



MODEL NO. 59240—4900001 &amp; UP

# CUSTOMER OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## 48 cm RECYCLER® MOWER CONVERSION KIT

Since this instruction sheet covers only a small part of the information necessary to maintain and operate your mower, we suggest you keep this material with your Operator's Manual so that both may be referred to for instructions concerning safe operation and proper maintenance procedures.

**IMPORTANT:** Your mower has been converted to a Recycler® mower. Make sure that your dealer is aware of this whenever parts are ordered or servicing is required.

### WARNING

This Recycler® Conversion Kit must be installed **ONLY** by an Authorized Toro Service Dealer to ensure that the converted mower meets safety requirements.

## Recycler® Mower Conversion Kit Features

The Toro Recycler® Mower Conversion Kit provides a new and completely different cutting concept that leaves your lawn with a bagged look without bagging clippings.

The kit contains special parts that increase your mower's ability to cut and recut grass clippings, leaves, and other yard debris into tiny particles which are injected down into the grass. These parts are:

- A special blade and blade stiffener
- Four "kicker plates" located on the underside of the mower deck at strategic positions (Fig. 1)
- A plug which fits into the mower's discharge tunnel (Fig. 2).

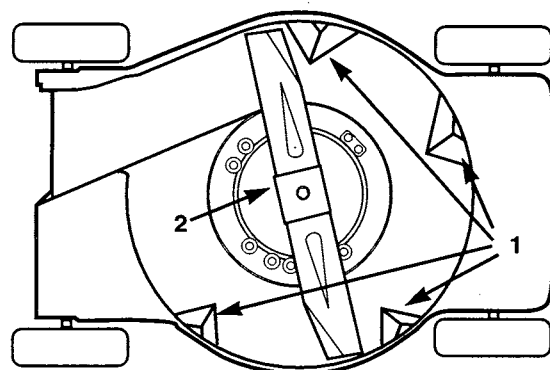


Figure 1

1. Kicker plates      2. Blade stiffener

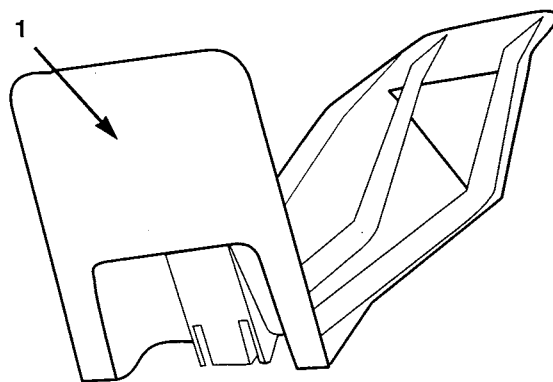


Figure 2

1. Plug

- A Smartwheel™ on the left rear wheel for determining the correct cutting height.

The blade and four kicker plates are permanent parts of your mower. The blade should be removed only for sharpening or replacement. The kickers should never be removed, unless they need to be replaced. They do not interfere with the normal bagging or optional side-discharge operations of the mower.

The plug, however, is a removable part, just as the grass bag. You cannot use the plug with the grass bag.

It is possible to mow without using the plug by closing the discharge tunnel door. However, your lawn's appearance will be more satisfactory if you use the plug because it helps drive the clippings down into the grass. Push the plug all the way into the rear discharge area until it "snaps" in place.

### WARNING

- Grass clippings and other objects can be thrown from an open discharge tunnel.
- Thrown objects can cause serious injury or kill the operator or bystanders.
- Never start or operate the mower unless **one** of the following is true:
  1. The discharge tunnel plug is installed securely in discharge tunnel.
  2. The grass bag is in place.
  3. The discharge tunnel door is completely closed.

### WARNING

- Wet grass can cause you to slip and contact blade.
- Blade contact can seriously injure you.
- Mow only in dry conditions.

## Setting Height of Cut

Toro's exclusive SmartWheel™ (Fig. 3) provides a simple method for determining the correct height of cut. The SmartWheel™ has two cutting scales—SPARSE/NORMAL and LUSH—to ensure the best height-of-cut setting in any mowing condition. Use the SPARSE/NORMAL scale during the warm summer season for most of your mowing. The LUSH scale is for thick, moist, succulent grass that grows most often in the spring.

The SmartWheel™ calculates the correct setting to ensure that no more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the grass blade is cut off.

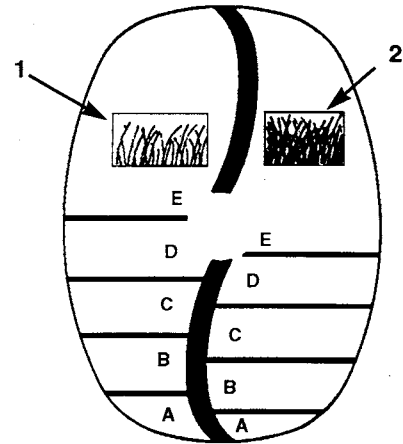


Figure 3

1. Sparse/Normal settings      2. Lush settings

In general we recommend:

- Cutting grass at the C, D or E settings, or **MAINTAINING** grass at 5–8 cm (2–3 inches) in height.
- Not cutting below the C setting unless the grass is sparse or it is late fall when grass growth begins to slow. When cutting long grass, you may need to use a higher height-of-cut setting and a slower walking speed; then recut the grass at a more normal setting. If grass is too long and leaves clumps on top of the lawn, the mower may plug, causing the engine to stall.

### DANGER

- Adjusting height-of-cut levers could bring hands into contact with the moving blade, causing serious personal injury.
  - Do not adjust height-of-cut settings when the engine is running and the blade is rotating.
  - Do not put your fingers under the housing to lift the mower when adjusting height of cut.
1. Before starting the engine and beginning to mow, push the mower into the grass. Stop when the letters on the SmartWheel™ design on the left rear wheel are upright (Fig. 3).
  2. Using the color coded SmartWheel™ design, compare the tips of the grass blades to the colors/letters

on the wheel. Whichever color/letter the tips of the grass blades correspond with is the correct cutting height.

3. Squeeze the mower's height-of-cut lever toward the wheel and move it to the corresponding color/letter on the mower housing (Fig. 4). For easier adjustment, lift the housing up so the wheel is off the ground. **Do not put your fingers under the housing when lifting.** Ensure the pin on the height-of-cut lever engages the slot in the housing. Adjust all wheels to the same color/letter setting.

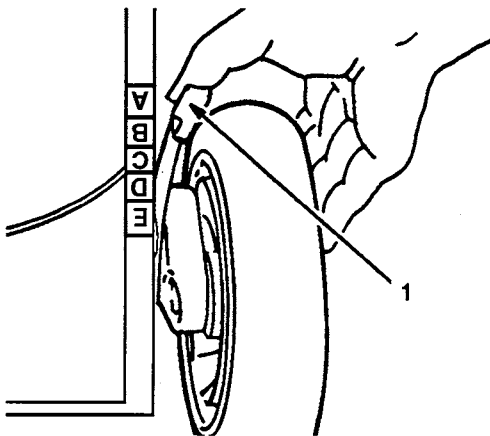


Figure 4

1. Height-of-cut lever

**Note:** The front wheels can be adjusted to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Move the adjusting lever past "A" and release the pin into the slot in the housing. Using the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch height-of-cut setting on a regular basis is **not** recommended.

## Tips For Cutting Grass Clippings

Even with the Recycler® Mower Conversion Kit, you may encounter conditions where it is not possible to always hide all the grass clippings or leaves down in the grass. Follow these instructions for the best cutting results and lawn appearance:

- Maintain a **sharp blade** throughout the cutting season. Periodically file down nicks on blade.
- Clean any residue from the underside of the mower deck, kickers, and plug after each use. See *Cleaning Mower Deck, Discharge Tunnel and Plug*,

page 3.

- When cutting grass over 6" tall, you may want to cut the lawn twice to hide clippings down in the grass.
- In the heat of the summer, it is generally best to cut grass at the C, D or E height-of-cut settings. Only about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the grass blade should be cut. Cutting below the C setting is not recommended unless grass is sparse or it is late fall when grass growth begins to slow down. If long grass must be cut, you may need to use a higher height-of-cut setting and a slower walking speed. Then recut the grass at a more normal setting. If grass is too long and leaves clump on top of grass, the mower may plug and cause the engine to stall.

**NOTE:** When bagging, you can cut grass at any length.

- Alternate the mowing direction. This helps disperse clippings over the lawn for even fertilization.

If the finished cut lawn appearance is unsatisfactory, try one or more of the following:

- Sharpen the blade.
- Walk at a slower pace while mowing.
- Raise the height-of-cut setting on your mower.
- Cut your grass more frequently.
- Overlap cutting swaths instead of cutting a full swath with each pass.
- Mow across the marginal areas a second time.
- Use the grass bag.

## Tips For Cutting Leaves

Instead of bagging leaves in the fall, use your converted mower to cut leaves up into tiny particles which will be injected down into the grass. If you decide to bag, your converted mower reduces the number of leaf bags you will need by finely chopping up the leaves before bag-

will need by finely chopping up the leaves before bagging.

Some leaf particles will be injected back down into the soil. When spring arrives, the leaf particles will have decomposed and restored valuable nutrients to the soil.

- Ensure leaves are dry.
- When cutting is complete, always be sure that 50% of the lawn shows through the cut leaf cover. This may require one or more passes over the leaves.
- Walk at a slower mowing speed if leaves are not cut up finely enough to be hidden down in the grass.
- If you cut up a lot of oak leaves, you might want to add lime to your grass in the spring. Lime reduces the acidity of oak leaves.

## **Cleaning The Mower Underside, Discharge Tunnel And Plug**

Shut off the engine. Wait for all moving parts to stop. Remove the spark plug wire from the spark plug.

To ensure best performance, the discharge tunnel plug must be cleaned after each use. When grass is thick and lush, clippings may collect on and around the plug; this may make plug removal difficult. After each use, remove plug from discharge tunnel and clean off all debris.

Keep the mower's underside clean. Be especially careful to keep the kickers on the mower's underside free of debris (Fig. 1). When tipping the mower, keep the carburetor side up. Avoid rotating the blade as starting problems may result.

### **WARNING**

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  1. The discharge tunnel plug is installed securely in discharge tunnel.
  2. The grass bag is in place.
  3. The discharge tunnel door is completely closed.