

OWNER'S GUIDE

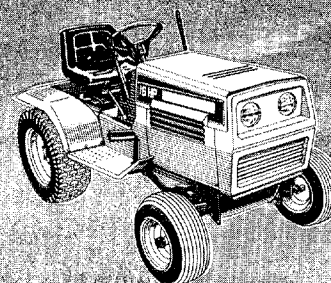
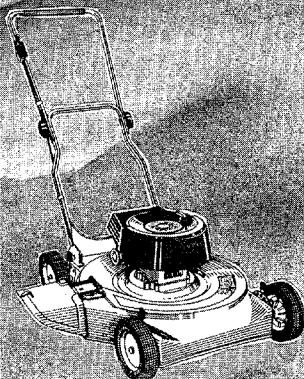
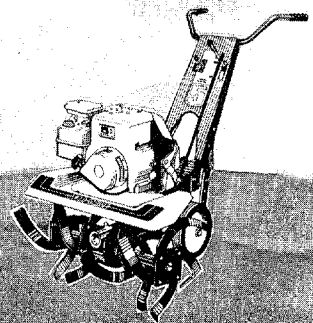
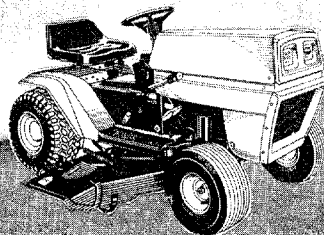
FIFTY CENTS

**MODEL
NO.
119-170A**

**ASSEMBLY
OPERATION
PARTS
MAINTENANCE**

**20"
MULCHER
AND
MOWER**

**IMPORTANT:
READ SAFETY RULES
& INSTRUCTIONS**



LIMITED WARRANTY

For one year from the date of original retail purchase, MTD PRODUCTS INC will either repair or replace, at its option, free of charge, F.O.B. factory or authorized service firm, any part or parts found to be defective in material or workmanship. Transportation charges under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser unless return is requested by MTD PRODUCTS INC.

This warranty will not apply to any part which has become inoperative due to misuse, excessive use, accident, neglect, improper maintenance, alterations, or unless the unit has been operated and maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished. This warranty does not apply to the engine, motor, battery, battery charger or component parts thereof. Please refer to the applicable manufacturer's warranty on these items.

This warranty will not apply where the unit has been used commercially.

Warranty service is available through your local authorized service dealer or distributor. If you do not know the dealer or distributor in your area, please write to the Customer Service Department of MTD.

The return of a complete unit will not be accepted by the factory unless prior written permission has been extended by MTD.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WARNING TO PURCHASERS OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE EQUIPPED MACHINERY OR DEVICES IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The equipment which you have just purchased does not have a spark arrester. If this equipment is used on any forest covered land, brush covered land, or grass covered unimproved land in the State of California, before using on such land, the California law requires that a spark arrester be provided. In addition, spark arrester is required by law to be in effective working order. The spark arrester must be attached to the exhaust system and comply with Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code.

IMPORTANT

It is suggested that this manual be read in its entirety before attempting to assemble or operate. Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference and for ordering replacement parts.

This unit is shipped WITHOUT GASOLINE or OIL. After assembly, see operating section of this manual for proper fuel and amount.

Your rotary mower is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore exercise extreme caution at all times.

SAFE OPERATION PRACTICES FOR WALK-BEHIND MOWERS

TRAINING

1. Read the Operating and Service Owner's Manual carefully. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and the proper use of the equipment.
2. Never allow children to operate a power mower. Only persons well acquainted with these rules of safe operation should be allowed to use your mower.
3. Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets. Stop engine when they are in the vicinity of your mower. Although the area of operation should be completely cleared of foreign objects, a small object may have been overlooked and could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction.

PREPARATION

1. Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used and remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects which could be picked up and thrown by the mower in any direction.
2. Do not operate equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear.
3. Do not wear loose fitting clothing that could get caught on the mower.
4. Check the fuel before starting the engine. Do not fill the gasoline tank indoors, when the engine is running, or while the engine is still hot. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine.
5. Disengage the self-propelled mechanism or drive clutch on units so equipped before starting the engine.
6. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
7. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
8. Never operate the equipment in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing; keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run.

OPERATION

1. Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine. Excessive engine speeds are dangerous.
2. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times.
3. Stop the blade(s) when crossing gravel drive, walks or roads.
4. After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, remove the wire from the spark plug,

thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage, and repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.

5. If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
6. Stop the engine whenever you leave the mower, before cleaning the mower housing, and when making any repairs or inspections.
7. When cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire, and keep the wire away from the plug to prevent accidental starting.
8. Before attempting to unclog the mower or discharge chute, stop the engine and be sure the blade(s) have stopped completely. Disconnect the spark plug wire and keep the wire away from the plug to prevent accidental starting.
9. Do not run the engine indoors.
10. Shut the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass catcher.
11. Mow across the face of slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes. Do not mow excessively steep slopes.
12. Always disconnect electric mowers (line operated) before cleaning, repairing or adjusting.
13. Never operate mower without proper guards, plates or other safety protective devices in place.
14. Keep washout ports and other mower-housing service openings closed when mowing.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Check the blade and engine mounting bolts at frequent intervals for proper tightness.
2. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
3. Never store the equipment with gasoline in the tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
4. To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
5. Check the grass catcher bag frequently for wear or deterioration. For safety protection replace only with new bag meeting original equipment specifications.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

HANDLE ASSEMBLY

1. Remove the loose hardware from the assembly pack. You will need a screwdriver and a 5/16" wrench, either a socket or an open end wrench.

NOTE

It may be necessary to spread the ends of the lower handle outward slightly to assure a snug fit against the bracket mounting area.

2. Assemble the lower handle to the handle brackets as shown in figure 1.

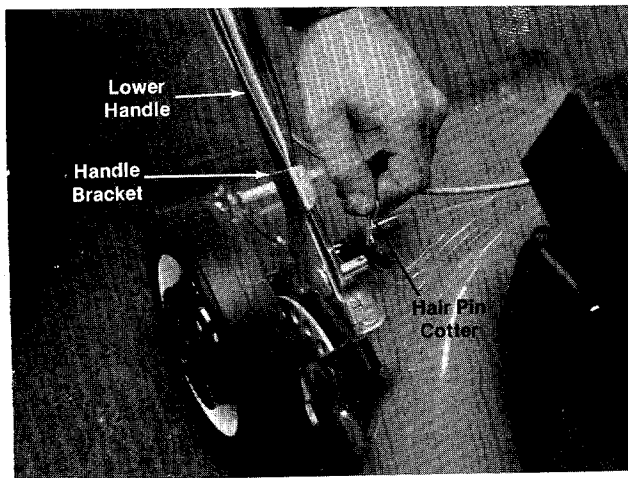


FIGURE 1.

3. Secure the handle with cotter hairpins on both sides. See figure 1.

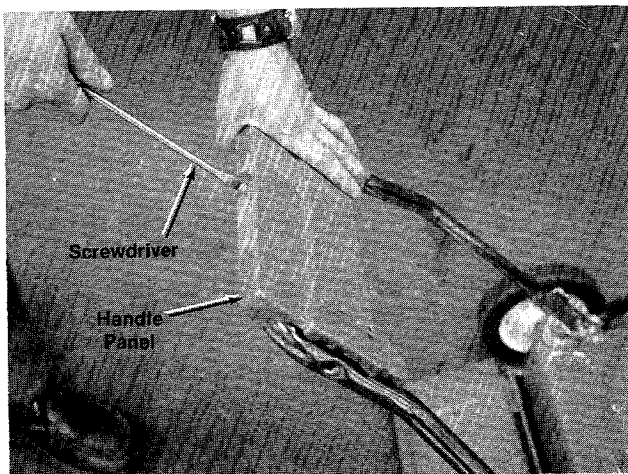


FIGURE 2.

4. Place the handle panel over the lower handle and fasten with the handle panel screw using a 5/16" wrench or screwdriver. See figure 2.
5. Place the upper handle over the lower handle and line up the holes as shown in figure 3.
6. Insert the curved head bolt from the inside and tighten the knob by hand. See figure 3.

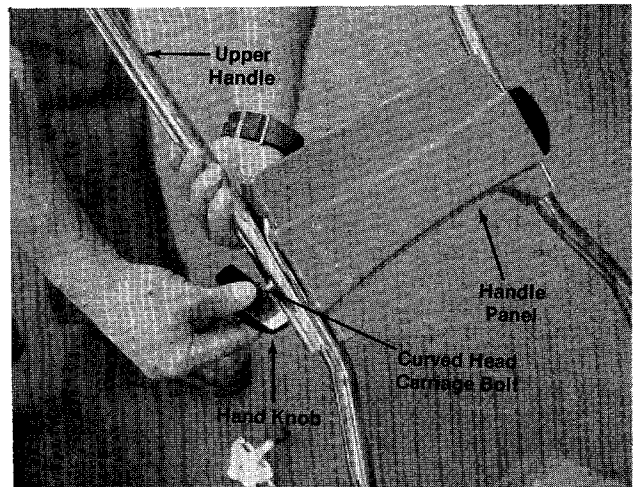


FIGURE 3.

7. Place the throttle control in the handle panel and assemble it with two throttle screws using a screwdriver. See figure 4.

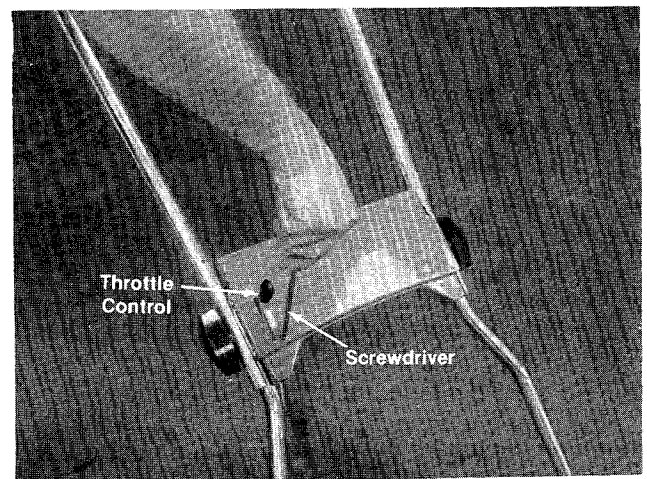


FIGURE 4.

8. Use the cable ties to fasten the throttle control wire to the lower handle. Cut off excess ends. See figures 5 and 6.
9. Check ALL nuts and bolts for correct tightness.

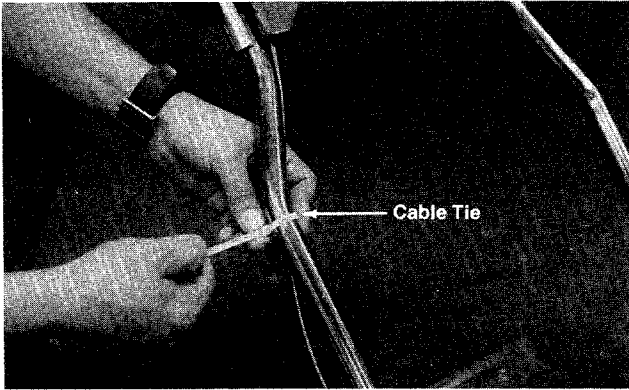


FIGURE 5.

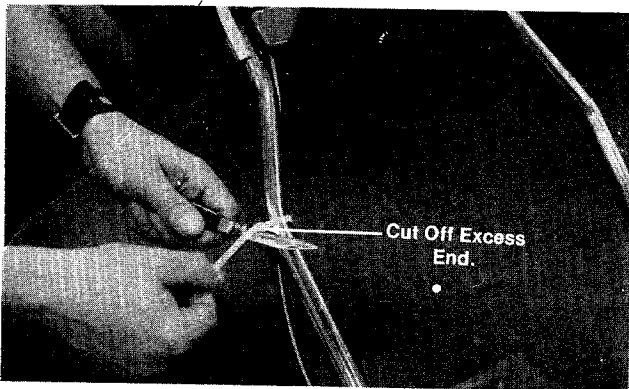


FIGURE 6.

NOTE

This mulching mower is shipped with the mulcher baffle and mulcher blade in place. If you wish to just mow you must remove the mulcher cutting blade and reassemble with standard blade.

USING YOUR MOWER



WARNING

Always remove the spark plug wire from the spark plug, and ground it against the engine block, before making any adjustments. See figure 7.

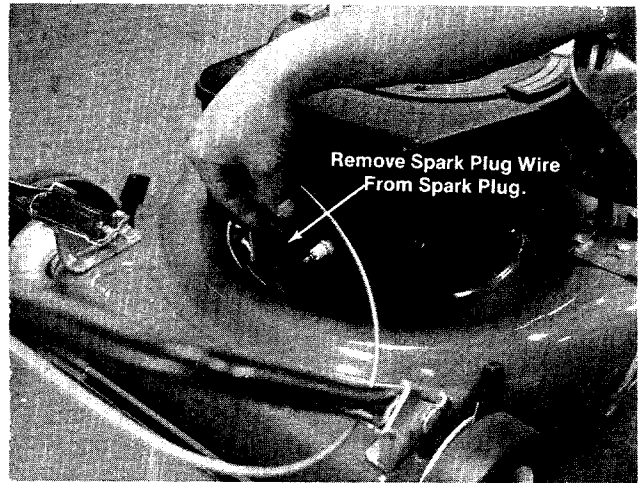


FIGURE 7.

1. To remove or install the mulching baffle on your mower you will need an adjustable wrench.

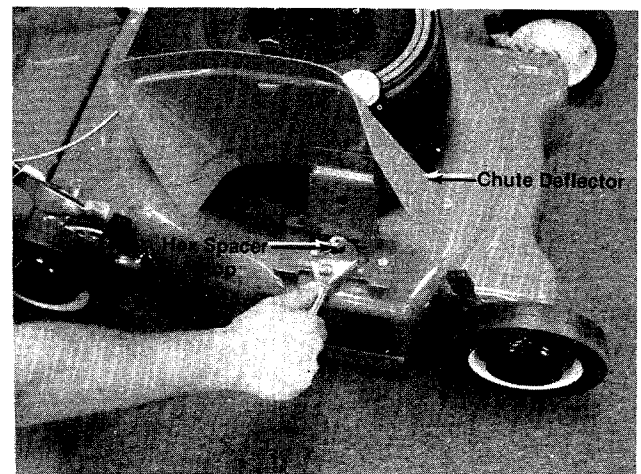


FIGURE 8.

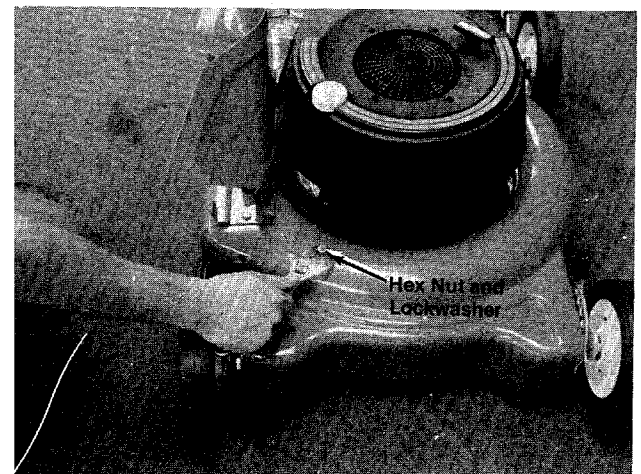


FIGURE 9.

- A. The mulching baffle is held in place by one hex spacer stop, two lockwashers and one hex nut. See figures 8 and 9.
 - B. The hex spacer stop is assembled under the chute deflector. Hold the chute deflector up and place lockwasher and hex spacer stop over weld bolt on mulching baffle and tighten with an adjustable wrench. See figure 8.
 - C. The hex nut and other lockwasher secure the front of the mulching baffle to the deck. See figure 9.
2. Remove the mulching blade. You will need a 9/16" box wrench or an adjustable wrench. We suggest you hold the blade with a rag to prevent cutting your hand. See figure 10. Remove only the center bolt.

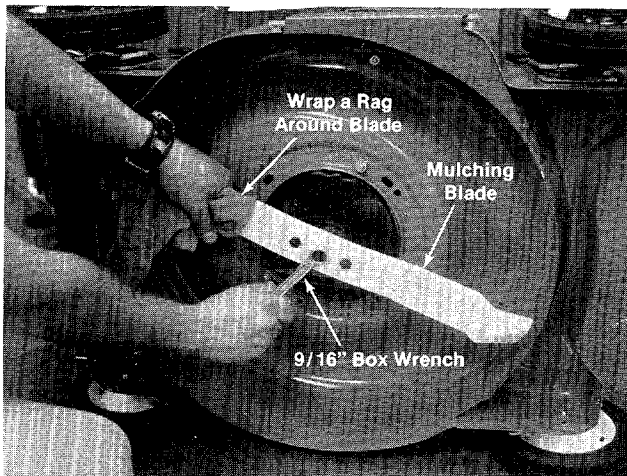


FIGURE 10.

3. The same instructions in step 2 apply to the standard cutting blade. See figure 11.

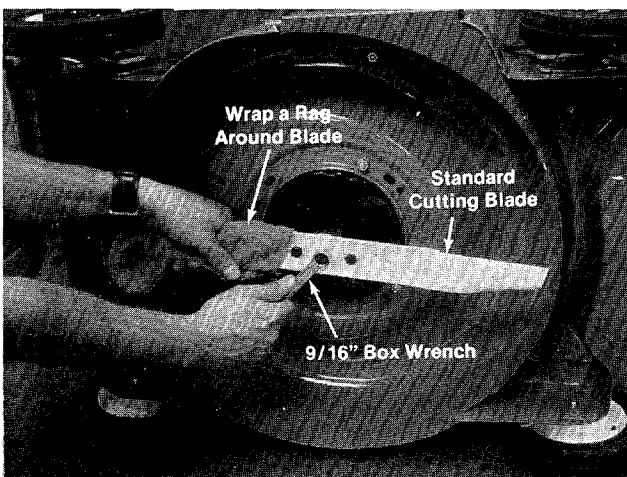


FIGURE 11.

4. For normal mowing you should have removed the items shown in figure 12. Have the standard blade installed and the chute deflector down.

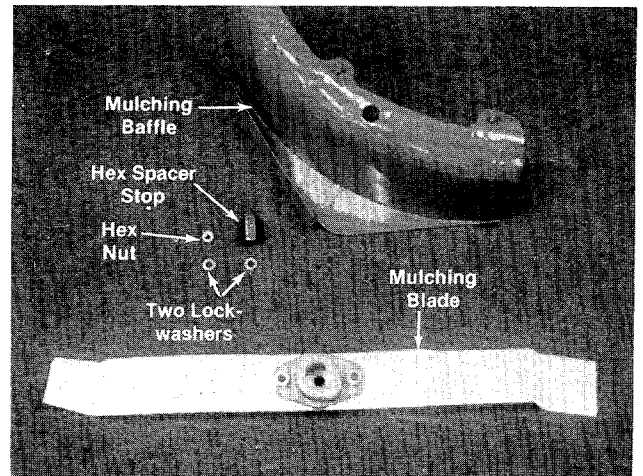


FIGURE 12.



Apply a little grease on crankshaft when changing blades.

START ENGINE

With the throttle control lever conveniently mounted on the handle, start, fast, slow and stopping of the engine is conveniently controlled with one lever.

After the engine has been properly fueled and oiled (refer to engine operating and maintenance instructions) start engine in the following manner.

RECOIL STARTER

1. Move throttle control lever to "START" position.
2. Crank engine, pull recoil with a quick firm pull. Do not pull out so far that rope stops with a jerk as this will cause rope failure. Do not allow rope and handle to snap back into place.
3. After two or three full firm pulls on recoil, or as soon as engine fires, move throttle control to run position.
4. Operate a new engine at intermediate speeds and light load for the first few hours as you would a new automotive engine.
5. To stop engine, move throttle control lever to stop position.
6. If carburetor needs adjustment to start or for operation, see "Carburetor Readjustment" section of engine manual.

ADJUSTMENTS



CAUTION

Do not at any time make any adjustment to lawn mower without first stopping engine and disconnecting spark plug wire.



NOTE

For shipping purposes your mower is set with the wheels in a low cutting height position. For best results raise the cutting height position until it is determined which height is best for your lawn.

1. CUTTING HEIGHT

An adjusting plate and thumb lever at each wheel position provides cutting height adjustment. Each adjusting plate has five holes. Height of cut will be changed when the thumb lever is moved from one hole to another. Simply depress thumb lever towards wheel and move wheel and lever assembly to desired position. All wheels must be positioned in relative height of cut positions. See figure 13.



FIGURE 13.

2. THROTTLE

If adjustment becomes necessary, the throttle control wire assembly can be reset as follows:

1. Loosen, but do not remove, screw securing throttle control wire assembly at engine.
2. Move throttle control lever on handle to "FAST" position.
3. Move lever, to which control wire is fastened at engine, to full open position and retighten screw to secure throttle control wire assembly.

LUBRICATION



IMPORTANT

Always stop engine and disconnect spark plug wire before cleaning, lubricating or doing any kind of work on lawn mower.

Wheels—Mower is provided with ball bearing wheels. Lubricate at least once a season with light oil.

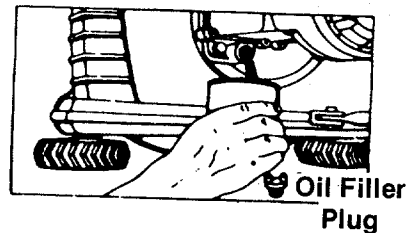
Throttle—Periodically lubricate throttle control lever and throttle wire assembly with a few drops of light oil (SAE No. 10 or 20) for ease of operation.

Engine—Follow engine manual for lubrication instructions.

Protective Shield—The pivot points on the protective shield should be lubricated periodically with light oil to prevent any rust or binding up.

Chute Deflector—The torsion spring and pivot point should be lubricated periodically with light oil to prevent any rust or binding up. Deflector should work freely.

NOTE: FILL AND DRAIN OIL FROM OIL FILL PLUG.



Change oil after first 5 hours of operation, while engine is warm. Thereafter, change oil every 25 hours of operation while engine is warm. Engine may be drained through oil filler opening. Be sure to replace drain plug and oil filler cap.

STORAGE

The following steps should be taken to prepare lawn mower for storage:

1. Clean and lubricate mower thoroughly as described in the preceding instructions.
2. Refer to engine manual for correct engine storage instructions.
3. Coat mower's cutting blade with chassis grease to prevent rusting.
4. Store mower in dry, clean area.

HANDLE STORAGE

(See figures 14, 15 and 16.)

This model is so equipped to provide easy fold away handle storage.

1. Loosen the two plastic knobs on each side, center of handle.
2. Pull outward on the bottom of each side of the lower handle and push forward.
3. Fold the upper handle back and down.

To Take the Handle out of Storage Position.

1. Lift the upper handle up and towards the rear.
2. Pull the handle back until it **locks** into the operator's position.
3. Tighten the two plastic knobs securely.

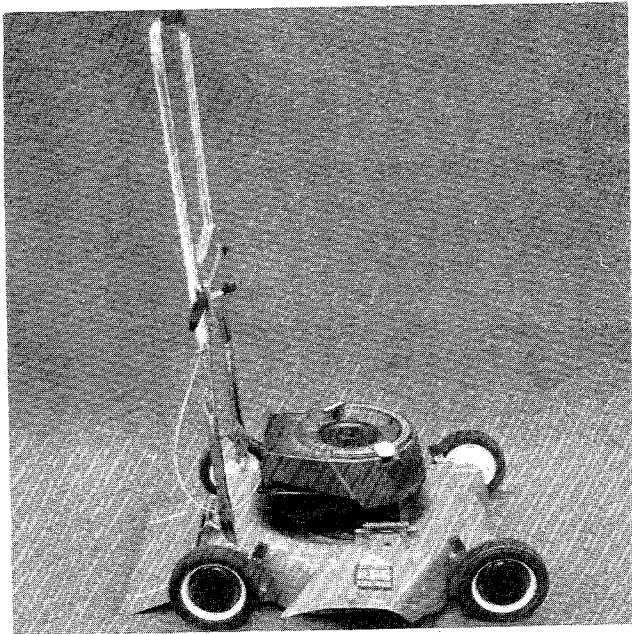


FIGURE 14.

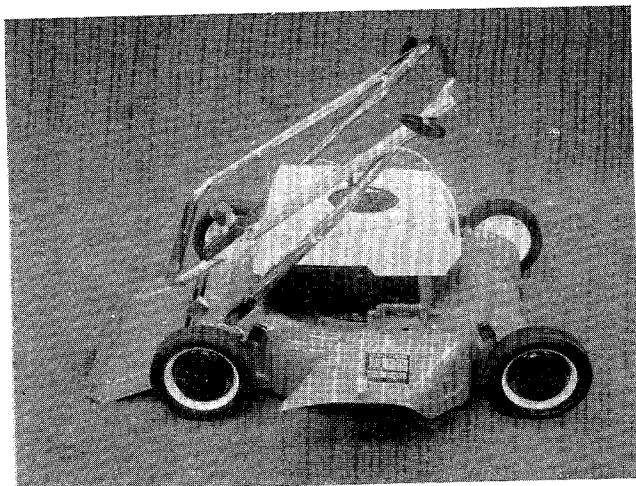


FIGURE 15.

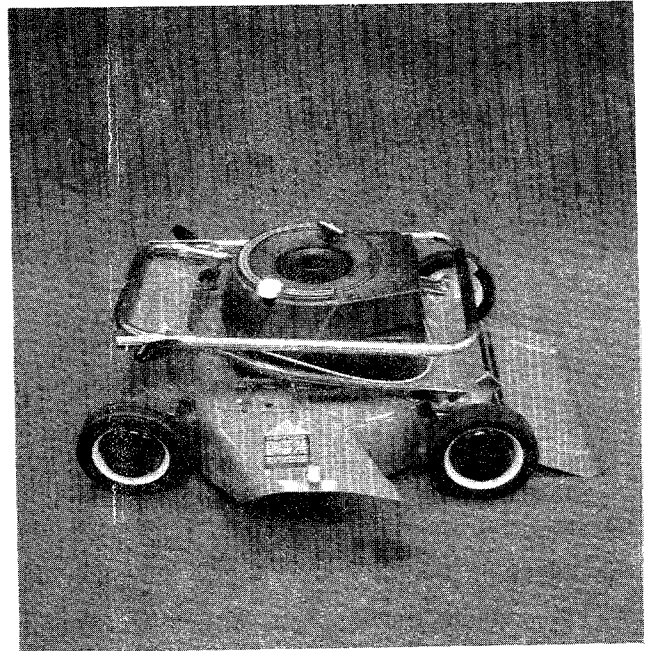


FIGURE 16.

 **NOTE**

The manufacturer DOES NOT recommend the use of any accessory on this rotary mower other than those manufactured by the mower manufacturer.

GRASS CATCHER Model No. 199-003A is available as optional equipment for the mowers shown in this manual.



WARNING

1. The mower should not be operated without the entire grass catcher or chute deflector in place.
2. The mower should not be operated without the protective shield on the rear of the deck in place.

 **NOTE:**

Under normal usage bag material is subject to wear and should be checked periodically. Be sure any replacement bag complies with the mower manufacturer's recommendations.

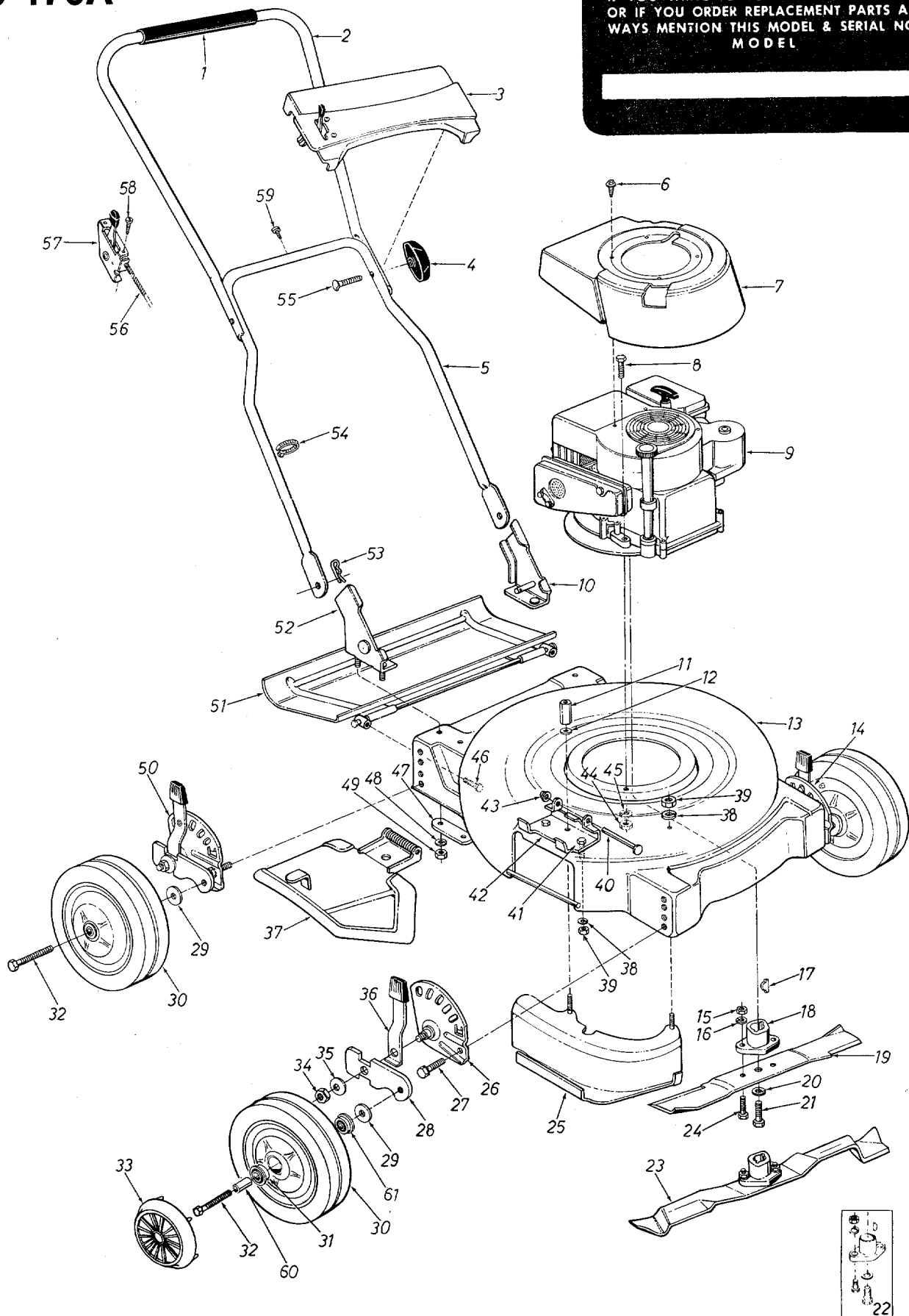
For replacement bags, use only factory authorized replacement bag No. 764-0119.

 **IMPORTANT**

After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, remove wire from spark plug. Thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage, and repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.

119-170A

IF YOU WRITE TO US ABOUT THIS ARTICLE
OR IF YOU ORDER REPLACEMENT PARTS AL-
WAYS MENTION THIS MODEL & SERIAL NO.
MODEL



PARTS LIST FOR MODEL 119-170A

REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART	REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	718-0145		Grip		33	731-0124		Hub Cap	
2	10011		Upper Handle		34	712-0116		Hex Ins. Jam L-Nut 3/8-24 Thd.	
3	11606	-462	Handle Panel						
4	09966		Handle Knob		35	736-0219		Bell. Wash. .40 I.D. x 1.12 O.D. x .03	
5	11616		Lower Handle						
6	710-0227		Hex AB Tapp. Scr.—#8 x .50" Lg.		36	10936		Spring Lever Ass'y. w/ Knob	
7	731-0276		Shroud Plastic		37	11679	-462	Chute Deflector Ass'y. Comp.	
8	710-0158		Hex Scr. 5/16-24 x 1.50" Lg.		38	736-0329		L-Wash. for 1/4" Scr.*	
9	—		Engine		39	712-0287		Hex Nut 1/4-20 Thd.*	
10	12945		Handle Mounting Brkt.—L.H.		40	711-0555		Pivot Pin	
11	711-0685		Hex Spacer Stop		41	710-0289		Hex Scr. 1/4-20 x .50" Lg.*	
12	736-0329		L-Wash. for 1/4" Scr.		42	11143	-462	Deflector Hinge Plate	
13	13679	-462	20" Deck Ass'y.		43	726-0106		Push Nut for 1/4" Rod	
14	10941		Height Adj. Ass'y. w/Black Knob—L.H.		44	712-0123		Hex Nut 5/16-24 Thd.*	
15	712-0123		Hex Nut 5/16-24 Thd.		45	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" Scr.*	
16	736-0119		L-Wash. for 5/16" Scr.*		46	710-0567		Hex Sems Scr. 1/4-28 x .62" Lg.*	
17	714-0365		#6 Hi-Pro Key 5/32" x 5/8" Dia.		47	08405		Reinforcement Plate	
18	10769		Blade Adapter Kit		48	736-0329		L-Wash. for 1/4" Scr.*	
19	742-0123		Blade 20"		49	712-0287		Hex Nut 1/4-20 Thd.*	
20	736-0217		H Spring L-Wash. for 3/8" Scr.*		50	10938		Height Adj. Ass'y. w/ Knob—R.H.	
21	710-0459		Hex Scr. 3/8-24 x 1.50" Lg.		51	11193	-462	Rear Shield Ass'y. Comp.	
22	10769		Blade Adapter Kit		52	12946		Handle Mtg. Brkt. Ass'y.—R.H.	
23	742-0201		20" Mulching Blade		53	714-0104		Intern. Cotter Pin 5/16" Dia.	
24	710-0117		Hex Scr. 5/16-24 x 1.00" Lg.		54	726-0178		Cable Tie	
25	13854		Mulching Baffle Ass'y.		55	710-0405		Curved Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.75" Lg.	
26	10934		Index Plate Ass'y.—R.H.	N	56	746-0232		Conduit and Wire	
27	710-0209		Hex Sems Scr. 3/8-16 x .62" Lg.*		57	746-0206		Throttle Control Ass'y. Comp.	
28	10937		Pivot Bar		58	710-0227		Hex "AB"-Tapp. Scr. #8 x .50" Lg.	
29	736-0105		Bell. Wash. .40" I.D. x .88" O.D. x .06		59	710-0224		Hex "AB"-Tapp. Scr. #10 x .50 Lg.	
30	734-0844		Wheel Ass'y. Complete		60	750-0434		Spacer	N
31	741-0267		Flange Ball Bearing		61	741-0484		Ball Bearing	N
32	710-0347		Hex Scr. 3/8-16 x 1.75" Lg.*						



*For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washers locally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

(462-Red Flake)

When ordering parts, if color or finish is important use the appropriate color code shown above (e.g. Red Flake Finish—13679 (462).)

NOTE: Mulcher kit is available under Kit No. 753-0213.

NOTE: The engine is not under warranty by the mower manufacturer . . . If repairs or service is needed on the engine, please contact your nearest authorized engine service outlet. Check the "Yellow Pages" of your telephone book under "Engines—Gasoline."

NOTE

This instruction manual covers various models and all specifications shown do not necessarily apply to your model. Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.

PARTS INFORMATION

POWER EQUIPMENT PARTS AND SERVICE

Parts and service for all MTD manufactured power equipment are available through the authorized service firms listed below. All orders should specify the model number of your unit, parts number, description of parts and the quantity of each part required.

ALABAMA	BIRMINGHAM	
Auto Electric & Carburetor Co.	2625 4th Ave. S.	35233
ARKANSAS	NORTH LITTLE ROCK	
Sutton's Lawn Mower Shop	Rt. 4 Box 368	72117
	FORT SMITH	
Mity Mite Motors, Inc.	2515 Towson Ave.	72901
CALIFORNIA	PORTERVILLE	
Billious	75 North D Street	93257
	SAN BERNARDINO	
Lawn Mower Supply Co.	25608 E. Baseline	92410
	SAN FRANCISCO	
J.W. Jewett Co.	981 Folsom St.	94107
	SACRAMENTO	
Luttig & Severson	2030 28th St.	95818
COLORADO	DENVER	
South Denver Lawn Equip.	527 West Evans	80223
FLORIDA	JACKSONVILLE	
Radco Distributors	2403 Market St.	32206
	CORAL GABLES	
Moz-All of Florida, Inc.	365 Greco Ave.	33146
GEORGIA	EAST POINT	
East Point Cycle & Key	2834 Church St.	30344
ILLINOIS	LYONS	
Keen Edge Co.	8615 Ogden Ave.	60534
INDIANA	ELKHART	
Parts & Sales Inc.	2101 Industrial Pkwy.	46514
IOWA	DUBUQUE	
Power Lawn & Garden Equip.	2551 J.F. Kennedy	52001
LOUISIANA	NEW ORLEANS	
Suhren Engine Co.	8330 Earhart Blvd.	70118
MARYLAND	TAKOMA PARK	
Center Supply Co.	6867 New Hampshire Ave.	20012
MASSACHUSETTS	SPRINGFIELD	
Morton B. Collins Co.	300 Birnie Ave.	01107
MICHIGAN	MOUNT CLEMENS	
Power Equipment Dist.	36463 South Gratiot	48043
	LANSING	
Lorenz Service Co.	2500 S. Pennsylvania	48900
MINNESOTA	MINNETONKA	
Hance Distributing Inc.	11212 Wayzata Blvd.	55343
	ST. PAUL	
Power Tools Inc.	3771 Sibley Memorial Hwy.	55122
MISSISSIPPI	BILOXI	
Biloxi Sales & Service, Inc.	506 Caillavet St.	39533
MISSOURI	KANSAS CITY	
Automotive Equip. Service	3117 Holmes St.	64109
	ST. JOSEPH	
Ross-Frazier Supply Co.	8th and Monterey	64503
	ST. LOUIS	
Henzler, Inc.	2015 Lemay Ferry Rd.	63125
NEW JERSEY	BELLMAWR	
Lawnmower Parts Inc.	717 Creek Rd., P.O. Box 7.	08030
	RUTHERFORD	
Feld Distributor	28 Glen Rd.	07070
NEW YORK	CARTHAGE	
Gamble Dist., Inc.	West End Ave.	13619

BRIGGS AND STRATTON, TECUMSEH AND PEERLESS PARTS AND SERVICE

Briggs & Stratton, Tecumseh and Peerless parts and service should be handled by your nearest authorized engine service firm. Check the yellow pages of your telephone directory under the listing **Engines—Gasoline**, Briggs & Stratton or Tecumseh Lauson.

	SYRACUSE	
GTP Leisure Products Inc.	420 Marcellus St.	13204
NORTH CAROLINA	GREENSBORO	
Dixie Sales Company	327 Battleground Ave.	27402
	GOLDSBORO	
Smith Hardware Co.	515 N. George St.	27530
OHIO	WADSWORTH	
National Central	687 Seville Rd.	44281
	CLEVELAND	
Bleckrie, Inc.	7900 Lorain Ave.	44102
	CARROLL	
Stebe's Mid-State Mower Supply, Box 366-71 High St.		43112
	YOUNGSTOWN	
Burton Supply Co.	1301 Logan Ave. Box 929	44501
OKLAHOMA	MUSKOGEE	
Victory Motors, Inc.	605 S. Cherokee	74401
	OKLAHOMA CITY	
Forest Sales Inc.	1039 NW 63rd St.	73116
	ADA	
Ada Auto Supply	301 E. 12th St.	74820
OREGON	PORTLAND	
Kenton Supply Co.	8216 N. Denver Ave.	97217
PENNSYLVANIA	CHESTER	
Stull Equipment Corp.	742 W. Front St.	19013
	HARRISBURG	
EECO Inc.	4021 N. 6th St.	17110
	PHILADELPHIA	
Thompson Rubber Co.	5222-24 N Fifth St.	19120
	PITTSBURGH	
Bluemont Co.	11125 Frankstown Rd.	15235
TENNESSEE	KNOXVILLE	
Master Repair Service	2423 Broadway, N.E.	37917
	MEMPHIS	
Memphis Cycle & Supply Co.	421 Monroe Ave.	38103
American Sales & Service, Inc.	1922 Lynnbrook	38116
TEXAS	DALLAS	
Marr Brothers, Inc.	423 E. Jefferson	75203
	HOUSTON	
Bullard Supply Co.	2409 Commerce St.	77003
	SAN ANTONIO	
Catto & Putty, Inc.	P.O. Box 2408	78206
	FORT WORTH	
Woodson Sales Corp.	1702 N. Sylvania	76111
UTAH	SALT LAKE CITY	
A-1 Engine & Mower Co.	437 E. 9th St.	84111
VERMONT	BURLINGTON	
Vermont Hdwe. Co. Inc.	180 Flynn Ave.	05401
VIRGINIA	RICHMOND	
RBI Corp.	963 Myers St.	23260
WASHINGTON	SEATTLE	
Bailey's Inc.	1414 14th Ave.	98122
WEST VIRGINIA	CHARLESTON	
Young's, Inc.	233 Virginia St., E.	25301
WISCONSIN	APPLETON	
Automotive Supply Co.	123 S. Linwood Ave.	54911

WARRANTY PARTS AND SERVICE POLICY

The purpose of warranty is to protect the customer from defects in workmanship and materials, defects which are NOT detected at the time of manufacture. It does not provide for the unlimited and unrestricted replacement of parts. Use and maintenance are the responsibility of the customer. The manufacturer cannot assume responsibility for conditions which it has no control. Simply put, if it's the manufacturer's fault, it's the manufacturer's responsibility; if it's the customer's fault, it's the customer's responsibility.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY INCLUDES

1. Replacement of Missing Parts on new equipment.
2. Replacement of Defective Parts within the warranty period.
3. Repair of Defects within the warranty period.

All claims MUST be substantiated with the following information:

1. Model Number of unit involved.
2. Date unit was purchased or first put into service.
3. Date of failure.
4. Nature of failure.