

Owner's Manual



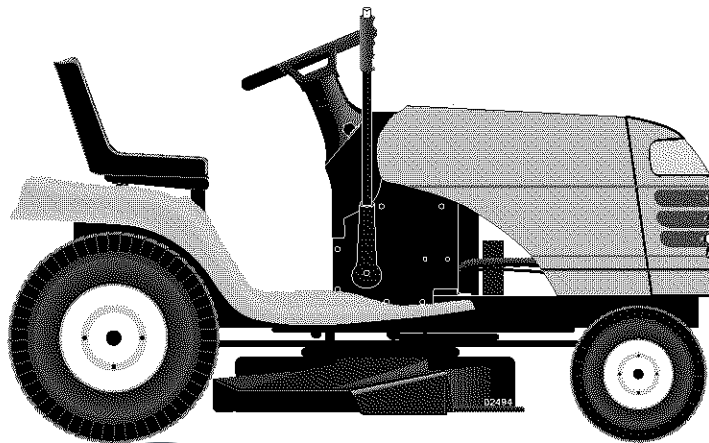
# LAWN TRACTOR

21.0 HP, 42" Mower

Electric Start

Automatic Transmission

Model No.  
**917.273520**



  **DOWNLOAD**  operates differently than you start the engine, read and understand this Owner's Manual.

**IMPORTANT:**  
Read and follow all Safety Rules and Instructions before operating this equipment.

For answers to your questions about this product, Call:  
**1-800-659-5917**  
Sears Craftsman Help Line  
5 am - 5 pm, Mon - Sat

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179 U.S.A  
Visit our Craftsman website: [www.sears.com/craftsman](http://www.sears.com/craftsman)

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## WARRANTY

### LIMITED WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN RIDING EQUIPMENT

For two (2) years from the date of purchase, if this Craftsman Riding Equipment is maintained, lubricated and tuned up according to the instructions in the owner's manual, Sears will repair or replace free of charge any parts that are found to be defective in material or workmanship according to the guidelines of coverage listed below. Sears will also provide free labor for these applicable warranted parts for the two full years. During the first 30 days of purchase, there will be no charges to service the product at your home for issues covered by this warranty. (See exclusions below). For your convenience, IN HOME warranty service will still be available after the first 30 days of purchase, but a trip charge will apply. This charge will be waived if the Craftsman product is dropped off at an authorized Sears location. For the nearest authorized Sears location, please call 1-800-4-MY-HOME®. This warranty applies only while this product is within the United States.

This Warranty does not cover:

- Expendable items which become worn during normal use, including but not limited to blades, spark plugs, air cleaners, belts, and oil filters.
- Standard Maintenance Servicing, oil changes, or tune-ups
- Tire replacement or repair caused by punctures from outside objects, such as nails, thorns, stumps, or glass.  
Repairs necessary because of operator abuse, including but not limited to, damage caused by towing objects beyond the capability of the riding equipment, impacting objects that bend the frame or crankshaft, or over-speeding the engine.
- Repairs necessary because of operator negligence, including but not limited to, electrical and mechanical damage caused by improper storage, failure to use the proper grade and amount of engine oil, failure to keep the deck clear of flammable debris, or failure to maintain the equipment according to the instructions contained in the owner's manual.
- Engine (fuel system) cleaning or repairs caused by fuel determined to be contaminated or oxidized (stale). In general, fuel should be used within 30 days of its purchase date.
- Normal deterioration and wear of the exterior finishes, or product label replacement.
- Riding equipment used for commercial or rental purposes.

### LIMITED WARRANTY ON BATTERY

For ninety (90) days from date of purchase, if any battery included with this riding equipment proves defective in material or workmanship and our testing determines the battery will not hold a charge, Sears will replace the battery at no charge. During the first 30 days of purchase, there will be no charges to replace the battery at your HOME. After the first 30 days, for your convenience, IN-HOME warranty service will still be available but a trip charge will apply. This charge will be waived if the Craftsman product is dropped off at an authorized Sears location. For the nearest authorized Sears location, please call 1-800-4-MY-HOME®.

This battery warranty applies only while this product is within the United States.

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

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Dept. 817WA, Hoffman Estates, IL 60179

# SAFETY RULES

**IMPORTANT:** This cutting 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.

**⚠WARNING:** In order to prevent accidental starting when setting up, transporting, adjusting or making repairs, always disconnect spark plug wire and place wire where it cannot contact spark plug.

**⚠WARNING:** Do not coast down a hill in neutral, you may lose control of the tractor.

**⚠WARNING:** Tow only the attachments that are recommended by and comply with specifications of the manufacturer of your tractor. Use common sense when towing. Operate only at the lowest possible speed when on a slope. Too heavy of a load, while on a slope, is dangerous. Tires can lose traction with the ground and cause you to lose control of your tractor.

**⚠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 birth defects or other reproductive harm. **Wash hands after handling.**

## I. GENERAL OPERATION

- Read, understand, and follow all instructions in the manual and on the machine before starting.
- Only allow responsible adults, who are familiar with the instructions, to operate the machine.
- Clear the area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, etc., which could be picked up and thrown by the blade.
- Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
- Never carry passengers.
- Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while backing.

- Be aware of the mower discharge direction and do not point it at anyone. Do not operate the mower without either the entire grass catcher or the guard in place.
- Slow down before turning.
- Never leave a running machine unattended. Always turn off blades, set parking brake, stop engine, and remove keys before dismounting.
- Turn off blades when not mowing.
- Stop engine before removing grass catcher or unclogging chute.
- Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
- Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
- Use extra care when loading or unloading the machine into a trailer or truck.
- Data indicates that operators, age 60 years and above, are involved in a large percentage of riding mower-related injuries. These operators should evaluate their ability to operate the riding mower safely enough to protect themselves and others from serious injury.
- Keep machine free of grass, leaves or other debris build-up which can touch hot exhaust / engine parts and burn. Do not allow the mower deck to plow leaves or other debris which can cause build-up to occur. Clean any oil or fuel spillage before operating or storing the machine. Allow machine to cool before storage.

## II. SLOPE OPERATION

Slopes are a major factor related to loss-of-control and tipover accidents, which 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.

# SAFETY RULES

## DO:

- Mow up and down slopes, not across.
- Remove obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc.
- Watch for holes, ruts, or bumps. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. *Tall grass can hide obstacles.*
- Use slow speed. Choose a low gear so that you will not have to stop or shift while on the slope.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.
- Use extra care with grass catchers or other attachments. These can change the stability of the machine.
- Keep all movement on the slopes *slow* and *gradual*. Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction.
- Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly *straight* down the slope.

## DO NOT:

- *Do not* turn on slopes unless necessary, and then, turn slowly and gradually downhill, if possible.
- *Do not* mow near drop-offs, ditches, or embankments. The mower could suddenly turn over if a wheel is over the edge of a cliff or ditch, or if an edge caves in.
- *Do not* mow on wet grass. Reduced traction could cause sliding.
- *Do not* try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.
- *Do not* use grass catcher on steep slopes.

## III. CHILDREN

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. *Never* assume that children will remain where you last saw them.

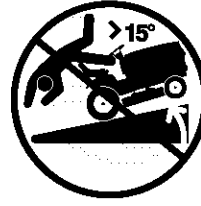
- Keep children out of the mowing area and under the watchful care of another responsible adult.
- Be alert and turn machine off if children enter the area.
- Before and when backing, look behind and *down* for small children.

- Never carry children. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe machine operation.
- Never allow children to operate the machine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.

## IV. SERVICE

- Use extra care in handling gasoline and other fuels. They are flammable and vapors are explosive.
  - Use only an approved container.
  - Never remove gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow engine to cool before refueling. Do not smoke.
  - Never refuel the machine indoors.
  - Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, such as a water heater.
- Never run a machine inside a closed area.
- Keep nuts and bolts, especially blade attachment bolts, tight and keep equipment in good condition.
- Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.
- Keep machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean oil or fuel spillage. Allow machine to cool before storing.
- Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair, if necessary, before restarting.
- Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine running.
- Grass catcher components are subject to wear, damage, and deterioration, which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. Frequently check components and replace with manufacturer's recommended parts, when necessary.
- Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.
- Check brake operation frequently. Adjust and service as required.

## SAFETY RULES



- Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
- Never carry passengers or children even with the blades off.
- Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while backing.
- Never carry children. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe machine operation.
- Keep children out of the mowing area and under the watchful care of another responsible adult.
- Be alert and turn machine off if children enter the area.
- Before and when backing, look behind and down for small children.
- Mow up and down slopes (15° Max), not across.
- Remove obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc.
- Watch for holes, ruts, or bumps. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. Tall grass can hide obstacles.
- Use slow speed. Choose a low gear so that you will not have to stop or shift while on the slope.
- Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly straight down the slope.
- If machine stops while going uphill, disengage blades, shift into reverse and back down slowly.
- Do not turn on slopes unless necessary, and then, turn slowly and gradually downhill, if possible.



Thank you very much  
for your reading.  
Please click here  
to get more information.