they should be used**.**

After the above operations are completed, it should be safe to begin disconnecting the lines or components. It is still a good idea to cover the connection with a cloth shield and then gently loosen connections.



**WARNING:** Make sure all hydraulic fluid connections are tight and all hydraulic hoses and lines are in good condition before applying pressure to the system.

## Service

### Safe Handling of fuel

1. To avoid personal injury or property damage use extreme care in handling fuel. Fuel is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive. Serious personal injury can occur when fuel is spilled on yourself or your clothes which can ignite. Wash your skin and change your closes immediately.
    a. Use only approved containers.
    b. Never fill containers inside a vehicle or a truck or trailer bed with a carpeted or plastic liner. Always place containers on the ground away from your vehicle before fueling.
    c. When practical, remove machines from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel equipment on a trailer with a portable container rather than from a fuel dispenser nozzle.
    d. Keep nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until fueling is complete. Do not use a nozzle lock-open device.
    e. Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.
    f. Never fuel machine indoors or near ignition sources.
    g. Never remove fuel cap or add fuel while the engine is hot or running. Allow engine to cool at least two minutes before refueling.
    h. Never over fill fuel tank. Fill tank to no more than ½ inch below bottom of filler neck to allow space for expansion.
    i. If necessary, use a funnel to avoid spillage.
    j. Replace fuel cap and tighten securely.
    k. If fuel is spilled, wipe off the engine and equipment. Wait 5 minutes before starting the engine.
    l. To reduce fire hazards, keep machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean up oil and fuel spillage and remove any fuel soaked debris.
    m. Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, spark or pilot light as on a water heater, space heater, furnace, clothes dryer or other gas appliance.

### General Service

1. Never run an engine indoors or in a poorly ventilated area. Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odorless, and deadly gas.
2. Before cleaning, repairing, or inspecting, make certain the blade(s) and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wires and remove the key from the ignition to prevent unintended starting.
3. Periodically check to make sure the blades come to complete stop within approximately (7) seven seconds after operating the blade disengagement control. If the blades do not stop within this time frame, your machine should be serviced.
4. Never tamper with the safety interlock system or other safety devices.
5. Regularly check the safety interlock system for proper function, as described later in this manual. If the safety interlock system does not function properly, have your machine serviced.
6. Check brake operation frequently as it is subjected to wear during normal operation. Adjust and service as required.
7. Check the blade(s) and engine mounting bolts at frequent intervals for proper tightness. Also, visually inspect blade(s) for damage (e.g., excessive wear, bent, cracked). Replace the blade(s) with the original equipment manufacturer's (O.E.M.) blade(s) only, listed in this manual. "Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment specifications may lead to improper performance and compromise safety!"
8. Mower blades are sharp. Wrap the blade or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.
9. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
10. After striking a foreign object (or if abnormal vibration occurs), stop the blades and engine and thoroughly inspect the machine for any damage. Make necessary repairs before resuming operation.
11. Never attempt to make adjustments or repairs to the machine while the engine is running.

12. Grass catcher components and the discharge cover are subject to wear and damage which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. For safety protection, frequently check components and replace immediately with original equipment manufacturer's (O.E.M.) parts only, listed in this manual. "Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment specifications may lead to improper performance and compromise safety!"
13. Do not change the engine governor settings or over-speed the engine. The governor controls the maximum safe operating speed of the engine.
14. Maintain or replace safety and instruction labels, as necessary.
15. Observe proper disposal laws and regulations for gas, oil, etc. to protect the environment.

## Do not modify engine

To avoid serious injury or death, do not modify engine in any way. Tampering with the governor setting can lead to a runaway engine and cause it to operate at unsafe speeds. Never tamper with factory setting of engine governor.

## Notice Regarding Emissions

This machine is equipped with an engine that is certified to federal EPA emission standards for non-road engines and equipment, and where applicable to California Air Resources Board (CARB) emission standards. The engine owner's manual is supplied by the engine manufacturer, and provides additional information relating to the emission system, warranty, maintenance of the engine in accordance with EPA and/or CARB regulations. Making any unauthorized alterations or modifications to the engine, fuel, or venting systems may violate EPA and CARB regulations.

When required, models are equipped with low permeation fuel lines and fuel tanks for evaporative emission control. California models may also include a carbon canister. Please contact Customer Support for information regarding the evaporative emission control configuration for your model.

This machine is designed to run on regular, unleaded gasoline, 87 octane or higher. Never use gasoline containing methanol or gasoline containing more than 10% ethanol (i.e., E15 or E85 fuels) because the fuel system may be damaged.

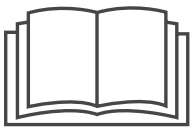
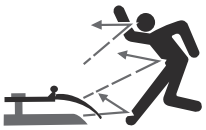


**WARNING!** Your Responsibility—Restrict the use of this power machine to persons who read, understand and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the machine.

**SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS!**

## Safety Symbols

This page depicts and describes safety symbols that may appear on this product. Read, understand, and follow all instructions on the machine before attempting to assemble and operate.

| Symbol | Description |
|---|---|
|  | READ THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL(S)<br>Read, understand, and follow all instructions in the manual(s) before attempting to assemble and operate |
|  | WARNING— ROTATING BLADES<br>Do not put hands or feet near rotating parts or under the cutting deck. Contact with the blade(s) can amputate hands and feet. |
|  | WARNING—THROWN OBJECTS<br>This machine may pick up and throw objects which can cause serious personal injury. |
|  | WARNING—THROWN OBJECTS<br>This machine may pick up and throw objects which can cause serious personal injury. |
|  | BYSTANDERS<br>Keep bystanders, helpers, children and pets at least 75 feet from the machine while it is in operation. |
|  | WARNING— SLOPE OPERATION<br>Do not operate this machine on a slope greater than 15 degrees. |
|  | DANGER — ROTATING BLADES<br>To reduce the risk of injury, keep hands and feet away. Do not operate unless discharge cover or grass catcher is in its proper place. If damaged, replace immediately. |
|  | DANGER — ROTATING BLADES<br>Never carry passengers. Never carry children, even with the blades off. |
|  | DANGER — ROTATING BLADES<br>Always look behind and down for small children. Use slow speed. |
|  | DANGER — ROTATING BLADES<br>To avoid back-over accidents, keep children away from the machine while it is in operation. |

# Slope Gauge

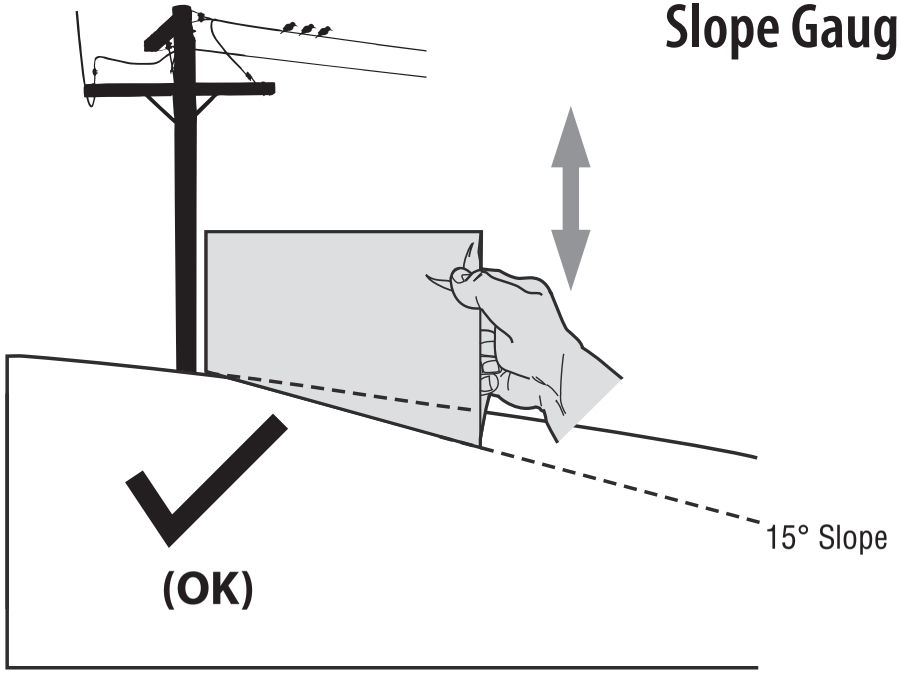



Figure 1

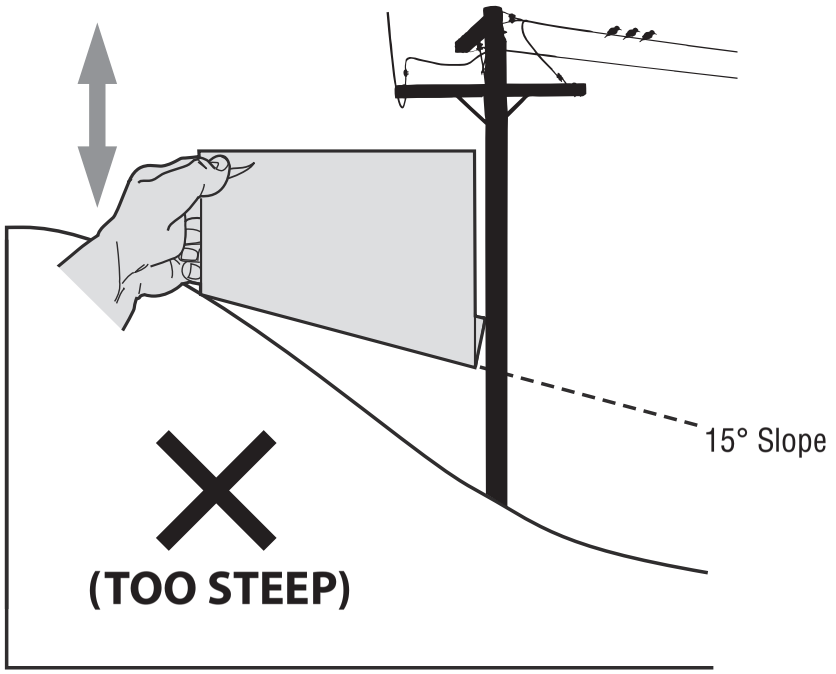



Figure 2

15° dashed line

**USE THIS SLOPE GAUGE TO DETERMINE IF A SLOPE IS TOO STEEP FOR SAFE OPERATION!**

To check the slope, proceed as follows:

1. Remove this page and fold along the dashed line.
2. Locate a vertical object on or behind the slope (e.g. a pole, building, fence, tree, etc.)
3. Align either side of the slope gauge with the object (See Figure 1 and Figure 2 ).
4. Adjust gauge up or down until the left corner touches the slope (See Figure 1 and Figure 2).
5. If there is a gap below the gauge, the slope is too steep for safe operation (See Figure 2 above).

**WARNING!** Slopes are a major factor related to tip-over and roll-over accidents which can result in severe injury or death. Do not operate machine on slopes in excess of 15 degrees. All slopes require extra caution. Always mow across the face of slopes, never up and down slopes.

# Assembly & Set-Up

# 3

## Contents of Crate

- One Zero-Turn Tractor
- One Zero-Turn Tractor Operator's Manual
- One ROPS Assembly
- One Engine Operator's Manual
- One Deck Wash Hose Coupler

***NOTE:*** This Operator's Manual covers several models. Tractor features may vary by model. Not all features in this manual are applicable to all tractor models and the tractor depicted may differ from yours.

***NOTE:*** All references in this manual to the left or right side and front or back of the tractor are from the operating position only. Exceptions, if any, will be specified.

## Tractor Preparation

**TOOLS NEEDED:** Safety glasses, leather gloves, wire cutters.

1. Remove the upper crating material from the shipping pallet, and cut any bands or tie straps securing the tractor to the pallet.
2. Use the deck lift pedal to raise the deck to its highest position and secure in place with the clevis pin attached to the tractor. See Figure 2-1.

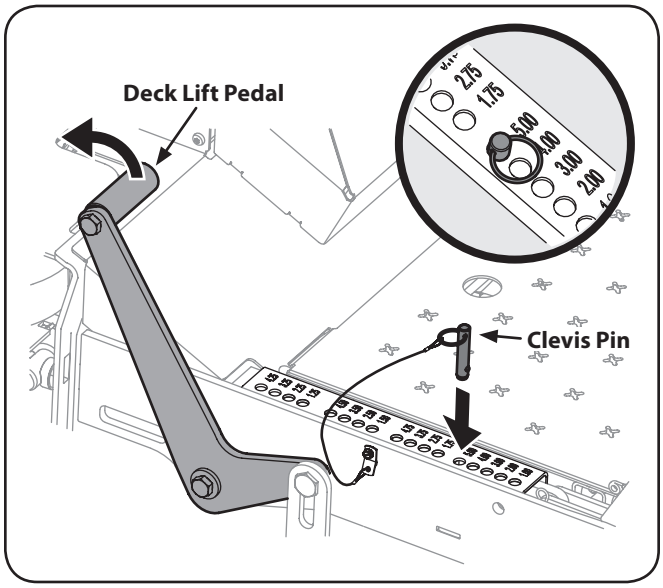



**Figure 2-1**

3. The two hydrostatic transmissions are equipped with a bypass valve that will allow you to manually move the tractor short distances.
4. Engage the transmission bypass valves by pulling the bypass lever inward freeing it from the parking brake lever and pull back all the way. See Figure 2-2.

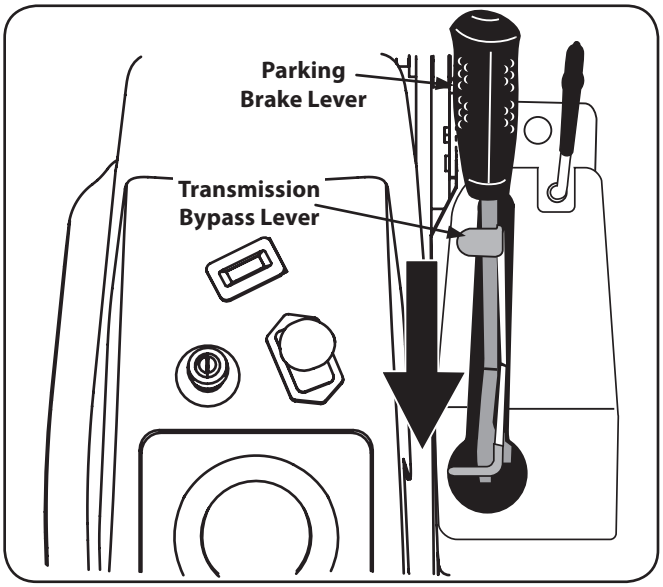



**Figure 2-2**

**WARNING!** Do not tow the tractor, even with the bypass valves engaged. Serious transmission damage will result from doing so.

5. Carefully roll the tractor off the shipping pallet.
6. To release the bypass lever, push the lever forward until it clicks back onto the parking brake lever.
7. To engage the parking brake, pull back completely on the parking brake lever.
8. Remove the deck wash system nozzle adapter from the manual bag and store for future use. Cut the wire tie holding the chute deflector up and discard any packing material.

## Install Roll Over Protective System (ROPS)

The Roll Over Protective System (ROPS) has not been installed on your unit for shipping purposes. Using the hardware found in the Roll Over Protective System container, install it on your unit as follows:

1. Insert each of the lower section ROPS tubular posts into the brackets welded to the tractor main frame. See Figure 2-3.

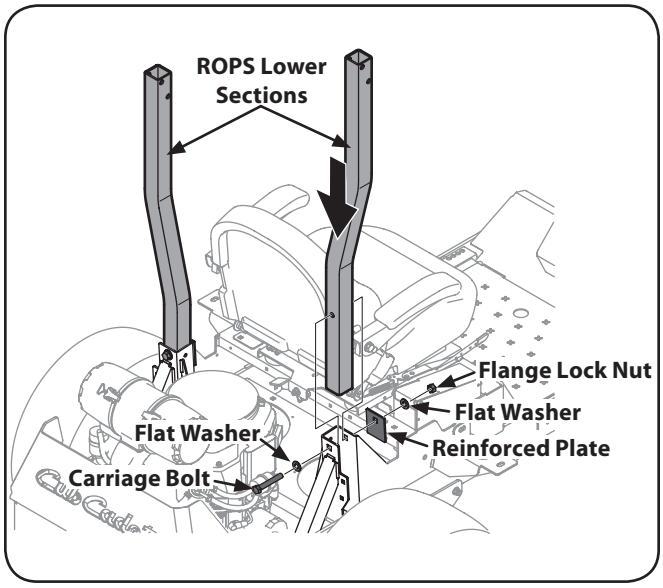



**Figure 2-3**

2. Insert the hex screws (one per side) through the flat washer then into the frame brackets and ROPS posts from the rear toward the front. See Figure 2-3. Alternately from the front toward the rear if access is restricted.

   ***NOTE:*** The mounting hardware is accessible from the rear of the machine with the use of extensions. Also, access can be gained by reaching in from the sides over the tires fuel tanks.

3. Install the reinforced plates and flange lock nuts, but do not tighten. See Figure 2-3.

4. Install the upper ROPS section onto the lower ROPS "posts". Install the bolts and nuts. See Figure 2-4.

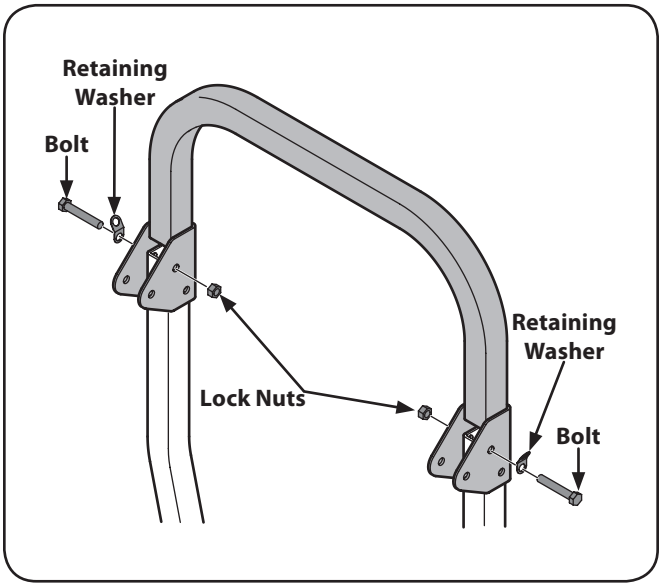



**Figure 2-4**

5. Tighten upper ROPS section bolts after both RH & LH hardware is installed.

6. Tighten the frame mounting hardware to 80-90 lb.-ft. torque. See Figure 2-3.

   ***NOTE:*** Make sure tubular upright posts are absolutely tight within welded bracket. If the ROPS is not absolutely tight after tightening hardware to 80-90 ft-lbs, additional tightening is needed.

7. Route the nylon lanyard as shown in Figure 2-5. Be sure to secure the lanyard to the retaining clip and clevis pin.

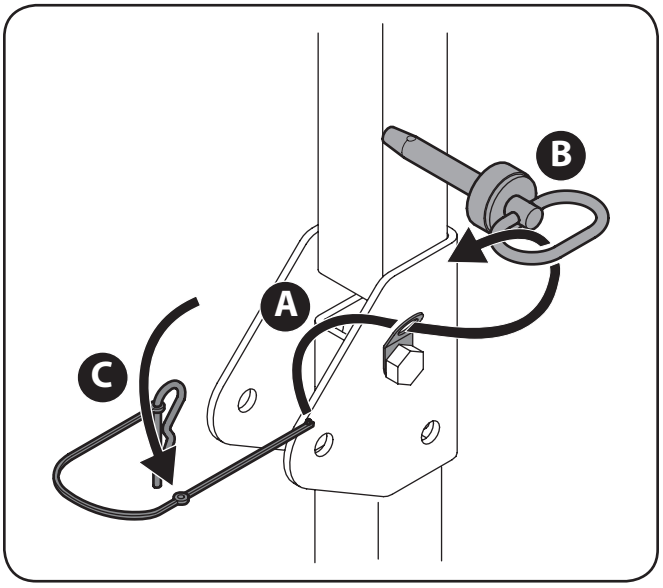



**Figure 2-5**

8. Move the upper ROPS section to the upright position, and insert the locking pins with their retainer hairpin clips. See Figure 2-6.

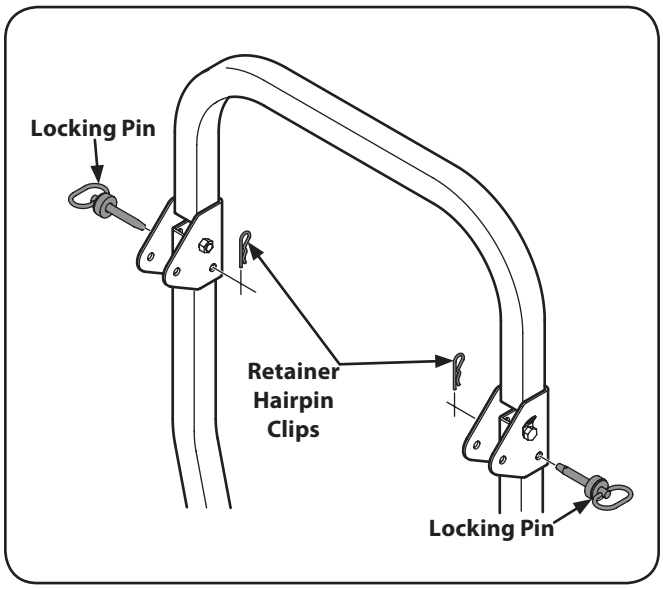



**Figure 2-6**

## Adjusting Drive Control Levers

The RH and LH drive control levers can be adjusted up or down and fore-and-aft for the comfort of the operator. Proper drive control lever and seat adjustment will result in the following:

In the neutral position with hands on the control levers,

- Operator's upper arms should be relaxed and approximately vertical.
- Operator's forearms should be approximately horizontal.

In the full forward position,

- Operator's back should stay in contact with the seat back.
- Control levers should not contact operator's legs.

In the full reverse position,

- Control levers should not contact the operator's legs or torso.

Set the seat to the preferred operating position.

- Adjustment lever is located under the front edge of the seat.

Check factory settings of control levers for the conditions listed above.

***NOTE:*** If control lever adjustments are required, height adjustments should be made prior to angular adjustments.

To adjust the height of the drive control levers:

1. Remove the flange lock nuts that secure the carriage bolts in the drive control levers. See Figure 2-7.

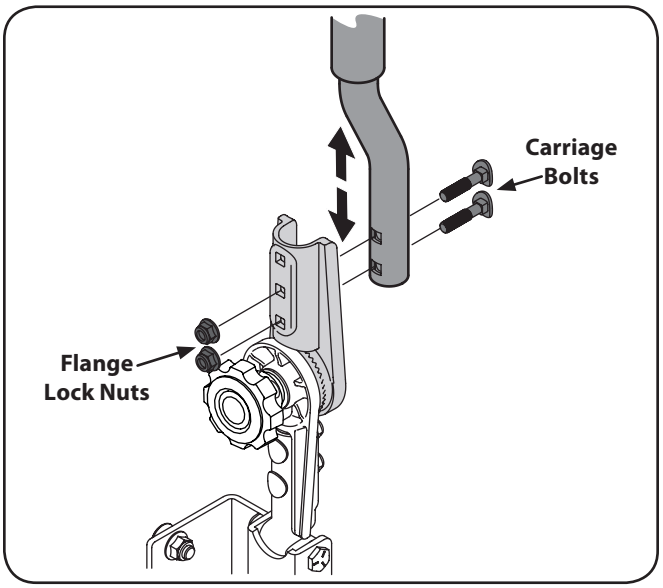



**Figure 2-7**

2. Remove the carriage bolts from the drive control levers and reposition to the second set of holes in the mounting block.
3. Reinstall the carriage bolts and flange lock nuts, and tighten to 28-34 ft-lbs.
4. The same adjustments should be made to both sides of the mower.

To adjust the front-to-rear angle of the drive control levers:

1. Loosen the control lever knob to unlock the drive control levers. See Figure 2-8.

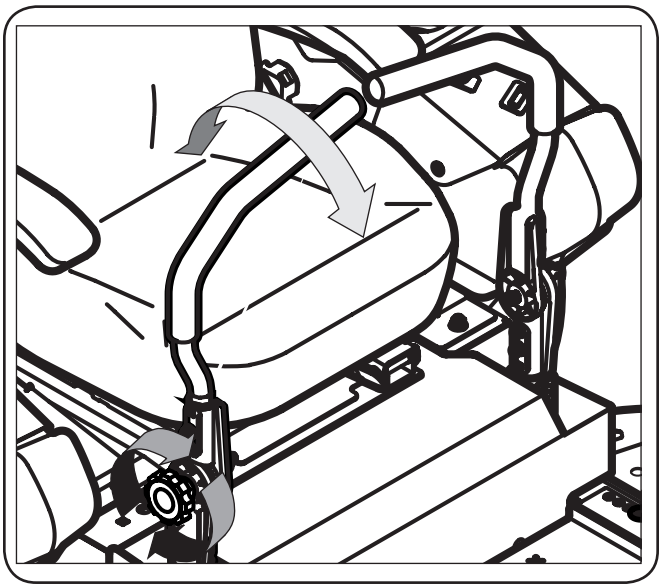


**Figure 2-8**

2. Move drive control levers to the desired angle and retighten the drive control knob to secure the lapbars in place.
3. Check the results of any adjustments to the conditions described above. Repeat any adjustment procedures as required until all conditions are met.

## Installing the Seat

1. Remove the two flange lock nuts and shoulder bolts from the manual bag. See Figure 2-9.

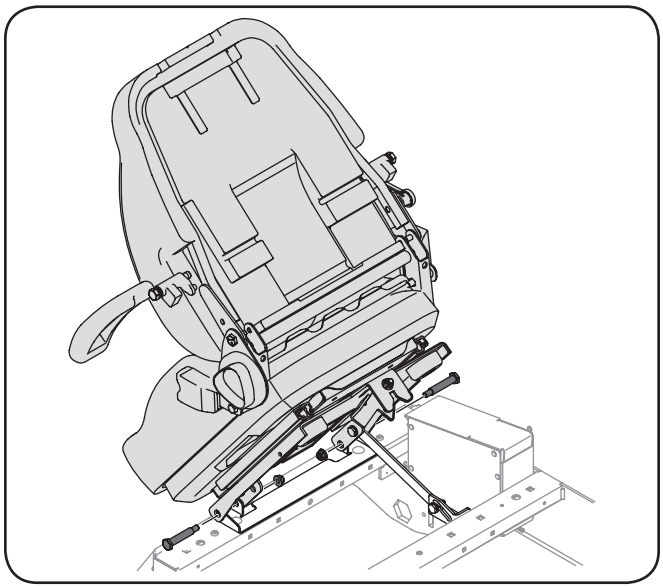


**Figure 2-9**

2. Place the seat into position and secure the seat into place with the hardware as shown in Figure 2-9.
3. Remove the shoulder screw and flange lock nut from manual bag and install the seat lockout bracket as shown in Figure 2-10.

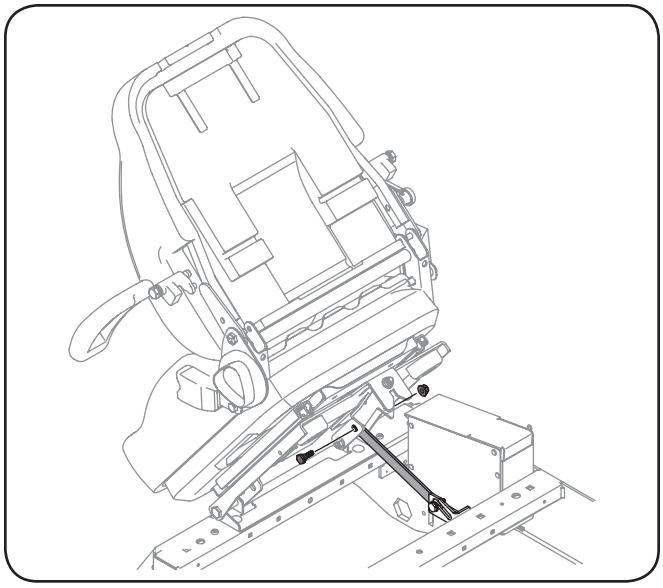


**Figure 2-10**

4. Insert the wiring harness into the bottom of the seat as shown in Figure 2-11.

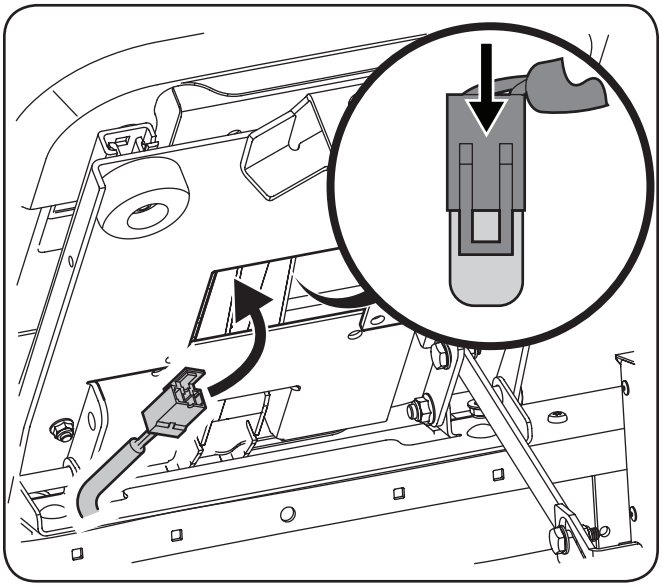


**Figure 2-11**

***NOTE:*** When the harness is connected, be sure to push the excess wire from the wire harness into the seat box hole before continuing.

## Seat Adjustment

This machine is equipped with an adjustable seat, which includes a retractable seat belt assembly and an Operator Presence Sensor (OPS). The OPS in the form of a switch, is integrated into the seat bottom and is connected to the machine electrical system.

The seat can be adjusted forward and backward, the armrests can be adjusted up and down, the mechanical suspension mechanism weight/ride adjustment controls can be adjusted for weights between 125- and 275-pounds, a lumbar support can be adjusted and the seat can tilt forward and backward.

To move the seat forward or back, locate the seat adjustment rod under the seat. Push the rod to the left and slide the seat forward or back into the desired position and release the rod when the seat is in the desired position. See Figure 2-12.

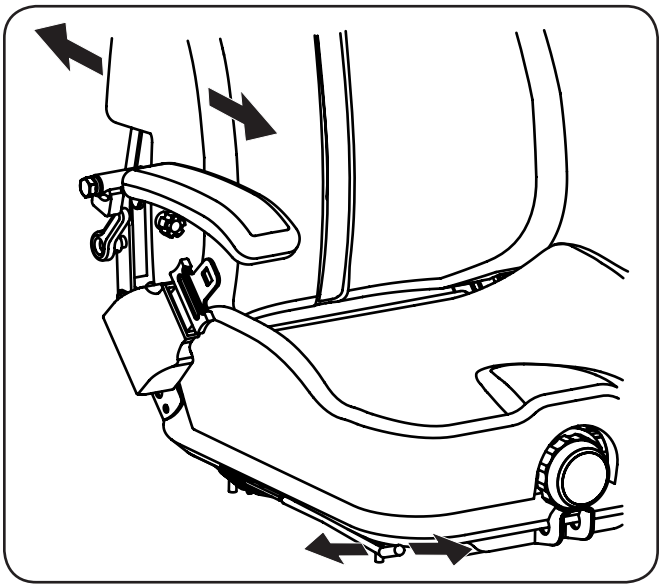


**Figure 2-12**

The mechanical suspension mechanism incorporates weight/ride adjustment controls for operators in the 100 to 280 lb. weight range (turn the knob on the front of the seat clockwise to increase the weight capacity and counter-clockwise to decrease. See Figure 2-13.

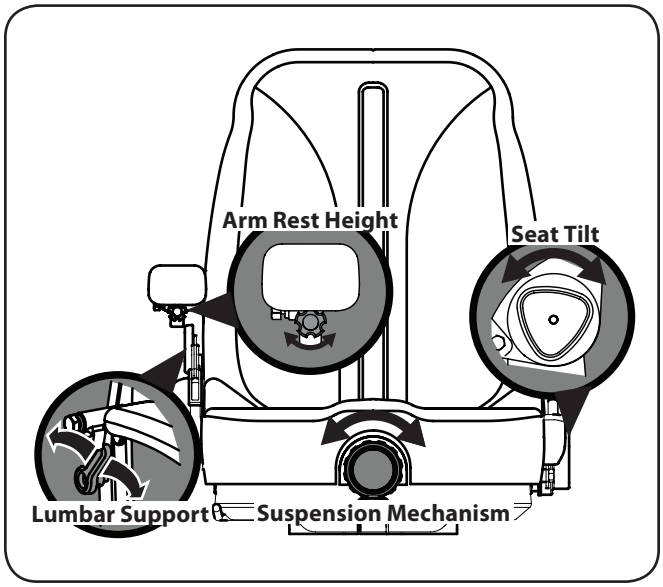



**Figure 2-13**

The seat tilt is controlled by the knob on the left of the seat. Turn the knob rearward to tilt the seat back, turn the knob forward to tilt the seat forward. See Figure 2-13.

To vary the lumbar support move the lever on the right of the seat up and down. See Figure 2-13.

To adjust the height of the arm rests, lift the arm rest and rotate the knob under the arm rest right or left to increase or decrease the height. See Figure 2-13.

***NOTE:*** The seat base must be secured by the latch, otherwise, the seat assembly could tilt forward. The Operator Presence Sensor must be connected to the electrical wiring harness.

## Checking Tire Pressure

**WARNING!** Maximum tire pressure under any circumstances is 12 psi on rear tires and 25 psi on front tires. Equal tire pressure should be maintained at all times.

**Inflation Pressure**

Rear Tires — 10-12 psi max

Front Tires — 20-25 psi max

The tires on your tractor may be over-inflated for shipping purposes. Reduce the tire pressure before operating the tractor. Recommended operating tire pressure is 10-12 psi on rear tires and 20-25 psi on front tires.

## Lubrication & Grease Points

Before operating the tractor, refer to the Maintenance & Adjustments section of this manual to check the Lubrication and Grease Points. Grease and lubricate if necessary.

## Connecting the Battery Cables

**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.

**CAUTION:** When attaching battery cables, always connect the POSITIVE (Red) wire to its terminal first, followed by the NEGATIVE (Black) wire.

For shipping reasons, both battery cables on your equipment may have been left disconnected from the terminals at the factory. To connect the battery cables, proceed as follows:

1. Using the lever on the back of the seat frame, lift up on the lever and tilt the seat forward locking it in place with the seat prop. Remove the bolts and hex nuts from the manual bag.

   ***NOTE:*** The positive battery terminal is marked Pos. (+). The negative battery terminal is marked Neg. (–).

   ***NOTE:*** If the positive battery cable is already attached, skip ahead to step 2.

2. Remove the red boot, if present, from the positive battery terminal and attach the red cable to the positive battery terminal (+) with the bolt and hex nut. See Figure 2-14.

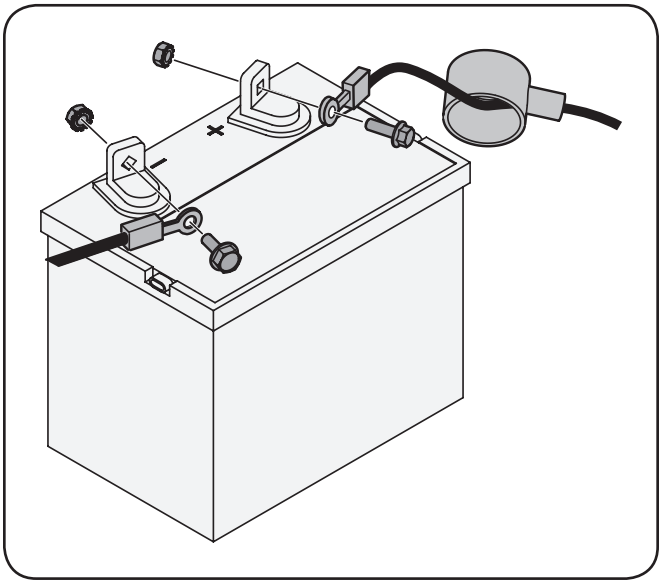
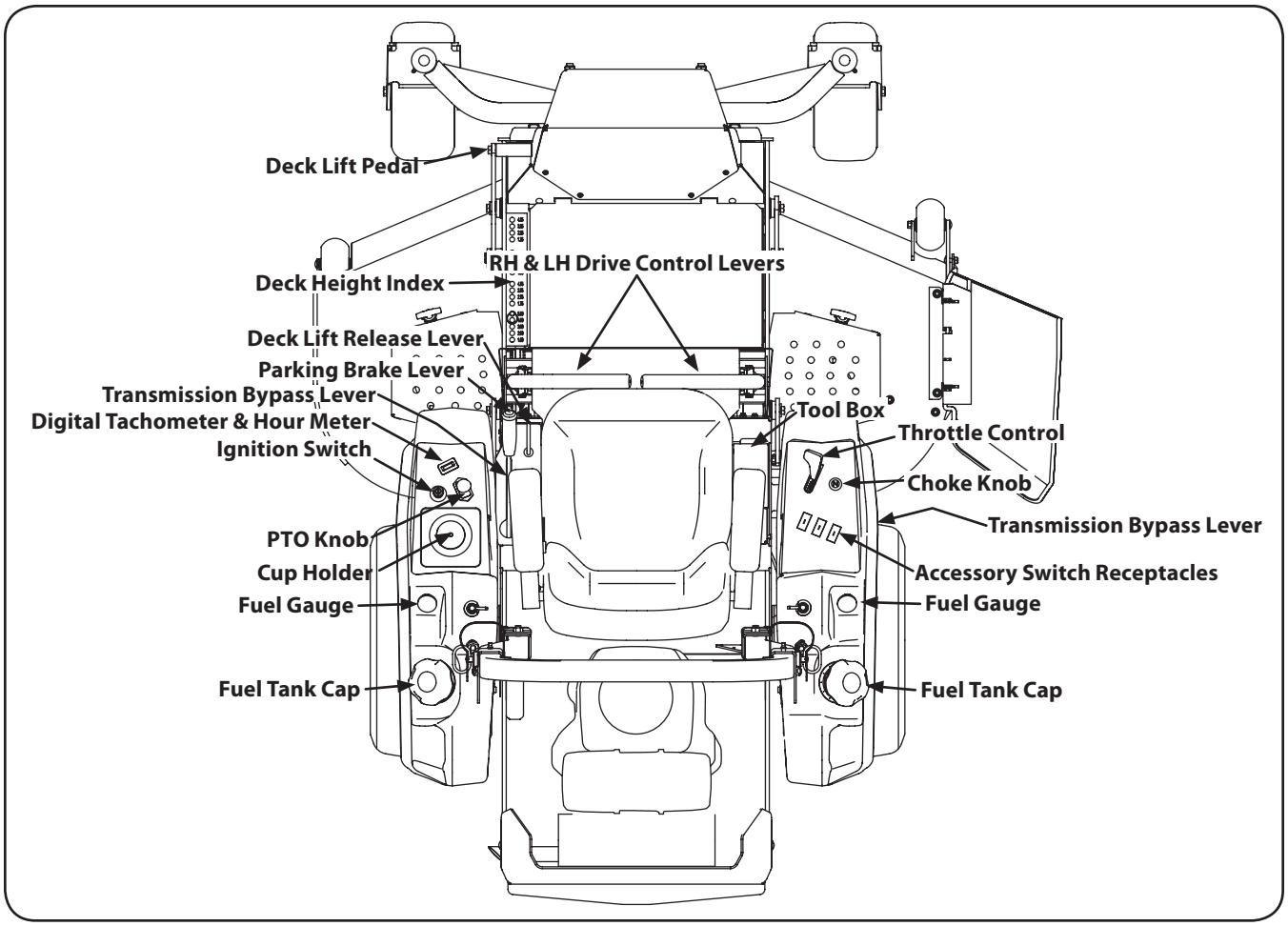


**Figure 2-14**

3. Position the red boot over the positive battery terminal to insulate it and help protect it from corrosion.
4. Attach the black cable to the negative battery terminal (–) with the bolt and hex nut. See Figure 2-14.

   ***NOTE:*** If the battery is put into service after the date shown on top/side of battery, charge the battery prior to operating the tractor.



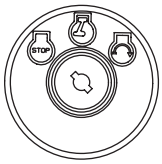

***NOTE:*** References to LEFT, RIGHT, FRONT, and REAR indicate that position on the tractor when facing forward while seated in the operator's seat.

## RH and LH Drive Control Levers

The RH and LH control levers are located on each side of the operator's seat. These hinged levers pivot outward to open space to permit the operator to either sit in the tractor seat, or to dismount the tractor. The levers must be fully opened out and in the neutral position to start the tractor engine.

Each lever controls the respective RH or LH transmission. These levers control all of the movements of the tractor. Driving and steering utilizing these control levers is quite different from conventional tractors, and will take some practice to master. Refer to Operation for instructions on using the control levers.

## Ignition Switch




The ignition switch is located on the LH console to the right of the operator's seat. The ignition switch has three positions as follows:

STOP — The engine and electrical system is turned off.

RUN — The tractor electrical system is energized.

START — The starter motor will turn over the engine. Release the key immediately when the engine starts

***NOTE:*** To prevent accidental starting and/or battery discharge, remove the key from the ignition switch when the tractor is not in use.

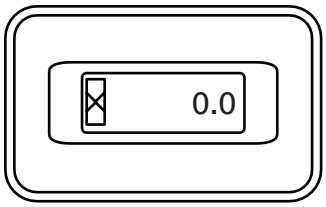
## Power Take-Off (PTO) Knob

The PTO knob is located on the LH console to the left of the operator's seat next to the ignition switch.

The PTO knob operates the electric PTO clutch mounted on the bottom of the engine crankshaft. Pull the knob upward to engage the PTO clutch, or push the knob downward to disengage the clutch.

The PTO knob must be in the "disengaged" position when starting the engine.

## Digital Tachometer and Hour Meter




The tachometer/hour meter panel is located on the LH console to the left of the operator's seat. The hour meter records the hours that the tractor has been operated in the digital display. The tachometer provides engine speed (RPM), and service reminders (oil, lube) in the digital display.

The tachometer/hour meter is activated whenever the ignition switch is turned to the "ON" position. Keep a record of the actual hours of operation to assure all maintenance procedures are completed according to the instructions in this manual and the engine manual.

## Throttle Control



The throttle control is located on the RH console to the right of the operator's seat. When set in a given position, a uniform engine speed will be maintained. The throttle control moves between the fast and slow positions.

Push the throttle control handle forward to increase the engine speed. The tractor is designed to operate with the throttle control in the fast position (full throttle) when the tractor is being driven and the mower deck is engaged.

Pull the throttle control handle rearward to decrease the engine speed.

## Choke Knob




The choke knob is located on the right side of the mower next to the operator's seat. Pull the knob out to choke the engine; push the knob in to open the choke. Having the choke in the ON (up) position helps the engine to start during initial start-up. During normal operation the choke should be OFF (down).

## Parking Brake Lever




The parking brake lever is located on the LH console to the left of the operator's seat. When pulled up it engages the parking brake and when pushed down it releases the brake.

***NOTE:*** If the LH and RH drive control levers are not fully opened out in the neutral position when engaging the parking brake, the engine will stop. The parking brake must be placed in the engaged position when starting the tractor engine.

## Fuel Tank Cap

The fuel tank cap is located on the top of the fuel tank on the left side of the seat. Turn the fill cap counter-clockwise to remove and clockwise until it clicks three times to tighten. Always re-install the fuel cap tightly onto the fuel tank after removing.

**WARNING!** Never fill the fuel tank when the engine is running. If the engine is hot from recently running, allow to cool for several minutes before refueling. Highly flammable gasoline could splash onto the engine and cause a fire.

## Cup Holder

The cup holder is located on the LH console to the left of the operator's seat.

## Seat Adjustment Lever (Not Shown)

The seat adjustment lever is located below the front/right of the seat. The lever allows for adjustment forward or rearward of the operator's seat. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the seat position.

## Arm Rest Height Knobs (Not Shown)

The arm height knobs are located under the seat arms and can be used to adjust the height of the arm rests. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the arm rest position.

## Mechanical Suspension Mechanism (Not Shown)

The mechanical suspension mechanism is located on the front of the seat and can adjust the weight/ride adjustment for operators in the 125- to 275-pound weight range. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the mechanical suspension mechanism.

## Lumbar Support Lever (Not Shown)

The lumbar support lever is located on the right side of the seat on the seat back. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the lumbar support.

## Seat Prop (Not Shown)

The seat prop is located on the left, rear side of the operator's seat. It is used to prop the seat forward.

## Seat Latch (Not Shown)

The seat latch is located below the rear, center of the operators seat. The latch is used to secure the seat into the operating position. Lift the latch and tilt the seat forward access the area under the seat.

## Deck Height Index




The deck height index consists of several holes located on the left of the foot platform. Each hole corresponds to a ¼" change in the deck height position ranging from 1" at the lowest notch to 5" at the highest notch.

## Deck Lift Pedal

The deck lift pedal is located on the left front corner of the foot platform, and is used to raise and lower the mower deck.

To raise the mowing deck to the transport position, push the pedal all the way forward until the deck lock rod snaps into position. To remove the deck from the transport position push forward on the deck lift pedal and pull up on the deck lock rod. To position the deck push the pedal all the way forward, remove the clevis pin and reinsert it in the desired cutting height and slowly release pressure on the pedal until you reach the clevis pin.

## Deck Lift Release Lever

The deck lift release lever is located on the left side of the operator's seat and is used to lock the deck in the transport position. Press down on the deck lift pedal and lift up on the deck lift release lever to release the deck.

## Transmission Oil Expansion Reservoir (Not Shown)

The transmission oil expansion reservoir is connected by hoses to the RH and LH transmission assemblies, and is located under the seat. The function of the reservoir is to hold the natural expansion of transmission oil that occurs as the transmission warms up during operation. DO NOT FILL THE RESERVOIR.

Under normal operating conditions, no oil should be added to the reservoir. The COLD oil level should be approximately ¼" above the bottom of the reservoir.

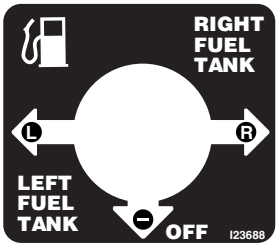
***NOTE:*** Prior to the initial operation of the tractor, the oil level in the reservoir may be slightly higher than the maximum due to air in the oil lines. Operation of the tractor will eventually purge the air from the lines and the oil level will settle to the maximum.

## Fuel Gauge

There is a fuel gauge on top of each of the two fuel tanks and measures the fuel level in each tank.

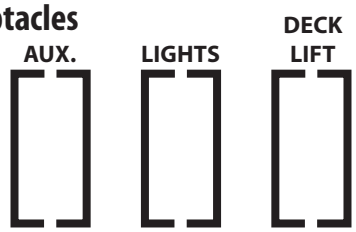


## Fuel Valve




The fuel valve is located behind the seat on the right side of the frame. The valve switches the fuel flow from the right and left tank and also can shut of fuel flow to the engine. Rotate the valve to the right to open the flow from the right fuel tank. Rotate the valve to the left to open the flow from the left tank. To shut off fuel from both tanks rotate the valve 90° towards the front of the tractor. See the Operation section for more information on using the fuel valve.

## Accessory Switch Receptacles




The three receptacles for optional accessories are on the RH console. See the Attachments & Accessories section for information. The receptacles are for switches for an optional electric deck lift, lights and/or an auxiliary switch.

## Tool Box

The tool box is located on the right side of the tractor between the seat and the console.

## Transmission Bypass Lever

The transmission bypass lever is located LH console to the left of the operator's seat on is connected with the parking brake lever.

When engaged the valves open a bypass within the hydrostatic transmissions. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on using the bypass feature.

# Operation

# 5

## Before Operating Your Machine

1. Before you operate the tractor, study this manual carefully to familiarize yourself with the operation of all the instruments and controls. It has been prepared to help you operate and maintain your machine efficiently.
2. Fill the fuel tank with only clean, fresh, unleaded gasoline with a pump sticker octane rating of 87 or higher. When the fuel reaches ½" below the bottom of the fill neck, stop. DO NOT OVERFILL. Space must be left for expansion.
3. Never use gasoline containing more than 10% ethanol or methanol.
4. Check the engine oil level as instructed in the Engine Operator's manual.
5. Check the transmission oil level. The transmission oil expansion reservoir is located beneath the operator's seat. Always wipe off the area around the reservoir fill neck before checking the oil level to prevent dirt from contaminating the oil. Remove the cap and make sure the oil level is a 1/4" above the bottom of the reservoir. If the oil level is low, fill with Castrol™ (Syntec®) Edge™.
6. Check the tire inflation pressures 10-12 psi for the rear tires, 20-25 psi for the front tires.

   ***NOTE:*** New tires are over-inflated in order to properly seat the bead to the rim.
7. Check that all nuts, bolts and screws are tight.
8. Check the tension of the deck drive belts.
   a. Remove the deck cover
   b. The tension of the deck drive belts are maintained by a spring mechanism that adjusts for wear and stretch.
   c. Examine the belts for cuts, fraying, and excessive wear. Replace if any of these are detected.
   d. Replace the deck cover.
9. Check if deck is level. When correctly adjusted the mower deck should be level side to side, and the front of the deck should be approximately ¼" lower than the rear of deck. If deck needs to be leveled, refer to the Maintenance & Adjustments section.
10. Lubricate all pivot points listed in the Maintenance & Adjustments section.
11. Adjust the seat for operator's maximum comfort, visibility and for maintaining complete control of the machine. Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the seat.

## Safety Interlock System

This machine is equipped with a safety interlock system for the protection of the operator. If the interlock system should ever malfunction, do not operate the machine. Contact your authorized Cub Cadet Dealer.

- The safety interlock system prevents the engine from cranking or starting unless the RH and LH drive control levers are moved fully outward in the neutral position, the parking brake is engaged, and the PTO is disengaged.
- To avoid sudden movement when disengaging the parking brake, the safety interlock system will shut off the engine if the RH and/or LH drive control levers are moved to a position other than the fully out in the neutral position when the parking brake is engaged.
- The safety interlock system will shut off the engine if the operator leaves the seat before engaging the parking brake.
- The safety interlock system will shut off the engine if the operator leaves the seat with the PTO engaged, regardless of whether the parking brake is engaged.

  ***NOTE:*** The PTO must be disengaged to restart the engine.

## Starting the Engine



**WARNING!** This machine is equipped with a safety interlock system designed for the protection of the operator. Do not operate the machine if any part of the interlock system is malfunctioning. Periodically check the functions of the interlock system for proper operation.



**WARNING!** For personal safety, the operator must be sitting in the tractor seat when starting the engine.

1. Open the fuel valve and select one of the two tanks.
2. Operator must be sitting in the tractor seat with both drive control levers in the neutral/start position.
3. Engage the parking brake.
4. Make certain the PTO is in the disengaged (down) position.
5. Lift the choke knob into the on position.

   ***NOTE:*** If the engine is warmed up, it may not be necessary to choke the engine.
6. Move the throttle control to midway between the SLOW and FAST positions.

7. Turn the ignition key clockwise to the START position and release it as soon as the engine starts; however, do not crank the engine continuously for more than 10 seconds at a time. If the engine does not start within this time, turn the key to STOP and wait at least 30 seconds to allow the engine's starter motor to cool. Try again after waiting. If after a few attempts the engine fails to start, do not keep trying to start it with the choke closed as this will cause flooding and make starting more difficult.
8. Once the engine starts, push the choke halfway down and as the engine warms, push the choke all the way down.

### Cold Weather Starting

When starting the engine at temperatures near or below freezing, ensure the correct viscosity motor oil is used in the engine and the battery is fully charged. Start the engine as follows:

1. Be sure the battery is in good condition. A warm battery has much more starting capacity than a cold battery.
2. Use fresh winter grade fuel. Winter grade gasoline has higher volatility to improve starting. Do not use gasoline left over from summer.
3. Follow the previous instruction for Starting the Engine.

### Using Jumper Cables To Start Engine

**WARNING!** Batteries contain sulfuric acid and produce explosive gasses. Make certain the area is well ventilated, wear gloves and eye protection, and avoid sparks or flames near the battery.

If the battery charge is not sufficient to crank the engine, recharge the battery. If a battery charger is unavailable and the tractor must be started, the aid of a booster battery will be necessary. Connect the booster battery as follows:

1. Connect the end of one cable to the disabled machine battery's positive terminal; then connect the other end of that cable to the booster battery's positive terminal.
2. Connect one end of the other cable to the booster battery's negative terminal; then connect the other end of that cable to the frame of the disabled tractor, as far from the battery as possible.
3. Start the disabled tractor following the normal starting instructions previously provided; then disconnect the jumper cables in the exact reverse order of their connection.
4. Have the tractor's electrical system checked and repaired as soon as possible to eliminate the need for jump starting.

### Stopping the Engine

1. Disengage the PTO.
2. Move the RH and LH drive control levers fully outward in the neutral position.
3. Engage the parking brake.
4. Move the throttle control to midway between the SLOW and FAST positions.
5. Turn the ignition key to the STOP position and remove the key from the ignition switch.

***NOTE:*** Always remove the key from the ignition switch to prevent accidental starting or battery discharge if the equipment is left unattended.

### Practice Operation (Initial Use)

Operating a zero-turn tractor is not like operating a conventional type riding tractor. Although and because a zero turn tractor is more maneuverable, getting used to operating the control levers takes some practice.

We strongly recommend that you locate a reasonably large, level and open "practice area" where there are no obstructions, pedestrians, or animals. You should practice operating the tractor for a minimum of 30 minutes.

Carefully move (or have moved) the tractor to the practice area. When performing the practice session, the PTO should not be engaged. While practicing, operate the tractor at approximately ½-¾ throttle and at less than full speed in both forward and reverse.

Always wear appropriate clothing and personal protection equipment (e.g. safety glasses, long pants, gloves, hearing protection, safety shoes, hard hat) when operating or maintaining this machine. Follow all federal, state and local guidelines regarding the use of personal protective equipment.

Carefully practice maneuvering the machine using the instructions in the following section "Driving the Tractor." Practice until you are confident that you can safely operate the tractor.

## Driving the Tractor

1. Ensure that the area is free of animals and bystanders, especially children!
2. Survey the area where the equipment is to be used to make sure it is free of debris, sticks, stones, wires, bones, and other foreign objects which could cause injury to bystanders, damage to the machine, or damage to nearby facilities.

**WARNING!** Avoid sudden starts, excessive speed and sudden stops.

3. Adjust the operator's seat to the most comfortable position that allows you to operate the controls. See seat adjustment in the Assembly & Set-Up section.
4. Move the RH and LH drive control levers inward in the neutral position. Refer to Figure 4-1.

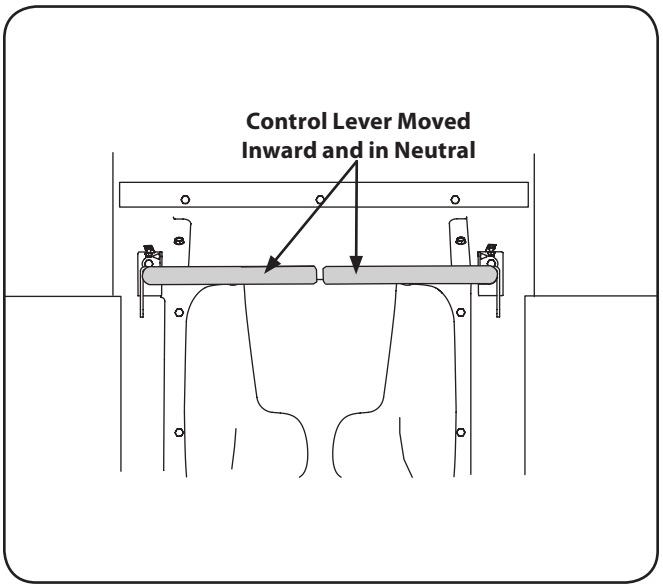



**Figure 4-1**

***NOTE:*** If the control levers are not even in the neutral position, refer to Assembly & Set-Up for instructions to adjust the levers so that they are even.

5. Move the throttle control lever forward to the full throttle (FAST) position.

   ***NOTE:*** Although the tractor's engine is designed to run at full throttle, when performing a practice session the tractor must be operated at less than full throttle. This only applies to practice.

**WARNING!** Always maintain a firm grip on the control levers. DO NOT release the control levers to slow or stop the tractor; move levers to neutral position using your hands.

6. To drive the tractor, firmly grasp the respective drive control levers with your right and left hands and continue with Driving the Tractor Forward below.

## Driving the Tractor Forward

**WARNING!** Keep all movement of the drive control levers slow and smooth. Abrupt movement of the control levers can affect the stability of the tractor and could cause the tractor to flip over, which may result in serious injury or death to the operator.

1. Slowly and evenly move both drive control levers forward. The tractor will start to move forward. See Figure 4-2.

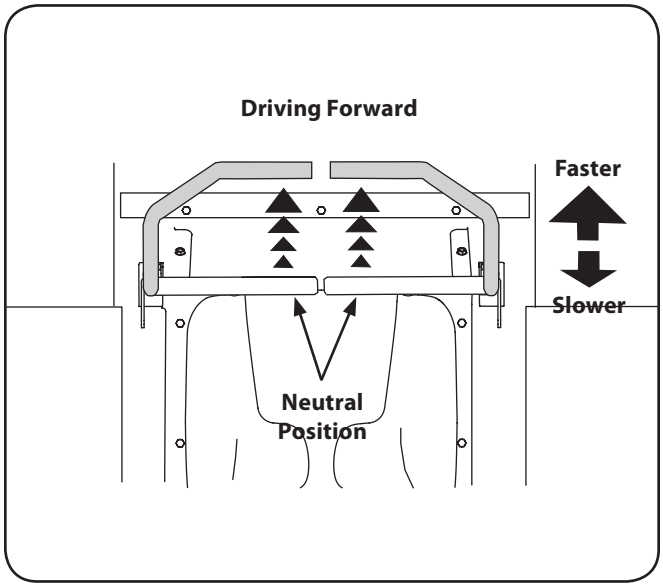



**Figure 4-2**

2. As the control levers are pushed farther forward the speed of the tractor will increase.
3. To slow the tractor move the controls lever rearward to attain the desired speed, or move the levers to the neutral position to stop the tractor.

**WARNING!** Always maintain your grasp on the drive control levers. Do not release the levers to slow the tractor or to return to neutral.

## Turning the Tractor While Driving Forward

**WARNING!** When reversing the direction of travel, we recommend performing gradual 'U' turns where possible. Sharper turns increase the possibility of turf defacement, and could affect control of the tractor. ALWAYS slow the tractor before making sharp turns.

To turn the tractor while driving forward, move the control levers as necessary so that one lever is rearward of the other. The tractor will turn in the direction of the rearward control lever.

1. To turn to the left, move the left drive control lever rearward of the right lever. See Figure 4-3.

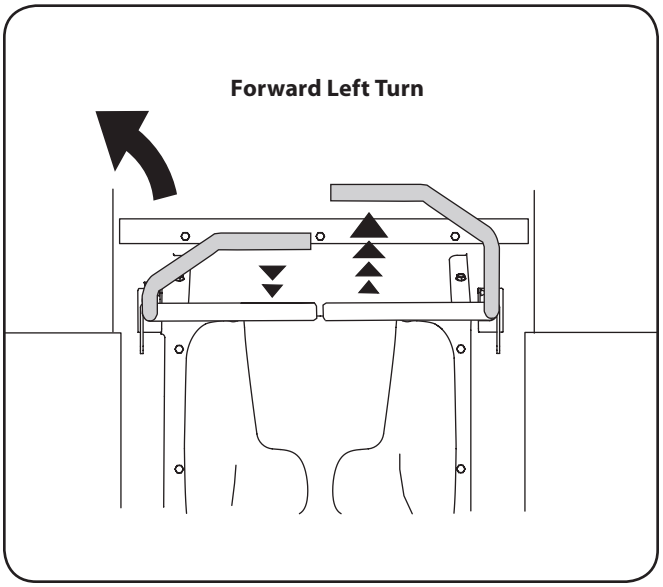



**Figure 4-3**

2. To turn to the right, move the right drive control lever rearward of the left lever. See Figure 4-4.

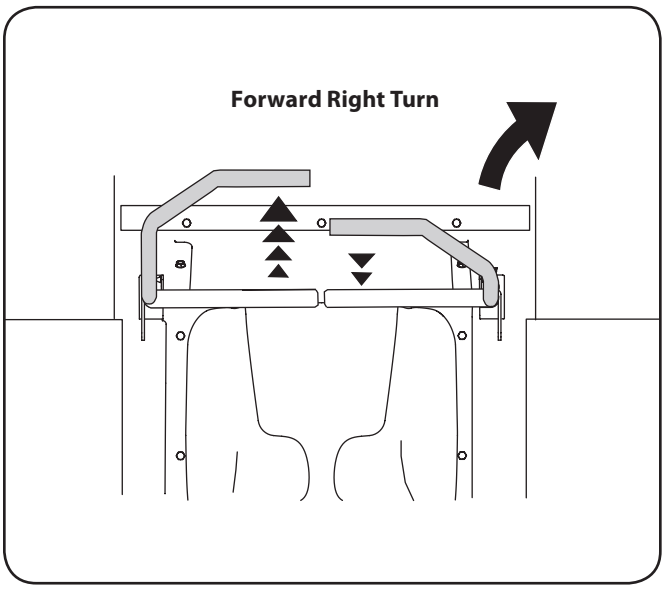



**Figure 4-4**

3. The greater the fore-to-aft distance between the two levers, the sharper the tractor will turn.
4. To execute a "pivot turn," move the turn side drive control lever to the neutral position, while moving the other control lever forward.

   ***NOTE:*** Making a "pivot turn" on grass will greatly increase the potential for defacement of the turf.

## Driving the Tractor In Reverse

**WARNING!** Always look behind and down on both sides of the tractor before backing up. Always look behind while traveling in the reverse direction.

1. Slowly and evenly move both drive control levers rearward. The tractor will start to move in the reverse direction. See Figure 4-5.

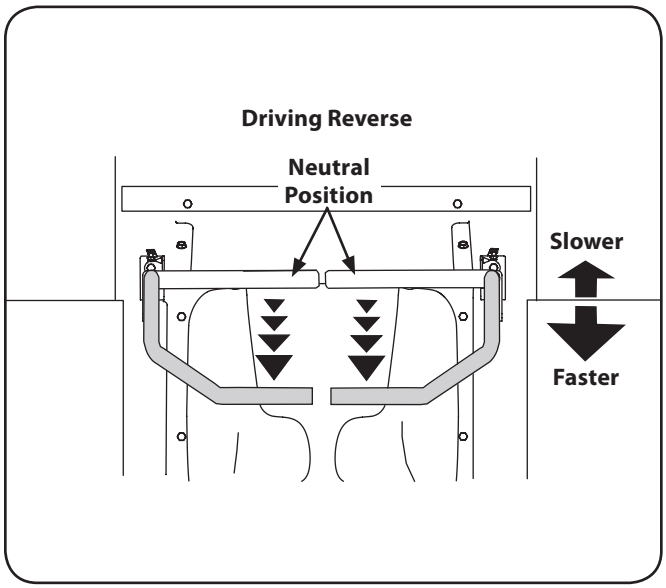



**Figure 4-5**

2. As the control levers are pushed farther rearward the speed of the tractor will increase.
3. To slow the tractor move the controls lever forward to attain the desired speed, or move the levers to the neutral position to stop the tractor.

## Turning While Driving Rearward

To turn the tractor while driving rearward, move the control levers as necessary so that one lever is forward of the other. The tractor will turn in the direction of the forward control lever.

1. To turn to the left while traveling in reverse, move the left drive control lever forward of the right lever. See Figure 4-6.

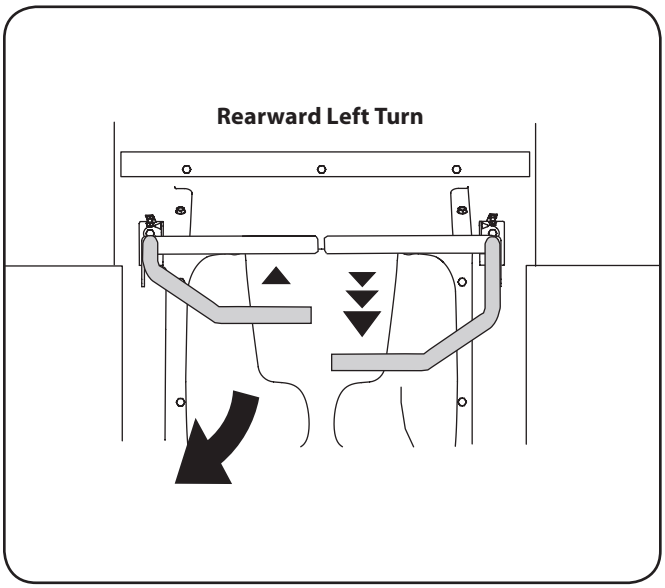



**Figure 4-6**

2. To turn to the right while traveling in reverse, move the right drive control lever forward of the left lever. See Figure 4-7

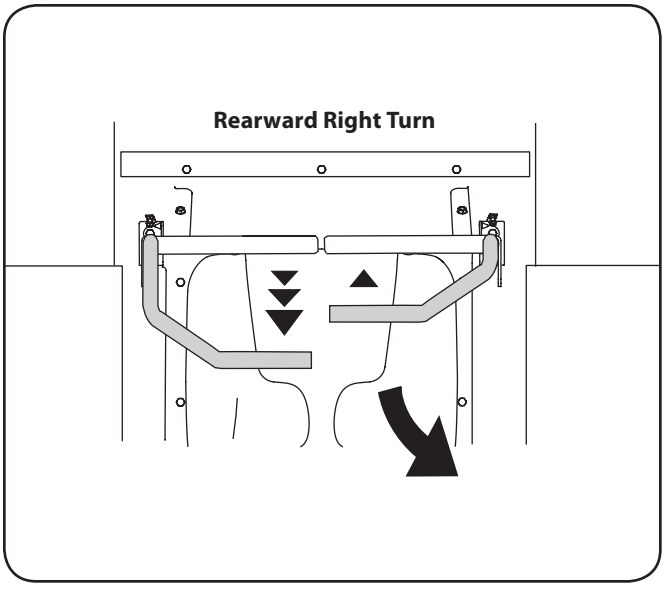



**Figure 4-7**

3. The greater the fore-to-aft distance between the two levers, the sharper the tractor will turn.
4. To execute a "pivot turn," move the turn side drive control lever to the neutral position, while moving the other control lever rearward.

   ***NOTE:*** Making a "pivot turn" on grass will greatly increase the potential for defacement of the turf.

## Executing a Zero Turn

**WARNING!** When executing a zero turn, the tractor MUST BE STOPPED. Executing a zero turn while the tractor is moving can significantly reduce your control of the tractor and will cause severe turf defacement to occur.

1. Stop the forward or reverse motion of the tractor by moving the two drive control levers to neutral.
2. To turn clockwise, move the left control lever forward while simultaneously moving the right control lever rearward. See Figure 4-8.

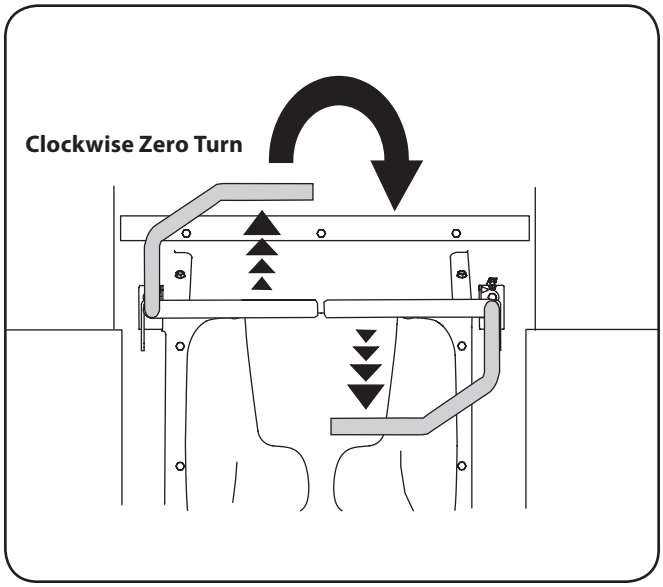



**Figure 4-8**

3. To turn counterclockwise, move the right control lever forward while simultaneously moving the left control lever rearward. See Figure 4-9.

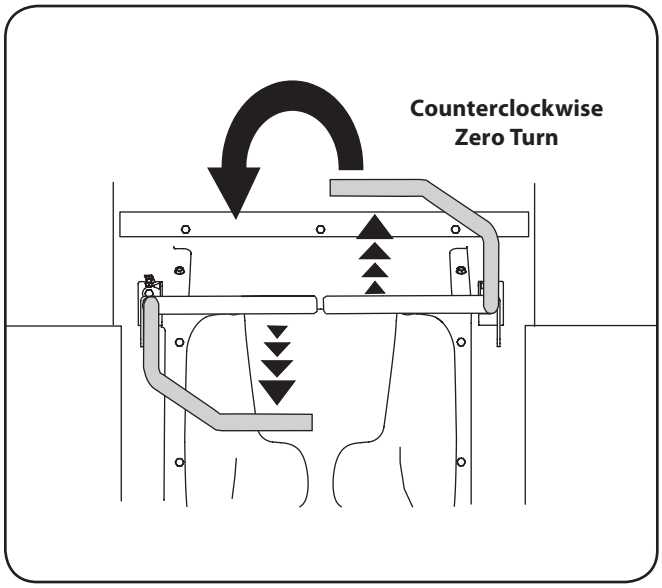



**Figure 4-9**

## Stopping the Tractor

1. Move both drive control levers to the neutral position to stop the motion of the machine.
2. Push the PTO down to the disengaged position.
3. Use the deck lift pedal to raise the deck to its highest position.
4. If dismounting the machine, move the drive control handles fully outward in the neutral position, engage the parking brake, move the throttle control lever to the fast Position, turn the ignition switch to OFF and remove the key from the switch.

**WARNING!** Do not leave the seat of the tractor without disengaging the PTO, moving drive control levers fully outward in the neutral position, and engaging the parking brake. If leaving the tractor unattended, turn the ignition key off and remove key.

## Driving On Slopes

Refer to the slope gauge in the Safe Operation Section to help determine slopes where you may not operate safely.

**WARNING!** Do not operate on inclines with a slope in excess of 15 degrees (a rise of approximately 2-½ feet every 10 feet). The machine could overturn and cause serious injury.

1. Always drive across slopes, never up and down. Control the speed and direction of the tractor using primarily the control lever on the downhill side of the tractor, with the uphill control lever remaining essentially in a fixed position.
2. Avoid turning downhill if possible. Start at the bottom of a slope and work upward. Always slow down before turning.
3. Use extra care and go slowly when turning downhill.

## Operating The PTO

Operate the PTO as follows:

1. Move the throttle control lever to approximately the mid-throttle position.
2. Pull the PTO upward to the "ENGAGED" position.
3. Advance the throttle lever to the operating speed (full engine speed).
4. The operator must remain in the tractor seat at all times. If the operator should leave the seat without turning off the power take-off switch, the tractor's engine will shut off.

## Using the Mower Deck

**WARNING!** Make certain the area to be mowed is free of debris, sticks, stones, wire or other objects that can be thrown by the rotating blades.

***NOTE:*** Do not engage the mower deck when lowered in grass. Premature wear and possible failure of the 'V" belt and PTO clutch will result. Fully raise the deck or move to a non grassy area before engaging the mower deck.

1. Use the deck lift pedal to raise the deck to its highest position, place the clevis pin attached to the tractor into the desired index hole on the deck height index, then slowly release the deck lift pedal. See Figure 4-10.

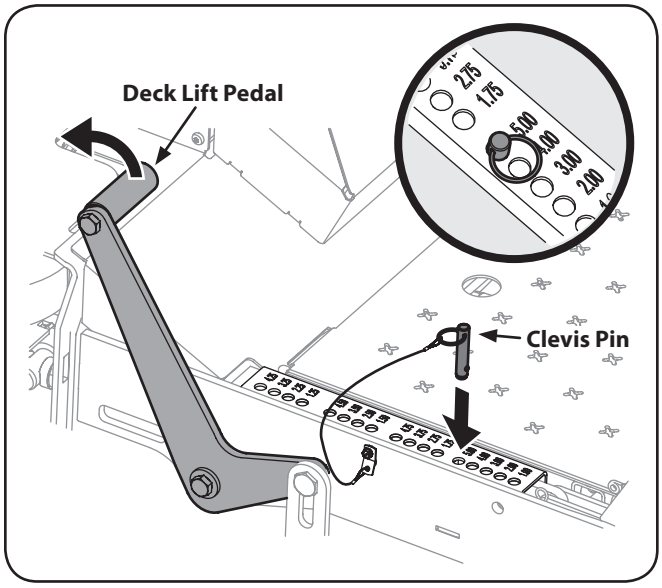



**Figure 4-10**

2. Mow across slopes, not up and down. If mowing a slope, start at bottom and work upward to ensure turns are made uphill.
3. On the first pass pick a point on the opposite side of the area to be mowed.
4. Engage the PTO clutch and move the throttle control to the FAST position.
5. Remove the clevis pin, raise the deck to the highest (transport) position and place the clevis pin in the desired position and secure with the clevis pin. Lower the mower deck to the desired height setting.
6. Slowly and evenly push the RH and LH drive control levers forward to move the tractor forward, and keep the tractor headed directly toward the alignment point.

   ***NOTE:*** The speed of the tractor will affect the quality of the mower cut. Mowing at full speed will adversely affect the cut quality. Control the ground speed with the control levers.
7. When approaching the other end of the strip, slow down or stop before turning. A U-turn is recommended unless a pivot or zero turn is required.
8. Align the mower with an edge of the mowed strip and overlap approximately 3".
9. Direct the tractor on each subsequent strip to align with a previously cut strip.
10. To prevent rutting or grooving of the turf, if possible, change the direction that the strips are mowed by approximately 45° for the next and each subsequent mowing.

**WARNING!** Be careful when crossing gravel paths or driveways. Disengage the PTO and raise the deck to the highest position before crossing.

***NOTE:*** When stopping the tractor for any reason while on a grass surface, always:

- Place the shift lever in neutral.
- Engage the parking brake.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key.
- Doing so will minimize the possibility of having your lawn "browned" by hot exhaust from your tractor's running engine.

## Mower Cutting Blades

The blades normally "factory installed" on a mower afford the best grass cutting performance on the majority of grasses and mowing conditions; however, there will be occasions whereby the grass type, stage of grass growth, soil conditions, and weather conditions will require different cutting blade types. Since the mower decks are designed so that over-lap of the cutting blades generally exceed 1.5", there is no need for orientation of one cutting blade to an adjacent blade (i.e., the blades do not need to be "timed" nor synchronized).

**Hi-lift** — These are generally the best cutting blades for most grasses and mowing conditions. These blades will provide extra "lift" for the thinner leaf grasses, will handle lush grasses, and will provide maximum grass and debris discharge. These blades are generally required for material collection systems. More horsepower is required for these blades when compared to others, and they generally produce the highest noise levels.

**Medium-lift** — These blades require less horsepower than the hi-lift, and they generally work well in wider leaf grasses and some mulch applications.

**Low-lift** — These blades require less horsepower than hi-lift and medium-lift blades, and they generally work best with wide leaf grasses, sparse grass growth, and sandy soil conditions. They generally produce the lowest noise levels. Low-Lift blades are configured without offset, and with a maximum amount of sharpened cutting edge.

**Mulch** — These blades are generally designed for use in cutting decks equipped with mulch baffles. The shape of the blade generally produces higher turbulence in order that the grass can be repeatedly cut and re-cut into smaller pieces. These blades generally require more horsepower than other blades. Mulch blades work best when the grasses are cut at the highest levels, minimal lengths of grasses are removed, and grass conditions are generally dry.

***NOTE:*** Refer to the attachment and accessories section for a list of part numbers.

## Reconfigurable Mower

| | Inner Baffle | Discharge Baffle | Cutting Blades | Gauge Wheels | Front Roller | Rear Rollers |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Standard set-up** | Installed | Installed | Hi-lift | Low = 3 to 5″ | Low = 3 to 5″ | Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Stems (Dandelion, Bahia, Buckhorn, etc.)** | Removed | Installed | Hi-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Very Lush &/or tall grass** | Removed | Installed | Hi-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Low cut height (1 to 2″)** | Installed | Installed | Low-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″ | High = 1 to 2-½″ | High = 1 to 2-½″ |
| **Mulch** | Installed | Removed | Hi-lift/Mulch | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Material collection** | Installed | Installed | Hi-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Abrasive (sandy), dry** | Removed | Installed | Low-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |
| **Wet** | Installed | Installed | Hi-lift | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ | High = 1 to 2-½″<br>Low = 3 to 5″ |

**Table Notes:** This table is a general outline of suggested settings, mowing conditions may vary.

**Inner Baffle:** The inner baffle regulates grass discharge. Remove the inner baffle for high-volume grass and install the inner baffle for precision cutting.

**Discharge Baffle:** The discharge baffle enhances the grass discharge pattern. The discharge baffle reduces clumping and should be removed for mulching.

**Gauge Wheels:** The gauge wheels reduce scalping, help with precison cutting and reduce turf defacement during turns.

**Rear Rollers:** The rear rollers reduce scalping and gives grass a striped appearance.

**Cutting Blades:** The cutting blades cut grass, create grass lift and discharge grass through the discharge chute.

**Discharge Chute:** The discharge chute controls the mower deck discharge and enhances the discharge pattern

***NOTE:*** To avoid damaging grass, no more than ⅓ of the grass height should be removed during a single cutting (i.e. if the grass is 6″ tall, cut it to 4″).

# Maintenance & Adjustments

# 6

## Maintenance Schedule

| | Before Each use | Every 25 Hours | Every 50 Hours | Every 500 Hours | After Mowing |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Check gasoline level | ✓ | | | | |
| Check tires & tire pressure | ✓ | | | | |
| Check deck, mower and hydro drive belts | ✓ | | | | |
| Check blades and blade bolt tightness | ✓ | | | | |
| Check safety switches for proper operation | ✓ | | | | |
| Check fluid level in transmission oil expansion reservoir | ✓ | | | | |
| Check engine intake screen/cover | | | | | ✓ |
| Clean mower | | | | | ✓ |
| Blow out/clean the pump control area under floor pan | | | | | ✓ |
| Blow out/clean the pedal control area under the foot rest | | | | | ✓ |
| Lubricate wear points (see chart) | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Grease three spindle bearings | | ✓ | | | |
| Clean engine cooling fins & external surfaces * | | | ✓ | | |
| Lubricate all grease fittings (see chart) | | | ✓ | | |
| Change hydrostatic fluid & filter in transaxles † | | | | ✓ | |

† — After first 300 hours, change hydrostatic fluid and filter in transaxles.

* — Perform more frequently under dusty conditions.

## OIL CHART

Apply a few drops of SAE engine oil, grease, or use a spray lubricant. Apply the oil to both sides of pivot points. Wipe off any excess. Start engine and operate mower briefly to insure that oil spreads evenly.

| Number of Oil Points | Description |
|---|---|
| **DAILY** | |
| 4 | Deck Suspension Pivots |
| 4 | Height Adjustment Turnbuckle Clevis Pin |
| 2 | Height Adjustment Handle Pivots |
| 2 | Height Adjustment Stop Pivots |
| 2 | Deck Lift Linkage Pivots |
| 2 | Transport Handle Pivots |
| 1 | Transport Handle Pin |
| 2 | Deck Frame Up-and-Down Pivots |
| **WEEKLY** | |
| 1 | Seat Hinge |
| 2 | Steering Lever Linkage Rod End Bearings |
| 2 | Lever Return Assembly Rod End Bearings |
| 2 | Pump Control Lever Pivots |
| 1 | Brake Lever Pivot Clevis Pin |
| 1 | Brake Lever Control Rod Pivot |
| 1 | Brake Control Rod Swivel Joint |
| 4 | Brake Rod Clevis Pins |
| 2 | Brake Shaft Assembly Pivots |
| 2 | Grass Collection System Lid Hinges (If Mower is so equipped) |

## LUBRICATION CHART

Use a grease-gun filled with NO. 2 Multipurpose Lithium Base Grease

| Number of Grease Fittings | Description |
|---|---|
| **EVERY 25 HOURS** | |
| 3 | Blade Spindle Bearings (See Figure 5-1) |
| **WEEKLY** | |
| 2 | Front Caster Wheels (See Figure 5-2) |
| 2 | Front Caster Wheel Spindles (See Figure 5-2) |
| 2 | Mower Deck Ball Wheels (See Figure 5-3) |

**Engine Oil**

- Shell Rotella® T Triple Protection™ 15W40
- Shell Rimula® 15W40
- Reference your engine manual for other approved options

**Hydrostatic Fluid**

- Cub Drive System Fluid Plus (Shell TT-SB)
- Castrol™ (Syntec®) Edge™ 5W50

**Spindle Lubricant:** Use only Shell Alvania RL 2 grease. This grease is an amber-colored grease designed for high speed bearing applications. It has a base oil viscosity that reduces running losses, has been formulated for low noise, has excellent corrosion protection, and has excellent bearing lubrication.

**General Purpose Lubrication:** Use any NLGI grade 2 multi-purpose grease. Shell Albida EP2 is recommended. Shell Albida EP 2 is a red-colored multi-purpose grease designed for heavy-duty bearing applications. It has high base oil viscosity for mechanical stability, has been formulated for high load, low-speed applications, and has excellent lubrication and corrosion protection.

## Maintenance

**WARNING!** Before performing any maintenance or repairs, disengage the PTO, move the lap bars to the neutral position, engage the parking brake, stop the engine and remove the key to prevent unintended starting.

### Checking the Safety Interlock Circuits

Periodically check the safety interlock circuits to ensure they are working properly. If a safety circuit is not working as designed, contact you Cub Cadet dealer to have the tractor inspected. DO NOT operate the machine if any safety circuit is not functioning properly. To check the safety circuits, proceed as follows:

1. Sitting in the tractor seat with both drive control levers opened fully outward, disengage the parking brake and momentarily turn the ignition switch to the start position. The engine should not crank.
2. Engage the parking brake and pull the PTO upward to the engaged position. Momentarily turn the ignition switch to the start position; the engine should not crank.
3. Push the PTO downward to the disengaged position and engage the parking brake. Start the engine and move one of the drive control levers from the fully outward neutral position. The engine should stop running. Repeat the procedure with the opposite control lever.
4. Move both control levers fully outward in the neutral position and disengage the parking brake; then lift upward from the operator's seat. The engine should stop.
5. With both control levers fully outward in the neutral position and the parking brake engaged, engage the PTO. Lift upward from the operator's seat; the engine should stop.

***NOTE:*** The PTO must be disengaged to restart the engine.

### Lubrication

Using a pressure lubricating gun, lubricate all grease fittings and points as noted in the Lubrication Chart on Page 27 and refer to the applicable figures below.

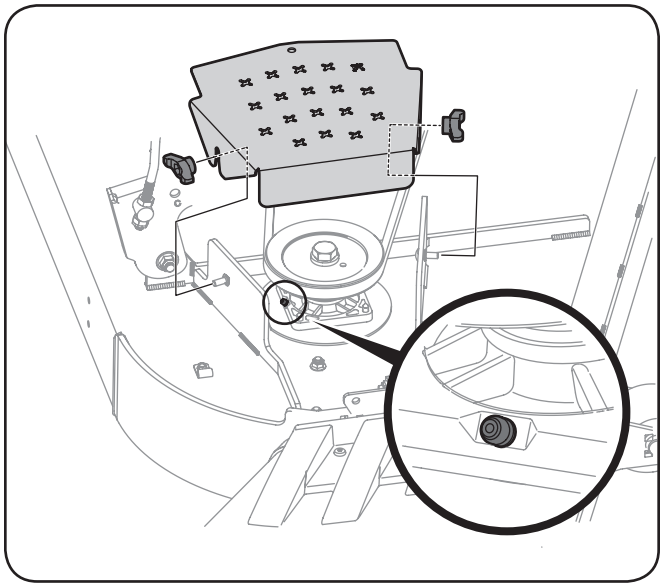


**Figure 5-1**

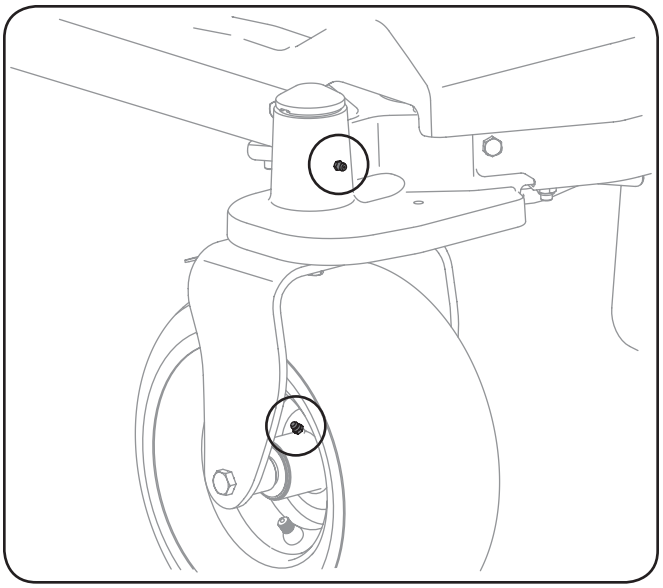


**Figure 5-2**

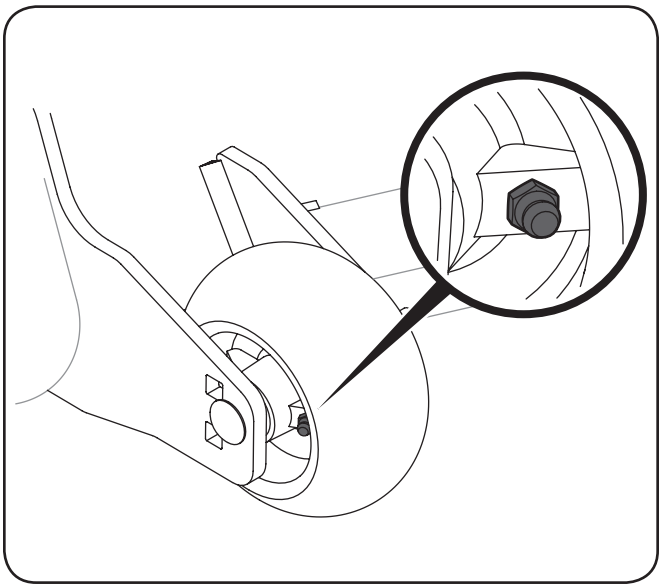


**Figure 5-3**

Lubricate all other pivot points with a quality lubricating oil as noted in the Oil Chart.

### Hydraulic Oil Tank & Filter

If the level in the expansion reservoir under the falls below ¼" above the bottom of the reservoir, add oil until it reaches the correct level.

To change the hydraulic oil and filter, see an authorized Cub Cadet Dealer.

### Engine

Refer to the Engine Operator's Manual for all engine maintenance intervals, procedures, specifications and instructions.

***NOTE:*** Maintenance, repair, or replacement of the emission control devices and systems which are being done at owner's expense may be performed by any engine repair establishment or individual. *Warranty repairs must be performed by a Cub Cadet Dealer.*

**Changing the Engine Oil**

**WARNING** ! If the engine has been recently run, the engine, muffler and surrounding metal surfaces will be hot and can cause burns to the skin. Exercise caution to avoid burns.

Maintain oil level as instructed in engine manual. Be careful not to spill oil on any of the belts.

To complete an oil change, proceed as follows:

1. Run the engine for a short time to warm the engine oil. The oil will flow more freely and carry away more impurities. Use care to avoid burns from hot oil.
2. Locate the oil drain hose on the engine. See Figure 5-4.

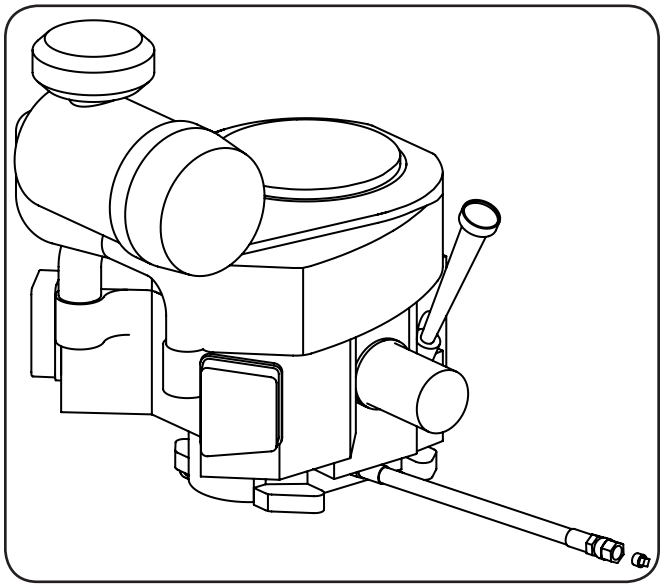


**Figure 5-4**

3. Remove the hose from the clip securing it to the frame.
4. Route the free end of the oil drain hose toward an appropriate oil collection container with at least a 2.5 quart capacity, to collect the used oil.

   ***NOTE:*** Avoid getting oil on the muffler when draining.
5. While holding the free end of the oil drain hose over the oil collection container, unscrew the square-head hose plug from the end of the hose. See Figure 5-4. Drain the engine oil into the collection container.
6. After draining the oil, wipe any residual oil from the oil drain hose. Thread the square head plug into the drain hose fitting and fully tighten the plug.
7. Refill the engine with new oil. Refer to the Engine Operator's Manual for information regarding the volume and weight of engine oil.
8. Place the hose back into the clip securing it to the frame.

## Battery

**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.

The battery is sealed and is maintenance-free. Acid levels cannot be checked and fluid can not be added.

- Always keep the battery cables and terminals clean and free of corrosive build-up.
- After cleaning the battery and terminals, apply a light coat of petroleum jelly or grease to both terminals.

**CAUTION:** If removing the battery for cleaning, disconnect the NEGATIVE (Black) wire from its terminal first, followed by the POSITIVE (Red) wire. When re-installing the battery, always connect the POSITIVE (Red) wire its terminal first, followed by the NEGATIVE (Black) wire. Be certain that the wires are connected to the correct terminals; reversing them could result in serious damage to your engine's alternating system.

### Battery Storage

1. When storing the tractor for extended periods, disconnect the negative battery cable. It is not necessary to remove the battery.
2. All batteries discharge during storage. Keep the exterior of the battery clean, especially the top. A dirty battery will discharge more rapidly.
3. The battery must be stored with a full charge. A discharged battery can freeze sooner than a charged battery. A fully charged battery will store longer in cold temperatures than hot.
4. Recharge the battery before returning to service. Although the tractor may start, the engine charging system may not fully recharge the battery.

## Tires

**Inflation Pressure**

Rear Tires — 10-12 psi max

Front Tires — 20-25 psi max

Check the tire air pressure before each use. Inflation pressure of the rear tires is important for stability while the mower is in operation. If the tire diameter is not equal between the two tires, the mower will pull to one side. Keep the tires inflated to the recommended pressures. Improper inflation will shorten the tire service life.

- Do not inflate a tire above the maximum pressure listed above
- Do not reinflate a tire that has been run flat or seriously under inflated. Have a qualified tire mechanic inspect and service the tire.
- Balance inflation pressure between the rear tires to help maintain straight travel.
- Keep the valve caps tightened to prevent air pressure loss.

**Leaking Tires**

When a flat tire occurs, repair or replace immediately. The normal procedure is to remove the wheel and replace it. If a tire is getting soft, park the mower on the nearest level, paved area.

1. Rear Tire

a. Put blocks on each side of the opposite traction wheel and jack up the tire that leaks about an inch off the ground.

b. Loosen and remove the lug nuts and remove the wheel.

c. Mount a wheel and tire, replace the lug nuts, and using a torque wrench, tighten them to 44-50 ft-lbs.

2. Front Tire

a. Set the park brake and block both rear tires and raise the front tire so that it is an inch off the ground.

b. Loosen the flange lock nut and remove the spacer, hex screw and two flat washers from the yoke. The wheel will drop free.

c. Slip the hex screw, spacer and one flat washer through one side of the yoke, then through the wheel to the other side of the yoke.

d. Place a flat washer and a flange lock nut on the hex screw and tighten to 44-50 ft-lbs to secure the wheel.

e. Lower the mower off the jack and continue mowing.

The wheel with the leaking tire should be inflated to 10-12 psi for the rear tire and 20-25 psi for the front tire . Then place the wheel in a large bucket of water. Carefully inspect the tire, rim and valve for escaping air bubbles which indicate a leak. Mark each leak with a yellow marking crayon and then deflate the tire to 8 psi and repeat the inspection. If the leaks you find are pin hole size to 1⁄16" diameter, the tire can be repaired. If the leaks are larger than 1⁄16" diameter, the tire cannot be repaired. If the tire bead is damaged, the tire can be repaired or the tire will have to be replaced.

### Spindle Pulleys

Once a month remove the belt covers to remove any accumulation of grass clippings from around the spindle pulleys and V-belt. Clean more often when mowing tall, dry grass.

### Pump Control

Blow out or clean out the pump control area under the floor pan.

### Tractor Storage

If your tractor is not going to be operated for an extended period of time (thirty days to approximately six months), the tractor should be prepared for storage. Store the tractor in a dry and protected location. If stored outside, cover the tractor (including the tires) to protect it from the elements. The procedures outlined below should be performed whenever the tractor is placed in storage.

1. Change the engine oil and filter following the instructions provided in the engine manual.



**WARNING!** Never store the tractor with fuel in the tank indoors or in poorly ventilated enclosures, where fuel fumes may reach an open flame, spark or pilot light as on a furnace, water heater, clothes dryer, etc.

2. Service the engine as instructed in the seperate engine manual.

3. Engines stored between 30 and 90 days need to be treated with a gasoline stabilizer such as ***STA-BIL®*** and engines stored over 90 days need to be drained of fuel to prevent deterioration and gum from forming in fuel system or on essential carburetor parts. If the gasoline in your engine deteriorates during storage, you may need to have the carburetor, and other fuel system components, serviced or replaced.



**WARNING!** Fuel left in the fuel tank deteriorates and will cause serious starting problems.

4. Remove the spark plugs and pour approximately one ounce of oil into each cylinder. Crank the engine one or two turns to spread the oil evenly on the cylinder walls. Replace the spark plugs.

5. Clean the engine and the entire tractor thoroughly.

***NOTE:*** Use of a pressure washer or garden hose is not recommended to clean your tractor. This may cause damage to electrical components, spindles, pulleys, bearings or the engine. The use of water will result in shortened life and reduce serviceability.

6. Sharpen the blades so that the mower will be ready to use when needed.

7. Protect the metal surfaces. Repair scratches with the appropriate touch-up spray paint. Brush a rust preventive oil on any unpainted surfaces including the pulleys and blades. (Be careful not to get any oil on the drive belts.)

8. Clean and fully charge the battery, then disconnect the negative cable at the battery to prevent possible discharge. Recharge the battery periodically when in storage.

***NOTE:*** Remove the battery if exposed to prolonged periods of sub-freezing temperatures. Store in a cool, dry location where temperatures are above freezing.

9. Lubricate all lubrication points.

10. Inspect the hydraulic hoses, lines and fittings. Replace as necessary.

11. Jack the mower up and store it on blocks to take the weight off of the tires.

### Removing The Tractor From Storage

1. Check the battery. Charge if necessary.

2. Lower tractor off blocks, and inflate the tires to the recommended pressure.

3. Remove the spark plugs and wipe them off. Using the starter, crank the engine to pump the excess oil out of the spark plug holes. Replace the spark plugs and the ignition leads.

4. If drained before storing, fill the fuel tank with clean, fresh gasoline.

5. Check the level of the engine oil in the crankcase and the hydraulic reservoir tank.

6. Start the engine and allow to idle for a few minutes to ensure engine is operating properly.

7. Drive the tractor without a load to make certain all the tractor systems are functioning properly.

## Adjustments

### Seat

Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the seat.

### Adjusting Drive Control Levers

Refer to the Assembly & Set-Up section for instructions on adjusting the drive control levers.

## Leveling the Mower Deck

When correctly adjusted the mower deck should be level side to side, and the front of the deck should be approximately ¼" lower than the rear of deck.

***NOTE:*** Check the tractor's tire pressure before performing any deck leveling adjustments. See the Tire section on page 29 for proper inflation pressures.

**Side-to-Side Leveling**

1. Park the mower on a flat paved surface, engage the parking brake, shut off the engine, remove the key from the ignition switch, disconnect the spark plug wires, using the deck lift pedal position the mowing deck into the 4" height of cut position (the 4" height of cut position is recommended in order for one to see and obtain a measurement. Any height of cut position is acceptable as long as a proper measurement can be taken) and rotate both outside blades so that they are perpendicular with the tractor.
2. Measure the distance from the outside of the left blade tip to the ground and the distance from the outside of the right blade tip to the ground. Both measurements taken should be equal. If they're not, proceed to the next step.
3. Adjust the eyebolt at the left front of the deck so that the blade-to-ground height at the right outside blade tip matches that of the left outside blade tip. This is done by loosening the jam nuts on the eyebolt and tightening the upper nut to raise the deck and loosening the nut to lower the deck. The right outer blade tip height is fixed by the right, front eyebolt so you must adjust the left outer tip to match it. See Figure 5-5.

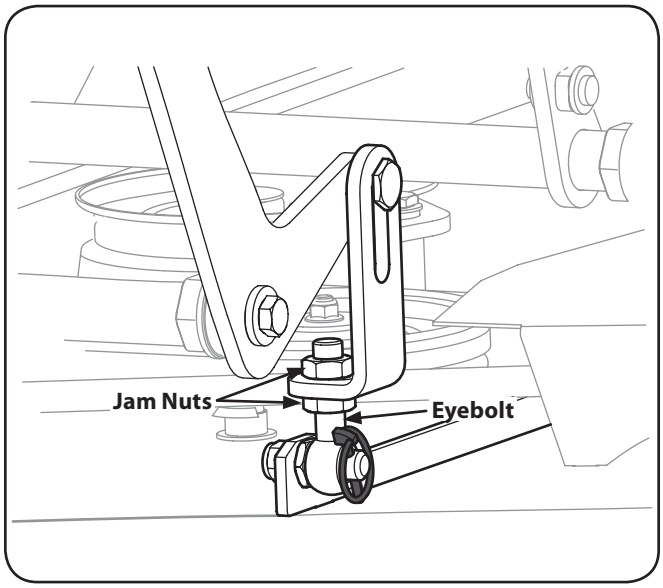



**Figure 5-5**

4. Once the proper adjustment is made, re-tighten the jam nuts.

**Front-to-Back Leveling**

1. Park the mower on a flat paved surface, engage the parking brake, shut off the engine, remove the key from the ignition switch, disconnect the spark plug wires, using the deck lift pedal position the mowing deck into the 4" height of cut position (the 4" height of cut position is recommended in order for one to see and obtain a measurement. Any height of cut position is acceptable as long as a proper measurement can be taken) and rotate both outside blades so that they are parallel with the tractor.
2. Measure the blade-to-ground height at the right rear blade tip. Again be sure to measure at the blade tip at the rear of the right blade when aligned along the mower centerline. The blade-to-ground height at the rear of the blade tip should be ⅛" to ¼" higher than the front tip. This is referred to as blade pitch. The same height difference should be true for the left blade, measured front and back. The pitch should not exceed 1/16" if cut height is below 1-½".
3. Loosen the jam nuts at the rear left and right of the deck eyebolts. Refer to Figure 5-5.
4. Start at the rear right to raise the rear of the deck, tighten the upper jam nut to raise the deck or loosen the upper jam nut to lower the rear of the deck.
5. Adjust the jam nut at the rear left to take the "slack" out of the threaded rod.
6. Tighten both lower jam nuts to secure the deck adjustment.
7. The final adjustment would be to take the "slack" out of the left rear linkage if the rear of the deck was raised by adjusting the jam nuts on the eyebolt. Loosen the jam nuts and tighten the upper nut to remove "slack".
8. In many cases it will be necessary to adjust deck height using both eyebolt adjustments and pitch adjustment to achieve the correct blade-to-ground heights. If you remember that the front right blade tip adjustment is fixed and you level to that height, adjusting the decks will be simplified.

## Deck Wheels



**WARNING!** Keep hands and feet away from the discharge opening of the cutting deck.

***NOTE:*** The deck wheels are an anti-scalp feature of the deck and are not designed to support the weight of the cutting deck.

The mower deck cutting height can be set using the tractor's deck lift pedal. The deck heights range from 1" to 5". The deck gauge wheel position should be approximately ¼ to ½" above the ground when the deck is set in the desired height setting.

Using the lift pedal, set the deck in the desired height setting, then check the gauge wheel distance from the ground below. If necessary, adjust as follows:

1. Visually check the distance between the front gauge wheels and the ground. If the gauge wheels are near or touching the ground, they should be raised. If more than ½" above the ground, they should be lowered.

2. Remove the flange lock nut and carriage bolt securing the front deck wheel and spacer to the deck. Remove the wheel and carriage bolt. Refer to Figure 5-6.

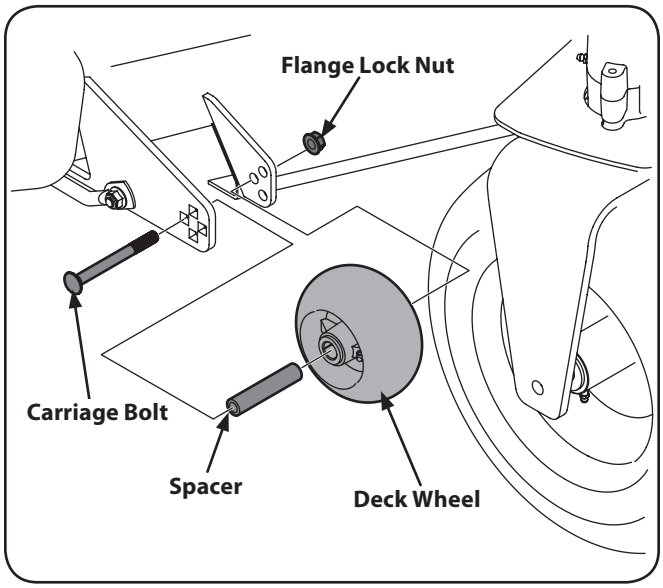



**Figure 5-6**

3. Determine which index hole will give the deck wheel a ¼" to ½" clearance with the ground.
4. Insert the carriage bolt through the appropriate index hole in the deck wheel bracket, through the spacer, the deck wheel and out the other side of the bracket.
5. Note the index hole of the just adjusted wheel, and adjust the other deck wheel to the same height as instructed in step 3.

## Parking Brake Handle

The parking brake handle should engage with moderate force. The brake cable should not require adjustment, but if necessary proceed as follows:

***NOTE:*** There is a cable for each of the transmissions, be sure to adjust both cables.

1. Locate the brake cable housing nuts on the outside of the frame and to the inside of the rear tires. See Figure 5-7.

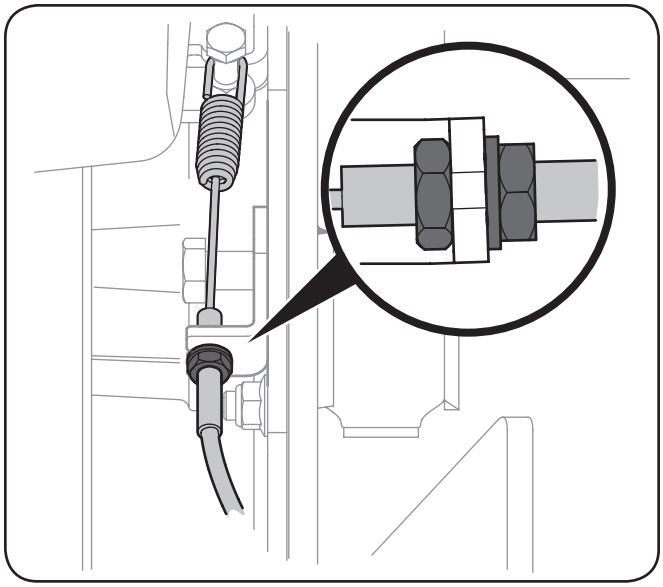


**Figure 5-7**

2. Adjust the cable housing nuts one full turn and check parking capacity. Repeat if parking brake does not hold. See Figure 5-7.

## Brake Shoes

The brake shoes can be adjusted as the shoes wear. To adjust the brake shoes proceed as follows:

***NOTE:*** If the brakes need replaced, please see your Cub Cadet Service Dealer.

1. There is an access hole on the lower inside of the backing plate inside the rear tires. Locate this hole and remove the rubber plug to access the adjusting star on the brake shoes. See Figure 5-8.

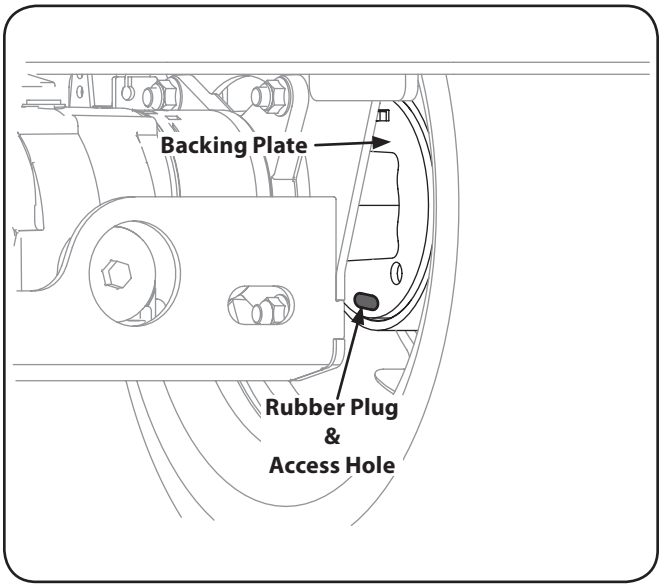



**Figure 5-8**

2. Using a drum brake adjusting tool, or a standard screw driver, rotate the adjusting star inward toward the axle to to expand the shoes. Expand the shoes until there is slight contact with the brake drums. See Figure 5-9.

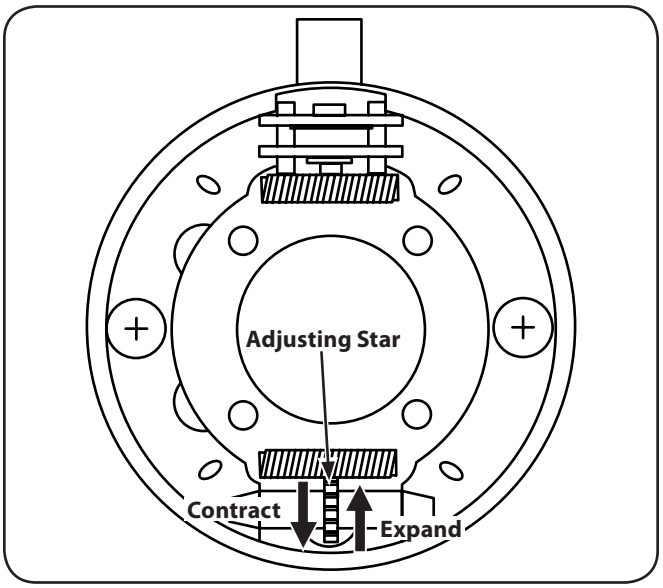



**Figure 5-9**

3. Rotate the drum back and forth to make sure the brake shoes are not rubbing excessively, if they are rotate the adjusting star back slightly until there is just a slight rub.

   ***NOTE:*** A slight rub is acceptable since a used brake will seat.

4. To contract the brake shoes, rotate the star adjustment outward away from the axle until there is a slight rub between the shoes and the drum. See Figure 5-9.

5. Repeat the procedure for the opposite brake shoe.

## Removing/Installing the Inner Baffle

The inner flow-control baffle can be removed depending on the mowing conditions. The baffle controls discharge and can be removed for high-volume grasses and installed for precision cutting.

1. Remove the carriage bolts, push nuts and flange lock nuts that secure the baffle to the deck to mow high-volume grasses. See Figure 5-10.

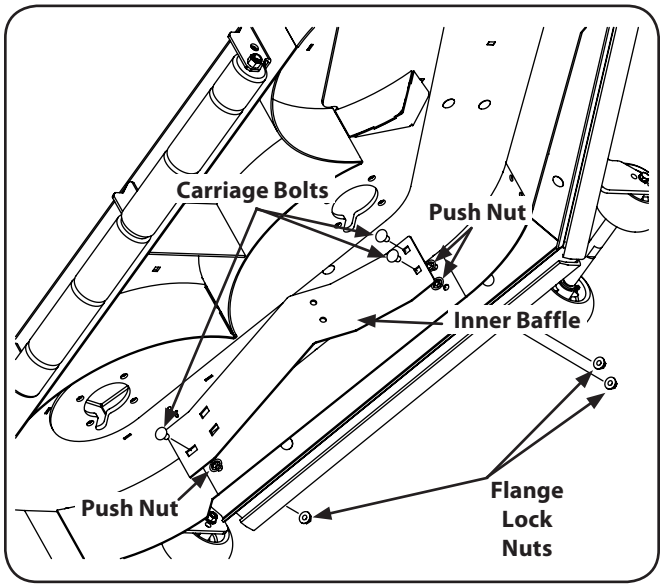



**Figure 5-10**

2. Re-install the inner baffle for precision cutting and make sure the baffle is properly secured.

## Battery Removal

**WARNING!** Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds. Wash hands after handling.

The battery is located beneath the seat box frame. To remove the battery:

1. Remove the hold down strap.
2. Remove the hex screw and flange lock nut securing the black negative battery lead to the negative battery post (marked NEG). Move the cable away from the negative battery post.
3. Remove the hex screw and flange lock nut securing the red positive battery lead to the positive battery post (marked POS).
4. Carefully lift the battery out of the tractor.
5. Install the battery by repeating the above steps in the reverse order.

**WARNING!** Always connect the positive lead to the battery before connecting the negative lead. This will prevent sparking or possible injury from an electrical short caused by contacting the tractor body with tools being used to connect the cables.

## Charging the Battery

Test and, if necessary, recharge the battery after the tractor has been stored for a period of time.

- A voltmeter or load tester should read 12.6 volts (DC) or higher across the battery terminals. See Figure 6-1.

| Voltmeter Reading | State of Charge | Charging Time |
|---|---|---|
| 12.7 | 100% | Full Charge |
| 12.4 | 75% | 90 Min. |
| 12.2 | 50% | 180 Min. |
| 12.0 | 25% | 280 Min. |

**Figure 6-1**

- Charge the battery with a 12-volt battery charger at a MAXIMUM rate of 10 amps.

### Jump Starting

**WARNING!:** Failure to use this starting procedure can cause sparking, and the gases in the battery to explode.

1. Connect the end of one cable to the disabled machine battery's positive terminal; then connect the other end of that cable to the booster battery's positive terminal.
2. Connect one end of the other cable to the booster battery's negative terminal; then connect the other end of that cable to the frame of the disabled tractor, as far from the battery as possible.
3. Start the disabled tractor following the normal starting instructions previously provided; then disconnect the jumper cables in the exact reverse order of their connection.
4. Have the tractor's electrical system checked and repaired as soon as possible to eliminate the need for jump starting.

## Servicing Electrical System

### Fuse

There is a fuse located inside the left console. Lift the seat and look down at the left console to find the location of the fuse. A 25 amp for fuse the ignition, PTO, etc. This is a standard plug-in type automotive fuse. Always use the same capacity fuse for replacement. Check the fuse for all electrical problems.

If you have a recurring problem with blown fuses, have the tractor's electrical system checked by your Cub Cadet Service Dealer.

### Safety Switch Operation Checks

The following operational checks should be made daily:

**PTO Switch**

1. Sit in the operator's seat. With the drive levers are in the neutral position and the parking brake engaged, engage the PTO switch by pulling up on the knob and try to start the engine. The engine should not start. If it does, the PTO switch must be replaced. See an authorized service dealer.
2. If the engine does not start, disengage the PTO by pressing the knob down and start the engine. Now engage the PTO and the blades should rotate.
3. If the blades do not turn, the PTO switch must be replaced, the seat switch must be replaced or the electric PTO clutch must be repaired. See an authorized service dealer.

**Parking Brake Switch**

- Sit in the operator's seat. With the drive levers in the neutral position and the PTO disengaged, release the parking brake and try to start the engine. The engine should not start.
- If it does, the parking brake switch must be repositioned or replaced. See an authorized service dealer. If the engine does not start, engage the parking brake and start the engine.

**Seat Switch**

- With the drive levers in the neutral position, the parking brake engaged and the PTO disengaged, start the engine. Now release the parking brake, and raise up off the seat. The engine should stop. If the engine does not stop, the seat switch must be replaced. See an authorized service dealer.
- With the drive levers in the neutral position, the parking brake engaged and the PTO disengaged, sit in the operator's seat and start the engine. Engage the PTO and the blades should start to rotate. Raise up slightly off the operator's seat and the blades should stop. If the blades do not stop when you dismount from the operator's seat, the seat switch must be replaced. See an authorized service dealer.

**Electric PTO Clutch**

This clutch operates when the engine is running, the operator is in the operator's seat and the PTO is engaged. This electric clutch is a normally trouble free device. If a problem develops and the blades do not turn, first check the 25 amp fuse, then investigate the wiring harness and the connections to the seat switch, the PTO switch and the electric blade clutch. Then check the seat switch, the PTO switch and finally the electric blade clutch. If the PTO clutch is still not working properly, see an authorized service dealer.

## Deck Removal

Remove the mower deck from the tractor as follows:

1. Lower the deck to the ground. Capture the deck lift by placing the clevis pin behind the lowest position.
2. Apply the parking brake. Remove ignition key and the spark plug cap.

**WARNING!** The muffler at the rear of the tractor may be extremely hot, and could cause serious burns. Use extreme caution when near the muffler. Allow the muffler to fully cool before removing the belt from the PTO pulley.

4. Using a ½" drive in the idler pulley bracket, turn the wrench towards the right of the tractor and slide the belt off the PTO pulley. See Figure 6-2.

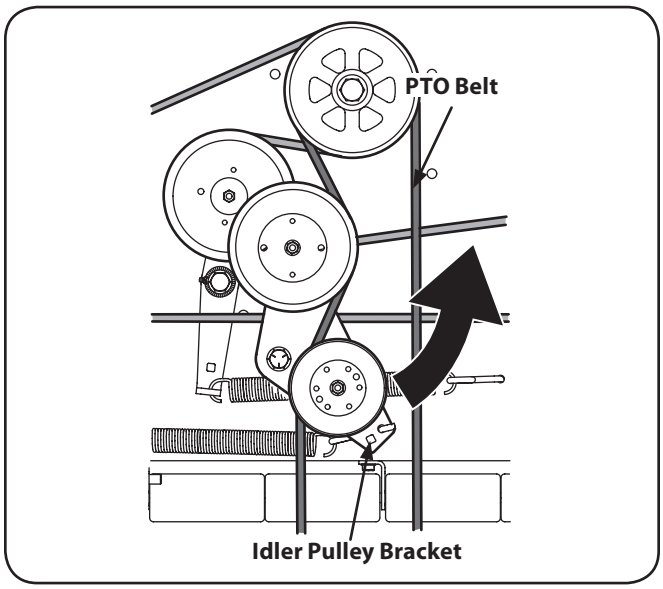



**Figure 6-2**

5. Remove the four lynch pins that secure the deck to the deck lift assembly. See Figure 6-3.

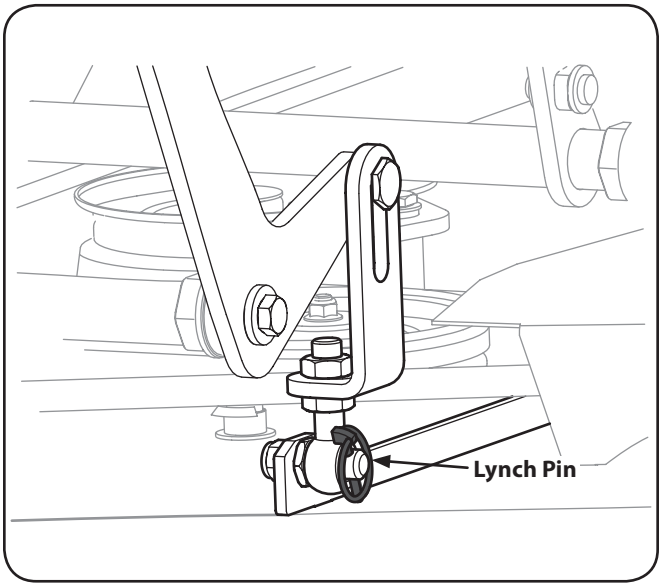



**Figure 6-3**

**CAUTION:** There is a certain amount of spring tension due to the weight of the deck. When removing the lift linkage from the deck the tension of the springs will go from the deck to the deck lift pedal. Not capturing the deck lift pedal while removing the lift linkage from the deck will cause it to snap back.

6. Remove the hex screw, spacer and flange lock nut securing the deck control rods to the deck. See Figure 6-4.

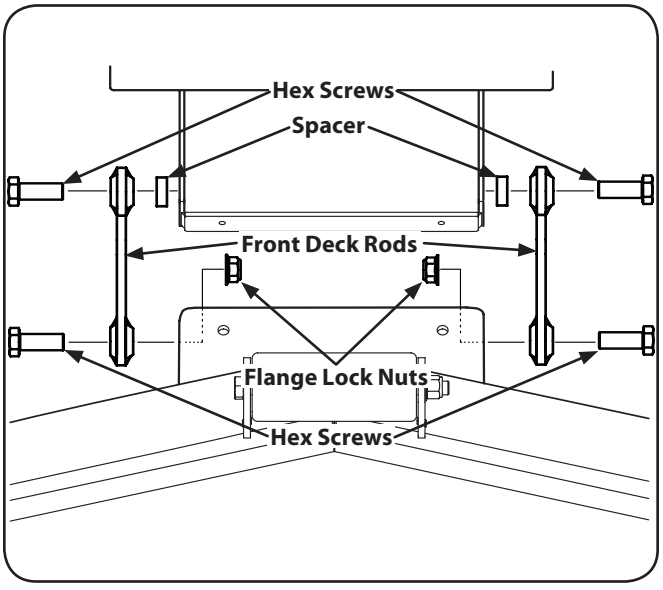



**Figure 6-4**

7. Turn front wheels as if to make a pivot turn.
8. Shift the deck toward the right side of the mower and remove.
9. To install reverse the process.

## Replacing the PTO Belt

1. Remove the PTO belt from the deck as instructed in the Deck Removal section then remove it from around the PTO clutch. See Figure 6-5.

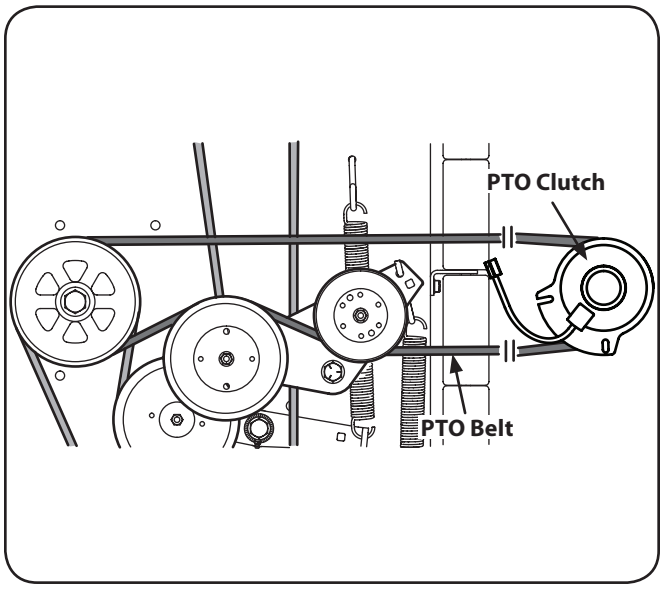



**Figure 6-5**

2. Route the PTO belt as shown in Figure 6-5. After routing the belt around the PTO pulley, use a ½" drive in the idler pulley bracket and turn towards the right of the tractor to finish routing the belt around the idler pulley.
3. Reinstall the deck.

## Replacing the Deck Belt

1. Set the parking brake. Remove ignition key and both spark plug caps.
2. Remove the PTO belt, (refer to Deck Removal on page 34).
3. To remove the belt covers, remove the wing knob from the carriage screws securing it to the deck. See Figure 6-6.

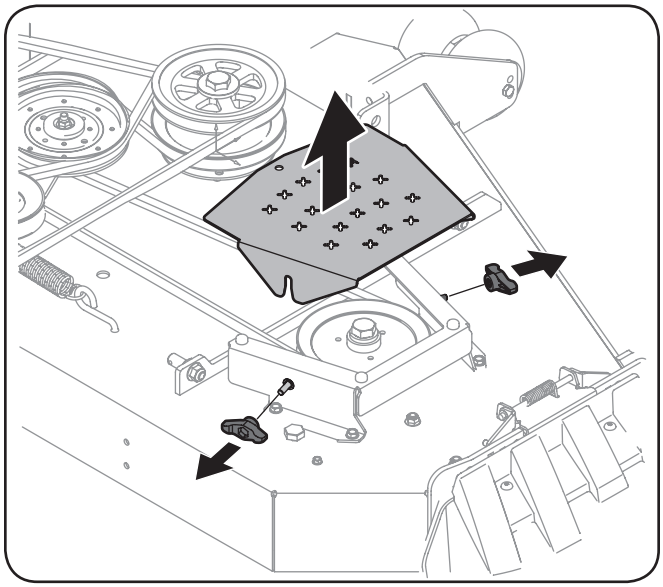


**Figure 6-6**

4. The speed nut should hold the carriage screw and tab bolt in place, if not re-install as shown in Figure 6-6.
4. Using a ½" drive insert the male end into the ½" square opening in the deck idler assembly and rotate the idler clockwise on the 60" and 54" decks and counter-clockwise on the 48" deck. See Figure 6-7. While holding the deck idler, loosen the deck belt from the pulley and slide the belt away from the pulley.

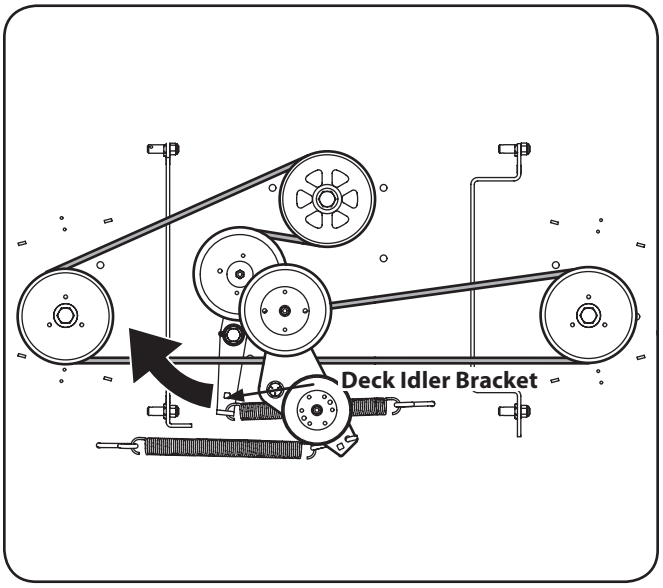



**Figure 6-7**

**WARNING!** Avoid pinching injuries. Never place your fingers on the idler spring or between the belt and a pulley while removing the belt.

5. Route the new belt as shown in Figure 6-7. Then reinstall the deck and PTO belt as instructed on page 34.

## Replacing the Blades

**WARNING!** Before performing any maintenance, disengage the PTO, engage the parking brake lever, turn the ignition key to the "OFF" position and remove the key from the switch. Protect your hands by using heavy gloves when handling the blades. When servicing the mower deck, be careful not to cut yourself on the sharpened blades.

1. Remove the deck as instructed in the Deck Removal section.
2. Jack up the front of the mowing deck about one foot and block it in that position.

3. Wrap a rag around one end of the blade and grasp it to prevent it from turning, or secure the blade by placing a block of wood between the blade and the deck housing. See Figure 6-8.

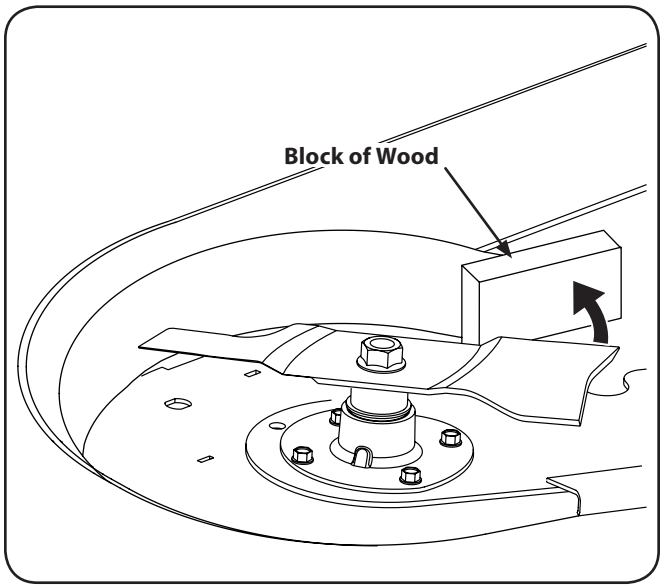



**Figure 6-8**

4. Use a 1-⅛" socket wrench on the pulley side of the spindle bolt. See Figure 6-9.

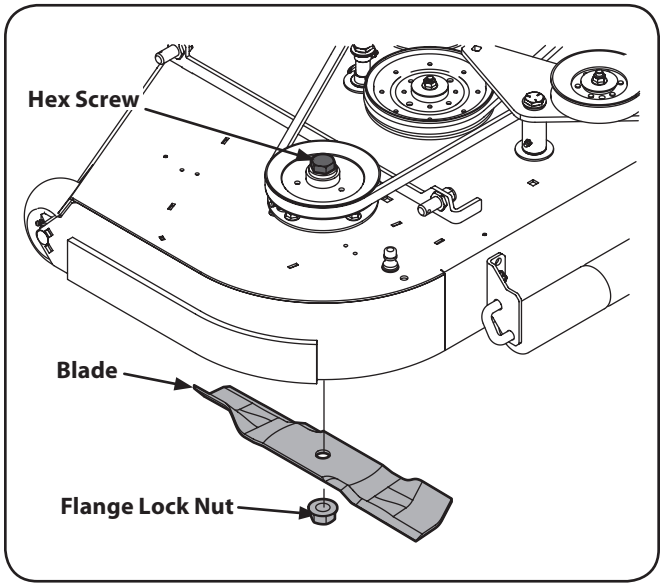



**Figure 6-9**

5. Remove the hex nut at the blade using a 1-⅛" wrench and remove the blade.

6. To replace the blade reverse the above process and tighten nut to 100-120 lb ft.

   ***NOTE:*** Add a small amount of multi-purpose grease to the bolt threads to avoid corrosion and galvanic action.

   ***NOTE:*** When replacing the blade, be sure to install the blade with the side of the blade marked ''Bottom'' or "Grass Side" (or with a part number stamped in it) facing the ground when the mower is in the operating position.

**WARNING!** Never mow with dull blades. Blades that are bent should be replaced. The cutting blades are sharp and can cause severe injury. Wrap the cutting surface of the blade with a rag to avoid injury.

## Sharpening the Blades

1. Set the parking brake.
2. Clean any debris from the blades. Keep blades sharp and free of build up at all times.
3. To properly sharpen the cutting blades, remove equal amounts of metal from both ends of the blades along the cutting edges, parallel to the trailing edge, at a 25°-30° angle. Always grind each cutting blade edge equally to maintain proper blade balance. See Figure 6-10.

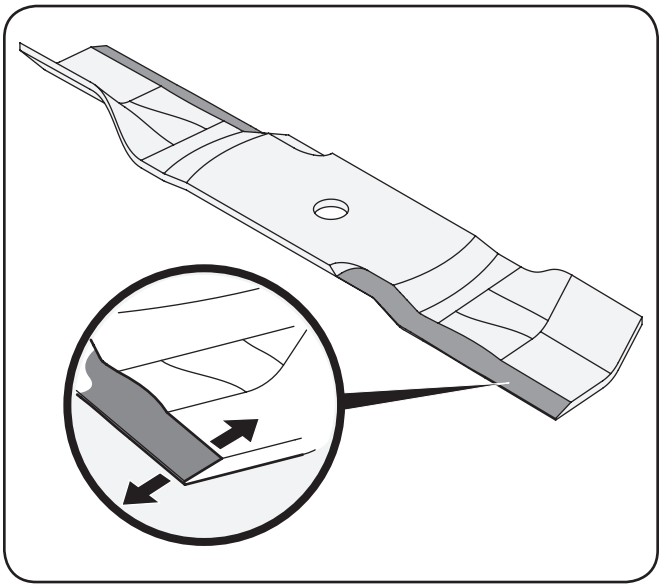


**Figure 6-10**

**WARNING!** If a blade is bent or otherwise damaged, replace the blade with a new one. Use only original equipment blades.

**WARNING!** A poorly balanced blade will cause excessive vibration, may damage the machine and/or result in personal injury.

6. Test the blade's balance using a blade balancer. Grind metal from the heavy side until it balances evenly.

   ***NOTE:*** When replacing the blade, be sure to install the blade with the side of the blade marked ''Bottom'' (or with a part number stamped in it) facing the ground when the mower is in the operating position.

**WARNING!** Use a torque wrench to tighten the blade spindle hex flange nut to between 100 lbs-ft and 120 lbs-ft.

## Changing the Spindle Assembly

1. Remove the deck as instructed in the Deck Removal section.
2. Jack up the front of the mowing deck about one foot and block it in that position.
3. Remove the deck cover.
4. Remove the drive belts. (See Replacing the Deck belt.)
5. Remove the blade. (See Replacing the Blades)
6. Using a 9⁄16 wrench or socket ratchet remove the flange lock nuts, and the hex flange bolts. Remove the spindle assembly. See Figure 6-11.

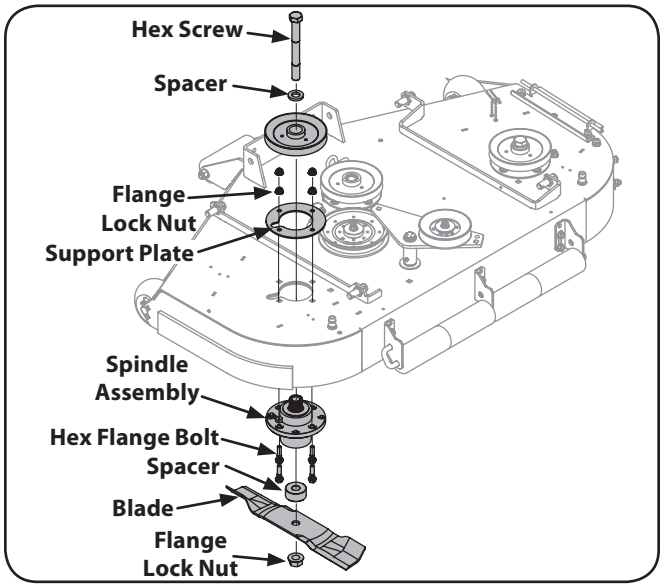



**Figure 6-11**

7. Reverse the process to install the spindle assembly.

## Changing the Transmission Drive Belt

Several components must be removed and special tools used in order to change the tractor's transmission drive belt. See your Cub Cadet dealer to have the transmission drive belt replaced.

## Tractor Creeping

Creeping is the slight forward or backward movement of the mower when the throttle is on and the speed control levers are in the neutral position. If your mower creeps, see an authorized service dealer.

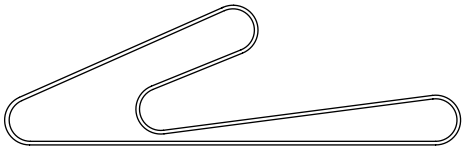
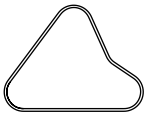
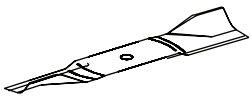
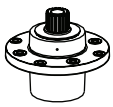
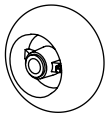
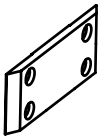
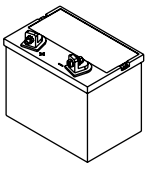
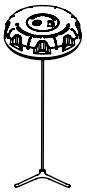
# Troubleshooting

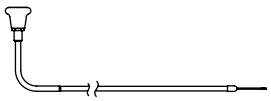
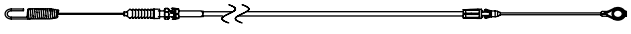
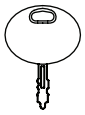
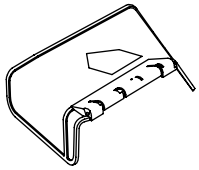
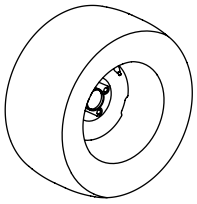
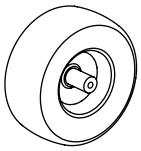
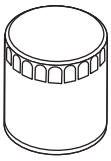
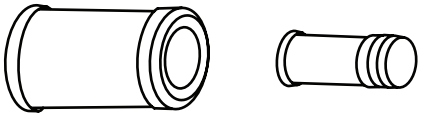
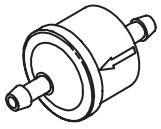
# 8

| Problem | Cause | Remedy |
|---|---|---|
| Excessive vibration | 1. Cutting blade loose or unbalanced.<br>2. Damaged or bent cutting blade. | 1. Tighten blade and spindle.<br>2. Replace blade. |
| Uneven cut | 1. Deck not leveled properly.<br>2. Dull blade.<br>3. Uneven tire pressure. | 1. Perform side-to-side deck adjustment.<br>2. Sharpen or replace blade.<br>3. Check tire pressure in all four tires. |
| Mower will not mulch grass (If Equipped w/Mulching Kit) | 1. Engine speed too low.<br>2. Wet grass.<br>3. Excessively high grass.<br>4. Dull blade. | 1. Place throttle in FAST (rabbit) position.<br>2. Do not mulch when grass is wet.<br>3. Mow once at a high cutting height, then mow again at desired height or make a narrower cutting swath.<br>4. Sharpen or replace blade. |

# Replacement Parts

# 10

| Component | Part Number and Description | |
|---|---|---|
|  | 954-04327<br>954-04319 | Deck Belt (LZ-54)<br>Deck Belt (LZ-60) |
|  | 954-04328<br>954-04296 | PTO Belt (LZ-54)<br>PTO Belt (LZ-60) |
|  | 954-04320 | Drive Belt |
|  | 942-04416<br>942-04415 | Hi-Lift Blade, 19.0 (LZ-54)<br>Hi-Lift Blade, 21.0 (LZ-60) |
|  | 918-05132 | Deck Spindle |
|  | 634-3159 | Deck Wheel |
|  | 731-10336 | Deck Skid Guard |
|  | 925-1707D | Battery |
|  | 951-12754 | Gas Cap |
|  | 946-04840 | Throttle Control |

| Component | Part Number and Description | |
|---|---|---|
|  | 946-04812 | Choke Control |
|  | 946-05103 | Park Brake Cable |
|  | 625-05000 | Ignition Key |
|  | 631-05176A | Discharge Chute Assembly |
|  | 634-05088 | Wheel Assembly (LZ-54 & LZ-60), 24 x 12-12 |
|  | 634-04750 | Wheel Assembly, 13 x 6.50-6 |
|  | KM-49065-7010 | Oil Filter |
|  | KM-BPR4ES | Spark Plug |
|  | KM-11013-7044<br>KM-11013-7045 | Air Filter Element (Outer)<br>Air Filter Element (Inner) |
|  | KM-49019-0014 | Fuel Filter |

# Attachments & Accessories

# 10

The following attachments and accessories are compatible with your Cub Cadet Tank tractor. See your Cub Cadet dealer or the retailer from which you purchased your tractor for information regarding price and availability.

**WARNING:** Model 59A30037150 front weight kit is required when operating any lap bar steering Tank model equipped with a compatible grass collector. Failure to install the above weight kit may result in serious injury or death.

| Part No. | Part |
|---|---|
| 59A30044150 | Power Assist Triple Bagger *<br>* — Use of this attachment requires the installation of the 59A30037150 Front Weight Kit below |
| 59A30037150 | Front Weight Kit |
| 59A30042150 | Power Assist Clam Shell Bagger |
| 19A70038100 | 54" Mulch Kit |
| 19A70039100 | 60" Mulch Kit |
| 59A30011150 | Light Kit (ROPS mount) |
| 59A30036150 | 72" Snow Blade |
| 59A30021150 | 12V Outlet Kit |
| 59A30035150 | Deck Power Lift |
| 590-488-150 | Ultra Traction Tire/Rim (Set of 2) |
| 59A30041150 | Vacuum Hose Kit |
| 490-850-0005 | Blade Removal Tool |
| 490-850-0008 | Oil Siphon |

# Notes

# 11

## Warranty Conditions — Australia (Not applicable to other Regions)

The benefits given to you under this warranty are in addition to other rights and remedies that you have under Australian law in relation to the goods.

MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd warrants that this machine is free from defects in material and workmanship. This warranty is limited to repairing or replacing any part which appears upon inspection by MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd or its agent to be defective in material or workmanship.

A separate warranty is provided in respect of the engine for this machine. Refer to the engine warranty statement in the Engine Owner's Manual which has been included with this machine.

For domestic use, this warranty will apply for a period of 2 years from date of purchase. Warranty for commercial or industrial use is 90 days from the date of purchase. In the event of dispute, MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd will determine whether the machine was used for domestic, or commercial or industrial use.

All costs associated with claiming under this warranty must be borne by you, including transport costs incurred in the repair or replacement of any defective part.

This warranty excludes fair wear and tear and any damage caused by misuse or abuse. Parts such as Blades, Bump Knobs, Outer Spools, Cutting Line, Inner Reels, Starter Pulley, Starter Ropes, Drive Belts, Saw Blades, Guide Bars, Cultivator Tines, Spark Plugs, Carburettor Adjustments and Filters which can be subjected to use beyond their normal intended working capacity are also excluded.

This warranty is void if alterations are made to the machine without MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd prior written authority.

Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and for compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure.

**IN ORDER TO MAKE A CLAIM UNDER THIS WARRANTY YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE YOUR PRODUCT AND YOUR PROOF OF PURCHASE TO AN AUTHORISED MTD DEALER. YOUR NEAREST MTD DEALER CAN BE FOUND at www. mtd.com.au. All SERVICING AND REPAIRS MUST USE GENUINE SPARE PARTS OR YOUR WARRANTY WILL BE VOID.**

**For your Record:**

Retailers Name: ..... Address: .....

Phone No: ..... Model No: .....

Serial No: ..... Date of Purchase: .....

MTD Products Australia Pty Ltd.

Postal Address: PO. Box 376 Dandenong. Vic. 3175

Business Address: 6 Zenith Road, Dandenong. Vic. 3175 and 97 Trade Street. Lytton.

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Email Address: mtdservice@mtd.com.au Customer Service Phone: 1300 951 594

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