

Craftsman Mower Model 917 Manual

M-58-02-441

SEARS

CRAFTSMAN®

MODEL NUMBER 917.376290 OWNER'S MANUAL

EZ³



- Assembly
- Operation
- Customer Responsibilities
- Service
- Adjustments
- Repair Parts

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

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Craftsman mower model 917 manual is an essential resource for anyone who owns this popular lawn mower model. Understanding how to properly operate, maintain, and troubleshoot your Craftsman mower can significantly enhance its performance and longevity. This article will delve into the various aspects of the Craftsman mower model 917 manual, including operation instructions, maintenance tips, troubleshooting advice, and safety precautions.

Understanding the Craftsman Mower Model 917

The Craftsman mower model 917 is part of a series of lawn mowers manufactured by Craftsman, a well-known brand in outdoor power equipment. These mowers are designed for residential use and come with various features that enhance user

experience and efficiency. Familiarizing yourself with the specifications and functionalities of your mower is crucial for effective operation.

Specifications

The Craftsman mower model 917 generally includes the following specifications:

- Engine type: Gasoline-powered engine
- Engine horsepower: Typically ranges from 5.5 to 6.5 HP
- Cutting width: Commonly around 21 inches
- Cutting height: Adjustable, usually ranging from 1 to 4 inches
- Drive type: Self-propelled or push
- Fuel capacity: Usually around 1.25 gallons

These specifications may vary slightly depending on the exact model and year of manufacture, so it's essential to refer to your specific manual for accurate details.

Getting Started with Your Craftsman Mower

Before using your Craftsman mower model 917, it's crucial to familiarize yourself with the controls and features outlined in the manual.

Controls Overview

The controls on your mower may include:

- Throttle control: Regulates engine speed.
- Choke lever: Used to start a cold engine.
- Height adjustment lever: Changes the cutting height.
- Self-propelled drive control (if applicable): Engages the mower's drive system.

Understanding these controls will help you operate your mower more effectively.

Starting Your Mower

To start your Craftsman mower model 917, follow these steps:

1. Ensure the area is clear of debris and obstacles.
2. Check the oil level and add oil if necessary.

3. Fill the fuel tank with fresh gasoline.
4. Set the throttle to the "Fast" position.
5. Engage the choke (if the engine is cold).
6. Pull the starter rope briskly or turn the ignition key (depending on the model).
7. Once started, gradually disengage the choke.

Always refer to your manual for specific starting instructions, as they may vary based on the mower's features.

Maintenance Tips for Longevity

Regular maintenance is vital to keep your Craftsman mower running smoothly. Here are some essential maintenance tasks to perform:

Routine Maintenance Checklist

- Check and change the oil every 25 hours of operation or at least once per season.
- Inspect and replace the air filter as needed.
- Sharpen the mower blades at least once a season.
- Clean the deck and undercarriage after each use to prevent grass buildup.
- Check and maintain tire pressure for optimal performance.
- Inspect spark plug condition and replace if necessary.

Performing these maintenance tasks can help prevent common issues and extend the life of your mower.

Seasonal Maintenance

At the end of the mowing season, consider the following seasonal maintenance tasks:

1. Winterization: Drain the fuel tank and run the engine until it runs out of fuel to prevent gum buildup.
2. Storage: Store your mower in a dry, sheltered location. Consider using a

cover to protect it from dust and moisture.

3. Battery Care: If your mower has a battery, check its charge and store it in a warm place.

These steps will prepare your mower for the next season and ensure it's ready to perform when you need it.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

Despite proper care, you may encounter issues with your Craftsman mower model 917. Here are some common problems and their solutions:

Engine Won't Start

If your mower won't start, consider the following:

- Check the fuel: Ensure you have fresh gasoline in the tank.
- Inspect the spark plug: Remove the spark plug and check for wear or damage. Clean or replace if necessary.
- Examine the battery (if applicable): Ensure the battery is charged and the connections are tight.

Uneven Cutting

If you notice uneven cutting, try these solutions:

- Check the blade sharpness: Dull blades can result in uneven cutting. Sharpen or replace as needed.
- Adjust the cutting height: Make sure all wheels are set to the same cutting height.

Excessive Vibration

Excessive vibration can indicate several issues:

- Check for loose bolts: Tighten any loose bolts on the mower.
- Inspect the blades: Dented or bent blades can cause vibration. Replace if necessary.

If problems persist after attempting these troubleshooting tips, consult your Craftsman mower model 917 manual for more detailed instructions or seek professional assistance.

Safety Precautions

Safety should always be a priority when operating any lawn mower. Here are some important safety tips to follow:

- Wear appropriate clothing, including closed-toe shoes, long pants, and safety glasses.
- Keep children and pets away from the mowing area.
- Never operate the mower while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Always check the area for debris before mowing.
- Do not remove safety guards or disable safety features.

Following these safety precautions will help ensure a safe and effective mowing experience.

Conclusion

The **Craftsman mower model 917 manual** is a vital resource that can help you maximize your mower's performance and ensure safe operation. By understanding the mower's specifications, following the operating instructions, adhering to maintenance schedules, troubleshooting common issues, and observing safety guidelines, you can enjoy a well-maintained lawn mower that serves you effectively for years to come. Always refer to your specific model's manual for the most accurate and detailed information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find the owner's manual for Craftsman mower model 917?

You can find the owner's manual for Craftsman mower model 917 on the official Craftsman website or through online resources like ManualsLib or eBay.

What are the common maintenance tips for a Craftsman mower model 917?

Common maintenance tips include regular oil changes, air filter replacements, sharpening the blades, and checking the spark plug and battery regularly.

How do I troubleshoot starting issues with my Craftsman mower model 917?

To troubleshoot starting issues, ensure the battery is charged, check the fuel level, inspect the spark plug for damage, and make sure the mower is in 'Park' or 'Neutral' if equipped with a safety switch.

What is the cutting height adjustment procedure for Craftsman mower model 917?

To adjust the cutting height on Craftsman mower model 917, locate the adjustment lever or knob, select your desired height setting, and ensure all wheels are set to the same height for an even cut.

What type of oil is recommended for Craftsman mower model 917?

The recommended oil for Craftsman mower model 917 is SAE 30 for warmer temperatures and SAE 5W-30 for colder conditions. Always check the owner's manual for specific guidelines.

How often should I replace the blades on my Craftsman mower model 917?

You should replace the blades on your Craftsman mower model 917 at least once a season, or more frequently if you notice uneven cutting or damage.

What safety features are included in Craftsman mower model 917?

Craftsman mower model 917 typically includes safety features such as a blade brake, safety switch under the seat, and a discharge guard to prevent debris from flying out.

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