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This 21-in self-propelled, variable-speed front wheel drive is ideal for smaller yards and allows you to mow at your own pace. Its 163cc Briggs and Stratton® engine features one-step starting, no priming needed.. A 3-in-1 deck allows you to discharge, mulch to help put nutrients back in your soil for a healthier lawn, or use the 1.9 bushel Dust Blocker
bag for easy clean up or composting while reducing in-air dust and debris. The 11-in rear wheels provide improved maneuverability on any terrain and the dual-lever, 6 position height adjustment makes it easy for you to change the cutting height while mowing. Proudly made in the USA with global materials in tupelo, mississippi Powerful engine: no
prime, no choke, and never change the oil with the powerful 163cc briggs & stratton engine featuring readystart and just check and add Self-propelled variable speed: front wheel drive allows you to mow at your own pace Added maneuverability: 11-in rear wheels provide more maneuverability on any terrain Mowing convenience: 21-in 3-in-1
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Deck wash port: connect to a standard garden hose to clean out grass clippings from underneath the mowing deck Height adjustment: dual-lever, 6 position height adjustment makes it easy to change cutting heights from 1.25-in to 3.75-in high Cordless or Corded: Number of Pieces: Power Source: Warranty: Includes: (1) Cmxgmam1125502 Self-
Propelled Mower 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 CRAFTSMAN M230 - Front Wheel Drive Self-Propelled Lawn Mower Manual IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, CONTACT US. 1-888-331-4569 WWW.CRAFTSMAN.COM Before using this equipment, read the manual and follow all safety rules and operating instructions
SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS. NOTE: This Operator's Manual covers several models. Features may vary by model. Not all features in this manual are applicable to all models and the model depicted may differ from yours. Form No. 769-19555A (December 11, 2018) SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS 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 may result in personal injury. When you see this symbol, HEED ITS WARNING! 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 fingers, hands, toes and feet and throwing debris. Failure to observe the following safety instructions could result in serious injury or death.
CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 Engine Exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. 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! Read this operator's manual carefully in its entirety before attempting to assemble this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference and for
ordering replacement parts Be completely familiar with the controls and the proper use of this machine is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore, exercise extreme caution at all times. This machine has been designed to perform one job: to mow grass. Do not use it for any other purpose.
Never allow children under 14 years of age to operate this machine. Children 14 and over should be trained and supervised by an adult. Only responsible individuals who are familiar with these rules of safe operation should be allowed to
use this machine. Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used. Remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones, toys and other foreign objects, which could be tripped over or picked up and thrown by the blade. Thrown objects can cause serious personal injury. 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. To help avoid blade contact or a thrown object injury, stay in operator zone behind handles and keep children, bystanders, helpers and pets at least 75 feet from mower while it is in
operation. Stop machine if anyone enters area. Always wear safety glasses or safety glasses or safety glasses or safety glasses or safety goggles during operation and while performing an adjustment or repair to protect your eyes. Thrown objects which ricochet can cause serious injury to the eyes. Wear sturdy, rough-soled work shoes and close-fitting slacks and shirts. Shirts and pants that cover the
arms and legs and steel-toed shoes are recommended. Never operate this machine in bare feet, sandals, slippery or light-weight (e.g. canvas) shoes. Do not put hands or feet near rotating parts or under the cutting deck. Contact with blade can amputate fingers, hands, toes and feet. A missing or damaged discharge cover can cause blade contact or
thrown object injuries. Many injuries occur as a result of the mower being pulled over the foot during a fall caused by slipping or tripping. Do not hold on to the mower back toward you while you are walking. If you must back the mower away from a wall or obstruction first look
down and behind to avoid tripping and then follow these steps: Step back from mower to fully extend you. Repeat these steps as needed. Do not operate the mower while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Do not
engage the self-propelled mechanism on machines so equipped while starting engine. The blade control handle is a safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. The blade control handle must operate easily in both directions
and automatically return to the disengaged position when released. Never operate the mower in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing, release the blade control handle immediately and the blade will stop rotating within three seconds. Mow only in daylight or
good artificial light. Walk, never run. Stop the engine and check immediately for the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass Bagger
or unclogging the chute. The cutting blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the blade control is released. Never place any part of the body in the blade area until you are sure the blade control handle or other safety protective
devices in place and working. Never operate mower with damaged safety devices. Failure to do so can result in personal injury. Muffler and engine become hot and can cause a burn. Do not touch. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running. Only use parts and accessories made for this machine by the
manufacturer. Failure to do so can result in personal injury. When starting engine, pull cord slowly until resistance is felt, then pull rapidly. Rapid retraction of starter cord (kickback) will pull hand and arm toward engine faster than you can let go. Broken bones, fractures, bruises or sprains could result. If situations occur which are not covered in
this manual, use care and good judgement. Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents, which can result in severe injury. Operation on slopes requires extra caution. The machine is heavy and can speed up when going downhill. Be prepared to maintain control of the machine. If you feel uneasy on a slope, do not mow it. For your safety,
use the slope gauge included as part of this manual to measure slopes; never up and down to avoid loss of control. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes; turn uphill not down. Watch
for holes, ruts, rocks, hidden objects, or bumps which can cause you to slip or trip. Tall grass can hide obstacles. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury. If you feel you are losing your balance, release the blade control handle immediately and the blade will stop rotating within three (3) seconds. Do Not: Do not
mow near drop-offs, ditches or embankments, because you could lose your footing or balance. Do not mow on wet grass. Unstable footing could cause slipping. CHILDREN Tragic accidents can occur if the operator is not alert to the presence of children. Children are often
attracted to the mower and the mowing activity. They do not understand the dangers. Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them. Keep children out of the mowing area and under watchful care of a responsible adult other than the operator. Be alert and turn mower off if a child enters the area. Before and while moving
backwards, look behind and down for small children. Use extreme care when approaching blind corners, doorways, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure your vision of a child who may run into the mower. Keep children away from hot or running engines. They can suffer burns from a hot muffler. Never allow children under 14 years of age
to operate this machine. Children 14 and over should read and understand the instructions and safe operation practices in this manual and on the machine and be trained and supervised by an adult. SERVICE Safe Handling of Gasoline: To avoid personal injury or property damage use extreme care in handling gasoline. Gasoline is extremely
flammable and the vapors are explosive. Serious personal injury can occur when gasoline is spilled on yourself or your clothes which can ignite. Wash your skin and change clothes immediately. Use only an approved gasoline is spilled on yourself or your skin and change clothes immediately. Use only an approved gasoline is spilled on yourself or your skin and change clothes immediately.
ground away from your vehicle before filling. Remove gas-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment on a trailer with a portable container, rather than from a gasoline dispenser nozzle. Keep the 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. Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition. Never fuel machine indoors because flammable vapors will accumulate in the area. Never remove gas cap or add fuel while engine is hot or running. Allow engine to cool at least two minutes before refueling.
Never over-fill fuel tank. To allow for expansion of the fuel, do not fill above the bottom of the fuel container near an open flame, spark
or pilot light as on a water heater, space heater, furnace, clothes dryer or other gas appliances. To reduce fire hazard, keep machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean up oil or fuel spillage and remove any fuel-soaked debris. Allow machine to cool at least 5 minutes before storing. General Service: Never run an engine indoors or in
a poorly ventilated area. Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odorless and deadly gas. Before cleaning, repairing, or inspecting, make certain the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire and ground against the engine to prevent unintended starting. Check the blade and engine mounting bolts at frequent
intervals for proper tightness. Also, visually inspect blade for damage (e.g., bent, cracked, worn). Replace blade with the original equipment manufacture's (O.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment manufacture's (o.E.M.) blade only.
the blade or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition. Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly. After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, disconnect the spark plug wire and ground against the engine.
Thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage. Repair the damage before starting and operating the mower. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running. Grass Bagger components, discharge cover, and trail shield 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. Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment specifications may lead to improper performance and compromise safety! Do not change the engine's governor setting or over-speed the engine. The
governor controls the maximum safe operating speed of the engine. Check fuel line, tank, cap, and fittings frequently for cracks or leaks. Replace if necessary. Observe proper disposal laws and regulations. Improper disposal of fluids and
ensure that all mechanical and safety systems are working properly and not worn excessively. Failure to do so can result in accidents, injuries or death. DO NOT MODIFY ENGINE To avoid serious injury or death, do not modify engine and cause it to operate at unsafe
speeds. Never tamper with factory setting of engine governor. NOTICE REGARDING EMISSIONS Engines which are certified to comply with California and federal EPA emission regulations for SORE (Small Off Road Equipment) are certified to operate on regular unleaded gasoline, and may include the following emission control systems: Engine
BYSTANDERS Do not mow when children or others are around. HAND/ FOOT CUT Keep hands and feet away from rotating parts. THROWN DEBRIS Remove objects that can be thrown by the blade in any direction. Wear safety glasses. SLOPES Use extra caution on slopes. The machine is heavy and can speed up when going downhill. Be prepared to
Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odorless and deadly gas. Engine parts, especially the muffler, become extremely hot during operation. Allow engine and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual
and on the machine. SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS! SLOPE GAUGE USE THIS SLOPE GAUGE TO DETERMINE IF A SLOPE IS TOO STEEP FOR SAFE OPERATION! To check the slope, proceed as follows: Remove this page and fold along the dashed line. Locate a vertical object on or behind the slope (e.g. a pole, building, fence, tree, etc.) Align
either side of the slope gauge with the object (See Figure 2 and Figure 2). Adjust gauge up or down until the left corner touches the slope is too steep for safe operation (See Figure 2 above) Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents which can result in severe
injury or death. The machine is heavy and can speed up when going downhill. Be prepared to maintain control of the machine on slopes in excess of 15 degrees. ASSEMBLY This unit is shipped without gasoline or oil in the
engine. Be certain to service engine with gasoline and oil as instructed in the Operation section of the Engine Manual before starting or running your machine. NOTE: Reference to right and left hand side of the Lawn Mower is observed from the operating position. Unpacking Opening Carton Cut each corner of the carton vertically from top to
packing material which may be between upper and lower handles. Perform one of the following according to handles shown in Figure 1 or Figure 2: Handles with Knob and Carriage Bolts. Perform one of the following according to handles shown in Figure 2: Handles with Knob and Carriage Bolts. The EZ-Fold handles elevers are
shipped in the unlocked positions. See Figure 2. Proceed to Step 3. While stabilizing mower so it doesn't move, lift the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the handle up. NOTE: EZ-Fold handles only - When lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the handle up. NOTE: EZ-Fold handles only - When lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the handle up. NOTE: EZ-Fold handles only - When lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 3. Do not crimp cable while lifting the upper handle up as shown in Figure 
inset. Perform one of the following to secure the upper handle to the lower handle: Handles with Knob and Carriage Bolts - Reattach knobs and carriage bolts removed in Step 2a into lower handle to the lower handle brackets as shown
in Figure 6. Follow the steps below to complete handle assembly: Pull upward on the handle until holes in lower handle (shown in Figure 6 deck cutaway) line up with holes in handle all the way out. Insert the T-bolts removed in Step 2 through the handle
brackets and lower handle and tighten securely to secure the handle in place. See Figure 7. The rope guide is attached to the right side of the upper handle. Slowly pull starter rope handle from engine and slip starter rope into the rope
guide. See Figure 8. Tighten rope guide wing knob. Use cable ties provided to secure blade control and drive cables to lower handle as shown in Figure 8. To reduce wear and allow for proper operation, make sure to leave some slack in the upper portion of the cable(s). Attaching the Grass Catcher Follow steps below to assemble the grass catcher
Make certain bag is turned right side out before assembling (warning label will be on the outside). Place bag over frame so that its black plastic channel of grass bag over hooks on the frame. See Figure 9. Follow steps below to attach grass catcher: Lift rear discharge door. Place grass catcher into the slots in the
handle brackets as shown in Figure 10. Let go of discharge door so that it rests on the grass catcher. To remove grass catcher, lift rear discharge door to allow it to close rear opening of mower. Your mower is shipped as a mulcher. To convert to
side discharge, make sure grass catcher is off of the unit and rear discharge door is closed. On the side of the mower, lift the mulching cover assembly. Lower mulching cover at any time, even when you are not mulching cover. See Figure 11. Slide two hooks of side discharge cover under hinge pin on mulching cover at any time, even when you are not mulching cover.
Installing/Removing Battery Pack (if equipped) Read all safety warnings, instructions, and cautionary markings for the battery pack, charge the
battery fully before first use. Refer to instructional manual supplied with battery charger for charging, maintenance and battery box cover. Insert the battery pack into the battery box. An audible "click" will be heard when the battery is properly
connected. Close the battery box cover. To remove the battery box cover. Press the battery box cover. P
wheel. Pull the height adjustment lever outward towards wheel (unit will tend to fall when lever is moved outward). See Figure 13. Move lever to desired position. For rough or uneven lawns, move each height adjustment lever to
a higher position. This will prevent you from cutting the grass too close to the ground. Handle Pitch (If Equipped) For convenience of operation, you may adjust the pitch of the handle. Perform one of the following: Handle in one of the
three positions that is most comfortable. See Figure 15 Place the release levers in the unlocked positions. Move the upper handle to align the position indicator with the most comfortable of the three handle positions. Place the release
levers in the locked positions. Drive Control (If Equipped) The adjustment wheel is located in the drive control engaged or if the mower's wheels hesitate with the drive control engaged. If
either of these conditions occur, rotate adjustment wheel clockwise to tighten cable or counterclockwise to loosen the upper handle to operate the unit. Release it to stop engine and blade. This blade control is a safety
device. Never attempt to bypass its operation. Drive Control - Bail or Single Lever (If Equipped) The drive; release it to slow down or stop mower from propelling. Drive Control - Dual Lever (If Equipped) The drive
controls are located on top of the upper handle and are used to engage the drive; release it/them to slow down or stop mower from propelling. Electric Starter Push Key (If Equipped) The electric starter push key is located on the right side of the upper
handle. It is both a removable key and push button and is only provided on electric start models. Cutting Height Adjustment lever one adjustment lever a uniform cut. To adjust the cutting height, refer to the Assembly
Section. Your mower is shipped as a mulcher. To discharge cover. Keep hands and feet away from the chute area on cutting deck. Refer to warning label on the unit. Grass Catcher (If Equipped) The grass catcher, located at the rear of
the mower, is used to bag the grass clippings for disposal at another site. Once the bag is full, remove it up through the handles and empty it before any further mowing. Mulch Cover (If Equipped) The mulch cover is used for mulching purposes. Instead of collecting the grass clippings in a grass catcher or using the side discharge chute, some mower
models have the option of recirculating the clippings back to the lawn. This is called mulching. Trail Shield (If Equipped) The trail shield is attached to the rear of the mower and is there to protect the operator from flying debris. Do not use the mower unless the shield is fully functional and in place. Your mower's deck is equipped with a water port on
its surface as part of its deck wash system. Use the deck wash to rinse grass clippings from the deck's underside. Recoil starter rope to start the unit. Oil Fill Cap/Dipstick Refer to the Engine Operator's Manual packed with your mower for detailed
oil filling, checking and changing instructions. Use extreme care when handling gasoline. Gasoline is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive. Never fuel the machine indoors or while the engine is hot or running. Extinguish cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition. Refer to the separate Engine Operator's Manual for additional
engine information. This unit is shipped without gasoline or oil in the engine. Be certain to service engine with gasoline as instructed in the separate Engine Operator's Manual. Service the engine with gasoline as instructed in
the separate Engine Operator's Manual. Checking Battery Pack Charge (if equipped) Read all safety warnings, instructions may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury. Refer to instructional manual supplied with battery
charger for charging, maintenance and battery disposal instructions. Press the battery gauge button on front of the battery gauge will light to show charge level. Discharged Battery - One to three lights of the battery pack to check charge level. See Figure 19: Charged Battery - One to three lights of the battery gauge will light to show charge level. Discharged Battery - One to three lights of the battery pack to check charge level.
battery charger for charging instructions. To Start Engine Be sure no one other than the operator is standing near the lawn mower while starting engine or operating mower. Never run engine indoors or in enclosed, poorly ventilated areas. Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odorless and deadly gas. Keep hands, feet, hair and loose
clothing away from any moving parts on engine and lawn mower. Refer to the Engine Operator's Manual for instructions on starter cord (kickback). Rapid retraction can pull hand arm toward engine faster than you can let go, and result in
broken bones, fractures, bruises or sprains. To Stop Engine Release blade control to stop the engine and blade. Wait for the blade to stop completely before performing any work on the mower or to remove the grass catcher. Using Your Lawn Mower Be sure lawn is clear of stones, sticks, wire, or other objects which could damage lawn mower or
engine. Such objects could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator and others. Perform one of the following: Bail and Single Lever Drive Controls Once the engine is
running and while continuing to hold the blade control down, squeeze either (or both) drive speed, move speed, move speed control to the desired speed. NOTE: When selecting a drive speed until you are comfortable and familiar with the operation of the mower. If
you are shifting speeds while the mower is stationary it may be difficult to shift into first speed under certain conditions. This is easily remedied by briefly engaging the drive lever. The operation of any lawn mower can result in foreign objects being thrown into the eyes, which can damage your eyes severely. Always wear safety glasses while
operating the mower, or while performing any adjustments or repairs on it. NOTE: Your mower is equipped with an advanced internal drive system for ease of use. When turning or pulling the unit rearward, you may notice higher than normal resistance in the rear wheels under certain conditions. This is perfectly normal and can be remedied by
allowing the unit to roll forward slightly without the drive lever(s) engaged before pulling backwards. Using as Mulcher For mulching grass, remove the grass catcher or side discharge chute from the mower. When you remove the grass catcher or side discharge chute from the mower. When you remove the grass catcher or side discharge chute from the mower. When you remove the grass catcher or side discharge chute from the mower.
close the rear opening of mower. When you remove the side discharge chute, the mulching cover will close. For effective mulching is not recommended. Use the grass catcher to bag clippings instead. Using Grass Catcher (If Equipped) You can use the grass has been allowed to grow in excess of four inches, mulching is not recommended. Use the grass catcher to bag clippings instead. Using Grass Catcher (If Equipped) You can use the grass catcher to bag clippings instead.
catcher to collect clippings while you are operating the mower. Attach grass catcher following instructions in the Assembly section. Grass clippings will automatically collect in bag as you run mower. Operate mower until grass bag is full. Stop engine completely by releasing the blade control. Make sure that the unit has come to a complete stop. Lift
discharge door and pull grass bag up and away from the mower to remove the bag. Dispose of the grass clippings and reinstall the bag when complete. If you strike a foreign object, stop the engine. Disconnect the spark plug wire, thoroughly inspect mower for any damage, and repair damage before restarting and operating. Extensive vibration of
Follow the maintenance schedule given below. This chart describes service guidelines only. Use the Service Center or to schedule service, call the following toll free number: 1-888-331-4569. See the Engine Operator's manual packed with the mower for detailed
instructions on how to perform many of the following maintenance items. Interval Item Service Service Log Each Use Engine oil level Loose or missing hardware Air cleaner *Control linkages/pivots and wheels Underside of mower deck
Clean Lube with light oil Clean Annually or 50 hours Annually Before Storage Run engine until it stops from lack of fuel, or add stabilizer to a full tank of fresh fuel prior to storage. * Clean more often under dusty conditions or when airborne debris is present. Replace air cleaner if very dirty. Always stop engine, allow engine to cool, disconnect spark
plug wire, and ground against engine before performing any type of maintenance on your machine. General Recommendations Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance on your machine. The warranty on this lawn mower does not cover items that have been subjected to operator abuse or negligence. To receive full value from warranty, operator
must maintain the equipment as instructed here. Changing of engine-governed speed will void engine warranty. All adjustments should be checked at least once each season. Periodically check all fasteners and make sure these are tight. Blade Control Lubricate pivot points on the blade control at least once a season with light oil. This control must
operate freely in both directions. See Figure 21. Refer to the Engine Operator's Manual packed with your mower for a detailed description of all engine. Keep linkage, spring, and controls clean. Keep area around and behind
muffler free of any combustible debris. Keeping engine clean allows air movement around engine. Engine parts should be kept clean to reduce the risk of overheating and ignition of accumulated debris. Do not use water to clean underside of the
mower deck once a season to prevent build-up of grass clippings or other debris. Follow steps below for this job. Allow the engine to run until it is out of fuel. Do not attempt to pour fuel from the engine to run until it is out of fuel. Do not attempt to pour fuel from the engine down. Hold
mower firmly. Never tip the mower more than 90° in any direction and do not leave the mower tipped for any length of time. Oil can drain into the upper part of the engine causing a starting problem. Scrape and clean the underside of the deck with a suitable tool. Do not spray with water. Do not use a pressure washer or garden hose to clean your
unit. These may cause damage to bearings, or the engine. The use of water will result in shortened life and reduce serviceability. Put the mower back on its wheels on the ground. Your mower's deck is equipped with a water port on its surface as part of its deck wash system. Use the deck wash to rinse grass clippings from the deck's underside and
prevent the buildup of corrosive chemicals. Complete the following steps AFTER EACH MOWING: Push the mower to a level, clear location on your lawn, near enough for your garden hose to reach. Remove the grass bag if attached. Make certain the mower's discharge chute is directed AWAY from your house, garage, parked cars, etc. Remove the
fast attach deck wash nozzle from the mower deck and thread it onto the end of your garden hose with the deck wash nozzle to the water ON. Start the engine as described in the Operation section. Run the engine for a minimum of two minutes, allowing the underside of
the cutting deck to thoroughly rinse. Release blade control to stop the engine and blade. Turn the water OFF and detach the deck wash nozzle from the water port on your deck's surface. After cleaning your deck, restart the mower. Keep the engine and blade running for a minimum of two minutes, allowing the underside of the cutting deck to
thoroughly dry Blade Care When removing the cutting blade for sharpening or replacement, protect your hands with a pair of heavy gloves or use a heavy rag to hold the blade. Periodically inspect the blade service. Allow the engine
to run until it is out of fuel. Do not attempt to pour fuel from the engine. Disconnect spark plug wire. Refer to Engine Operator's Manual. Turn mower on its side making sure that the air filter and the engine crankshaft. See Figure
23. Remove blade and adapter from the crankshaft. Remove blade from the adapter for testing balance. Balance the blade on a round shaft screwdriver to check. Remove metal from the crankshaft. Remove blade from the blade on a round shaft screwdriver to check. Remove metal from the crankshaft.
unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration when rotating at high speeds. It may cause damage to mower and could break causing personal injury. Lubricate the engine crankshaft. Place the blade on the adapter such that the side of the
blade marked "Grass Side" (or with part number) faces the ground when the mower is in the operating position. Make sure that the blade is aligned and seated on the blade bell support with small holes in blade. Replace hex bolt and tighten hex bolt
to torque: 450 in-lb (min.), 600 in-lb (min.), 600 in-lb (min.). To ensure safe operation of your mower, periodically check the blade bolt for correct torque. Belt Care NOTE: Several components must be removed in order to change the mower's selfpropulsion drive belt. See an authorized Service Center to have your belt replaced. Charging Electric Starter Battery (If
or discharging. Use in a well ventilated area, away from sources of ignition. Read all safety warnings, instructions may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury. OFF-SEASON STORAGE Never store lawn mower with fuel in
tank indoors or in poorly ventilated areas where fuel fumes may reach an open flame, spark, or pilot light as on a furnace, water heater, clothes dryer, or gas appliance. Preparing The Engine For engines stored over 30 days: To prevent gum from forming in fuel system or on carburetor parts, run engine until it stops from lack of fuel or add a gasoline
described in the lubrication instructions. Do not use a pressure washer or garden hose to clean your unit. Coat mower's cutting blade with chassis grease to prevent rusting. When handling the Engine for correct engine storage
instructions. Store mower in a dry, clean area. Do not store next to corrosive materials, such as fertilizer. When storing any type of power equipment in a poorly ventilated or metal storage shed, care should be taken to rust-proof the equipment in a poorly ventilated or metal storage shed, care should be taken to rust-proof the equipment.
before storage. Battery The battery must be stored with a full charge the battery once per month while in storage of a discharged battery will reduce life and capacity of the battery must be stored with a full charge the battery once per month while in storage. Remove electric start push key and keep in a safe place out of the reach of children. Disconnect the spark plug wire
and ground it against the engine to prevent unintended starting. Before performing any type of maintenance/service, disengage all controls and stop the engine. Wait until all moving parts have come to a complete stop. Always wear safety glasses during operation or while performing any adjustments or repairs. This section addresses minor service
issues. To locate the nearest Service Center or to schedule service, call the following toll free number: 1-888-331-4569. Problem Cause Remedy Blade control disconnected. Fuel tank empty or stale fuel. Engage blade
control. Connect wire to spark boot. Fill tank with clean, fresh gasoline. Prime engine as instructed in the Operation section. Clean, adjust gap, or replace. Wait a few minutes to restart. Contact your Parts & Repair Center to have fuel line cleaned. Engine fails to start with electric starter (Electric Start Units Only) Electric Starter Push Key not fully
inserted. Battery not charged. Circuit breaker tripped. Insert key into starter housing until it snaps into place. Charge battery. Refer to Battery Charge Instructional Manual. Debris may be blocking blade operation. Stop engine, remove Electric Starter Push Key, and disconnect spark plug boot. Verify grass or other debris is not obstructing the
blade. Carefully clean out debris if necessary. Reattach spark plug boot and reinsert Electric Starter Push Key. Wait one minute after tripping for circuit breaker to automatically self-reset then reattempt start. Stale fuel. Vent in gas cap plugged. Water or dirt in fuel system. Dirty air cleaner. Blocked fuel line. Connect and tighten spark plug boot. Fill
tank with clean, fresh gasoline. Clear vent. Run engine until it stops from lack of fuel. Refill with fresh fuel. Refer to Air Cleaner Maintenance in the Engine Manual. Contact your Parts & Repair Center to have fuel line cleaned. Engine oil level low. Air flow restricted. Fill crankcase with proper oil. Clean area around and on top of engine. Spark plug
gap too close. Adjust gap. Refer to Spark Plug Maintenance in Engine Manual. Spark plug fouled, faulty, or gap too wide. Dirty air cleaner. Reset gap or replace spark plug. Refer to Air Cleaner Maintenance in the Engine Manual. Cutting blade loose or unbalanced. Bent cutting blade. Tighten blade and adapter. Balance blade. Replace blade. Wet
grass. Excessively high grass. Dull blade. Do not mow when grass is wet; wait until later to cut. Mow once at a high cutting height, then mow again at desired height or make a narrower cutting path. Sharpen or replace blade. Wheels not position.
Sharpen or replace blade. Belt not installed properly. Debris clogging drive operation. Damaged or worn belt. Drive control out of adjustment. Stop engine, disconnect spark plug boot, and clean out debris. Inspect and, if necessary, see your Parts & Repair Center to have belt replaced. Adjust
drive control. Refer to the Assembly & Set-up section. Documents / ResourcesReferences Home | CRAFTSMAN M230 - Front Wheel Drive Self-Propelled Lawn
Mower Manual If you own a Craftsman M230 lawn mower, having access to the owner's manual is essential for safe and effective operation. This guide provides a detailed walkthrough of what you can expect to find in the Craftsman M230 Owner's Manual PDF, ensuring that you get the most out of your machine. The Craftsman M230 is a powerful
and reliable lawn mower designed for efficient grass cutting. In the owner's manual, you will find specifications about its engine, cutting width, and weight. Familiarizing yourself with these details helps ensure that your mower operates smoothly and meets your yard care needs. Safety is paramount when operating any machinery, including your
Craftsman M230. The owner's manual outlines critical safety precautions that every user should follow—such as wearing protective gear, avoiding mowing on wet grass, and keeping children away from the mowing area. Understanding these guidelines can prevent accidents and injuries while using your equipment. Regular maintenance is crucial for
prolonging the life of your lawn mower. The manual includes step-by-step instructions on how to perform routine tasks such as checking oil levels, replacing air filters, sharpening blades, and cleaning under the deck. Following these maintenance tips can enhance performance and efficiency while reducing repair costs over time. Even well-built
machines like the Craftsman M230 can encounter problems from time to time. The owner's manual features a troubleshooting section when problems arise, you can often identify solutions without needing professional assistance. To access the
Craftsman M230 Owner's Manual PDF online, visit the official Craftsman website or check reputable third-party platforms that offer downloadable manuals. Ensure you have access to this important document so you can refer back whenever needed—whether for guidance during operation or for maintaining your machine effectively. In conclusion,
having an understanding of your Craftsman M230 through its owner's manual is indispensable for both new users and seasoned operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections in the manual PDF—from operators alike. By following this walkthrough of key sections are not alike the manual PDF—from operators alike the manual PDF
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