



MODEL NO. 51256 – 49000001 & UP  
 MODEL NO. 51326 – 49000001 & UP  
 MODEL NO. 51443 – 49000001 & UP  
 MODEL NO. 51445 – 49000001 & UP

## OPERATOR'S MANUAL

### ELECTRIC TRIMMERS 10 Inch, 12 Inch And 14 Inch Cutting Widths

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



### WARNING

To assure maximum safety, best performance, and to gain knowledge of the product, it is essential that you or any other operator of the trimmer read and understand the contents of this manual before the motor is ever started. Pay particular attention to the safety alert symbol which means CAUTION, WARNING, OR DANGER — “personal safety instruction.” Read and understand the instruction because it has to do with safety. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH INSTRUCTION MAY RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY.

## SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

1. Read and understand the contents of this manual before operating the trimmer. Become familiar with all controls and know how to stop it quickly.
2. Keep everyone, especially children and pets, away from area of operation.
3. Never allow children to operate trimmer. It is not a toy. Never allow adults to operate unit without first reading Operator's Manual.
4. Always wear safety goggles or other suitable eye protection when trimmer is used for trimming or decorative edging.
5. Avoid Dangerous Environment—Never operate the trimmer in wet or damp conditions.
6. Never use trimmer in the rain.
7. Inspect area thoroughly where trimmer will be used. Pick up any debris or objects that could be entangled in trimmer or picked up by trimmer and thrown. Keep area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets.
8. Dress properly—Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry which can be caught in moving parts. Always wear substantial footwear and long pants.
9. Use the right appliance—Do not use the appliance for any job except that for which it was intended such as cutting grass and small weeds.
10. **WARNING**—To reduce the risk of electric shock, use only an extension cord suitable for outdoor use. Replace damaged extension cord immediately.
11. Extension cord—To prevent disconnection of the trimmer from the extension cord during operation, properly connect extension cord prior to operating.
12. Avoid unintentional starting. Be sure switch is off when plugging in. Do not carry plugged-in trimmer with finger on switch.
13. Do not abuse extension cord. Never yank cord to disconnect from receptacle. Keep cord away from heat, oil, and sharp edges. Replace damaged extension cords immediately.
14. Do not force the trimmer. It operates better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.
15. Use only in daylight or with good artificial light. Always be sure of your footing. Keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run.
16. Stop the motor and unplug the extension cord whenever you leave the trimmer, before cleaning the housing, and when making any repairs or inspections.
17. When not in use, store your trimmer in a dry place; high or locked up out of the reach of children.
18. Keep all fasteners tight to insure the trimmer is in safe working condition.
19. Never operate without factory installed guards or other protective safety devices in place.
20. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear at all times.
21. If the trimmer should start to vibrate abnormally, unplug the trimmer and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
22. Do not operate your Toro trimmer after it has been damaged. Return it to your nearest authorized service dealer for inspection and repair.



## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**23.** When servicing use only identical replacement parts. Replace or repair damaged extension cords.

**24. Don't Overreach**—Keep proper footing and balance at all times when operating the trimmer.

**25. Maintain Appliance With Care**—Keep cutting head and motor housing clean for best performance and to reduce the risk of injury. Follow General Maintenance Instructions on page 11.

**26. CAUTION**—Cutting knife on grass shield is sharp and care should be taken when cleaning and handling.

**27. EXTENSION CORD REQUIREMENTS**—Use an extension cord suitable for outdoor use and one that complies with the requirements specified in the International Electric Code. Make sure your cord is in good condition; if damaged, replace. Use a cord that is large enough to carry the current the trimmer will draw. Figure 1 shows the correct size cord to use for trimmers of 6 amps or less.

**Note:** When in doubt about what size extension cord to use, choose the next heavier gauge. The smaller the gauge number, the heavier the cord. An undersized cord causes a drop in line voltage which results in a loss of power and overheating.

See Figures 11 & 12 for proper cord connection.

**EXTENSION CORD CHART**

If length of extension cord is less than or equal to:	100 ft.	150 ft.
Assure wire size gauge (A.W.G.) in cord is:	16	14

**Figure 1**

**Note:** Use of an extension cord over 150 feet is not recommended.



## SAFETY DECALS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Safety and instructional decals are easily visible to the operator and are located near any area of potential danger. Replace any decal that is damaged or lost.

The Toro Company, Minneapolis, MN, U.S.A.  
14" Cut Trimmer Model 51445 LISTED  
120 Volts A.C., 3.7 AMPS, 60Hz 557U

**DOUBLE INSULATED** Mfg. sous les brevets U.S. Nos. 4134204, 4274201, 4224515 & 4707919. Other patents pending.

**ANTICHOOC** Fab. sous les brevets U.S. Nos. 4134204, 4274201, 4224515 & 4707919. Other patents pending.

**WARNING:** OBJECTS CAN BE THROWN BY THE TRIMMER. THROWN OBJECTS COULD CAUSE INJURY TO THE OPERATOR OR BYSTANDERS.  
• Always wear eye & leg protection. • Keep people & pets away from trimming area. PERSONAL INJURY COULD BE CAUSED BY CONTACT WITH ROTATING CUTTING LINE. • Keep all parts of your body clear.  
• Do not operate without grass shield in place. • Unplug unit before cleaning or servicing. • Use only .065" nylon monofilament cutting line. TO AVOID PERSONAL INJURY. • Read & understand operator's manual.  
• To reduce risk of electric shock, do not expose unit to water or operate unit on wet ground. • When servicing use only identical replacement parts. For spool replacement use Toro model 88175. 1 2 3 4

SERIAL NUMBER

The Toro Company, Minneapolis, MN, U.S.A.  
Coupe-bordure 35,5 cm Modèle 51445  
120 Volts C.A., 3,7 AMPS, 60Hz HOMOLOGUE LISTED 557U

**ANTICHOOC** Fab. sous les brevets U.S. Nos. 4134204, 4274201, 4224515 & 4707919. Other patents pending.

**AVERTISSEMENT:** DES OBJETS RISQUENT D'ÊTRE PROJÉTÉS PAR LE COUPE-BORDURE. LES OBJETS PROJÉTÉS PEUVENT CAUSER DES BLESSURES À L'UTILISATEUR OU À D'AUTRES PERSONNES À PROXIMITÉ. • Toujours assurer la protection des yeux et des jambes. • Ne pas tondre à proximité de personnes ou d'animaux domestiques. • TOUJOURS ÉLOIGNER LE FIL DE COUPE ROTATIF PEUT ENTRAÎNER DES BLESSURES. • Maintenir l'appareil éloigné du corps. • Ne pas utiliser si la protection n'est pas installée. • Débrancher l'appareil avant de procéder au nettoyage ou à l'entretien. • Utiliser seulement du fil de coupe en nylon monofilament de 0,17 cm. • POUR ÉVITER LES ACCIDENTS: Lire attentivement et comprendre le manuel de l'opérateur. • Pour réduire le risque d'électrocution, ne pas exposer l'appareil à l'eau et ne pas l'utiliser sur sol humide. • Pour l'entretien, utiliser seulement des pièces de rechange identiques. POUR LE REMPLACEMENT DE LA BOBINE, UTILISER LE MODÈLE TORO 88175.

NUMERO DE SERIE

The Toro Company, Minneapolis, MN, EE.UU.  
Cortadora de 14 pulgadas Modelo 51445  
120 Voltios C.A., 3,7 AMPERIOS, 60Hz LISTADO 557U

**DOBLE AISLACION** Fabricada bajo las patentes estadounidenses números 4134204, 4274201, 4224515 y 4707919. Otras patentes pendientes.

**ADVERTENCIA:** LA CORTADORA PUEDE ARROJAR OBJETOS. LOS OBJETOS ARROJADOS PUEDEN CAUSAR HERIDAS AL OPERADOR O A ESPECTADORES. • Use siempre protectores para los ojos y las piernas. • Mantenga a las personas y animales domésticos lejos del área que está cortando. EL CONTACTO CON LA LÍNEA ROTATIVA DE CORTADO PODRÍA CAUSAR HERIDAS PERSONALES. • Mantenga lejos todas las partes de su cuerpo. • No la haga funcionar sin el protector de césped en su lugar. • Desenchufe la unidad antes de limpiarla o efectuar el mantenimiento. • Use solamente línea de corte de monofilamento de nailon de 0,17 cm. PARA EVITAR LESIONES: • Lea y entienda el manual del operador. • Para reducir el riesgo de electrocución, no exponga la unidad al agua ni la haga funcionar en pisos mojados. • Al realizar reparaciones, use solo repuestos idénticos a las piezas originales. PARA CAMBIAR EL CARRETE USE EL MODELO 88175 DE TORO.

NUMERO DE SERIE

**ON METAL TUBE  
(Part No. 73–9250)**

## PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION AND ORDERING

The trimmer has two identification numbers: a model number and a serial number. The two numbers are on a decal attached to the handle tube assembly. For your convenience, record the model and serial numbers in the space provided below.

**Model No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Serial No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**In any correspondence concerning the trimmer, supply the model and serial numbers to ensure that correct information and replacement parts are obtained.**

To order replacement parts from an Authorized Toro Service Dealer, supply the following information.

1. Model and serial numbers of the trimmer.
2. Part number, description, and quantity of part(s) desired.

**Note:** Do not order by reference number if a parts catalog is being used; use PART NUMBER.

# ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

## LOOSE PARTS BAG CONTENTS

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Wing nut      | (4) Machine screws      |
| (1) Carriage bolt | (4) Nuts                |
|                   | (2) Self-tapping screws |

## TOOLS NEEDED FOR ASSEMBLY

Phillips head screwdriver

## ATTACH HANDLES TO TUBE

Trimmer should appear as shown in Figure 2 when fully assembled.

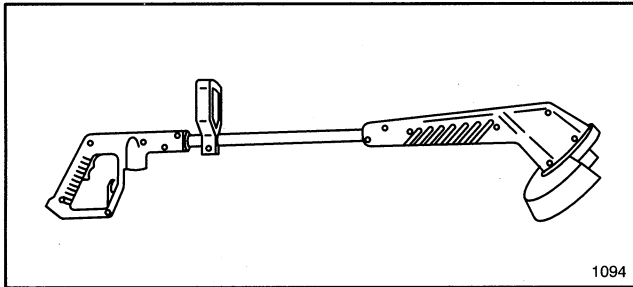


Figure 2

## WARNING

- **Never assemble trimmer if wiring is damaged.**
- **Damaged wiring could cause a shock or fire.**
- **Thoroughly inspect the wiring before assembling trimmer. If wiring is damaged, do not assemble or plug in trimmer. Contact your TORO Authorized Service Dealer.**

1. Slide tube into upper handle, aligning grooves in tube with screw holes in handle (Fig. 3).

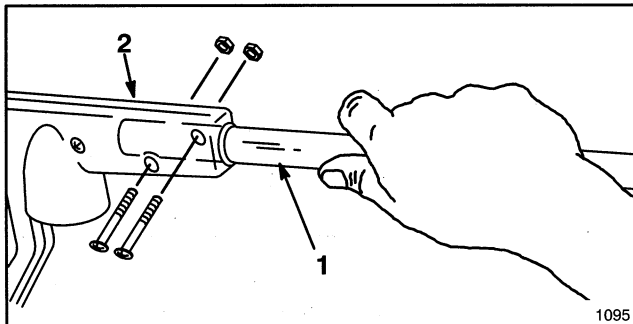


Figure 3

- |         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1. Tube | 2. Upper handle |
|---------|-----------------|

2. Secure handle to tube with (2) two machine screws and (2) two nuts.

**Note:** Insert screws into round holes and nuts into hex shaped holes in handle.

3. Press support handle onto tube with smooth side of support handle facing toward upper handle. Loosely secure support handle to tube with carriage bolt and wing nut (Fig. 4).

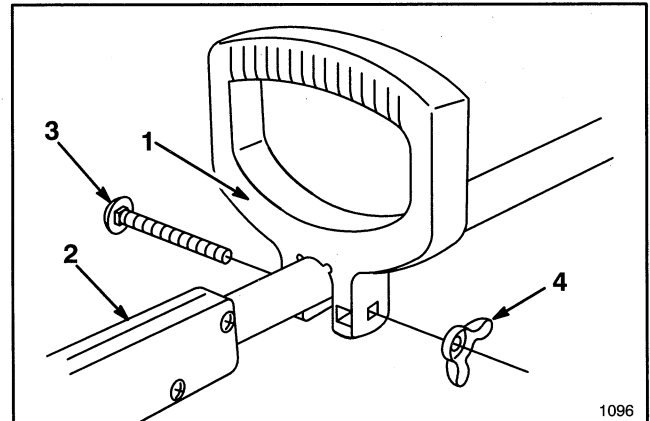


Figure 4

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Smooth side of support handle | 3. Carriage bolt |
| 2. Upper handle                  | 4. Wing nut      |

**Note:** Support handle height may be adjusted by sliding handle up and down tube. When support handle is at desired operating height, tighten wing nut securely.

## ATTACH MOTOR HOUSING TO TUBE

1. Straighten out any kinks in wiring. Push wiring extending out of metal tube down into motor housing until tube is close to housing (Fig. 5).

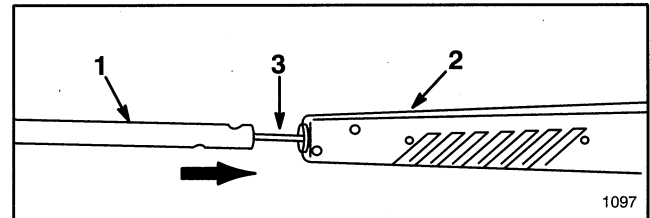


Figure 5

- |                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1. Tube          | 3. Wiring |
| 2. Motor housing |           |

2. Insert tube end into motor housing, aligning grooves in tube with screw holes in motor housing (Fig. 6).

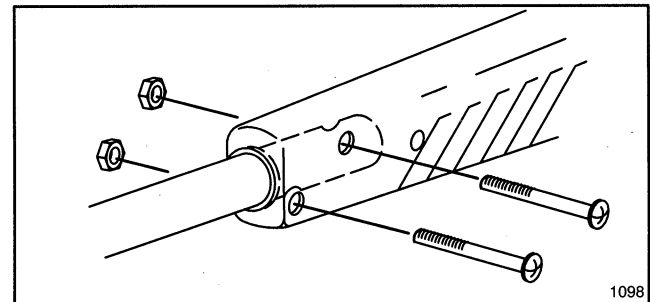


Figure 6

# ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

**Note:** If grooves and holes don't align, make sure tube is fully inserted into hole and motor housing is in line with upper handle as shown in Figure 2.

**3.** Secure motor housing to tube with (2) two machine screws and (2) two nuts.

**Note:** Insert screws into round holes and nuts into hex shaped holes in motor housing.

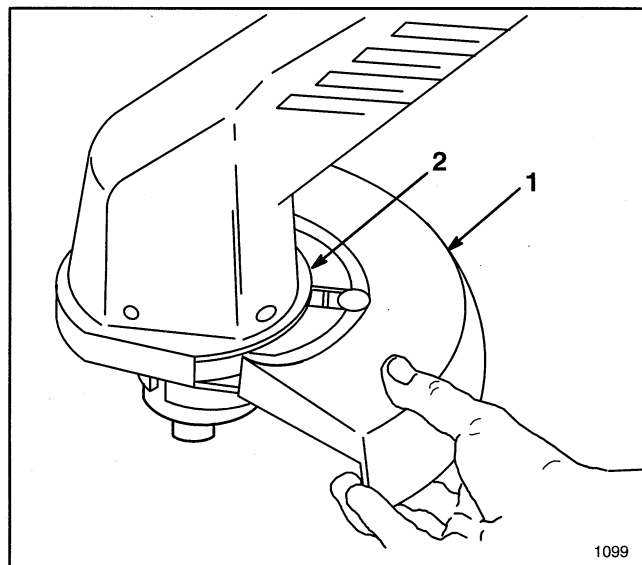
## ATTACH GRASS SHIELD



### CAUTION

- Cutting knife on grass shield is sharp.
- Contact with cutting knife could cause personal injury.
- Be careful when handling shield. Avoid contact with knife blade.

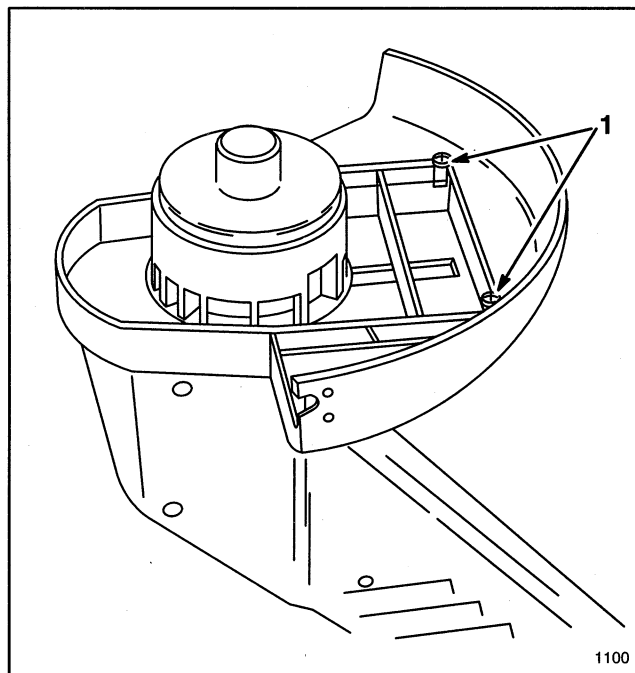
**1.** Fit grass shield into long, curved slot in motor housing (Fig. 7).



**Figure 7**

1. Grass shield      2. Long, curved slot in motor housing

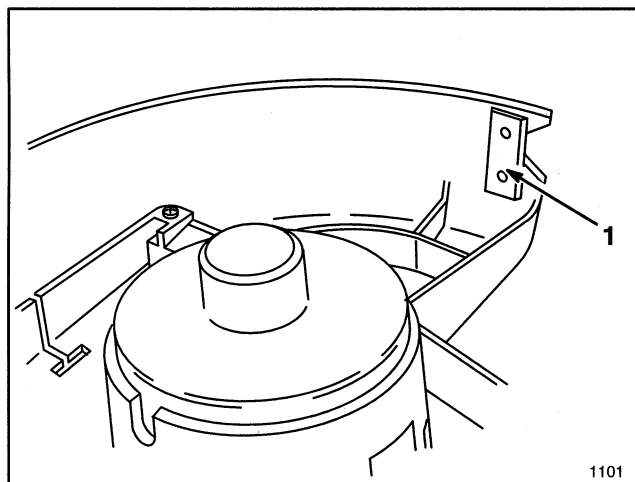
**2.** Invert trimmer and secure grass shield to underside of motor housing with (2) two self-tapping screws (Fig. 8).



**Figure 8**

1. Self-tapping screw (2)

**3.** Remove tape from cutting knife on grass shield (Fig. 9).



**Figure 9**

1. Cutting knife

# BEFORE OPERATING

## CUTTING LINE

**Note:** The cutting line for your trimmer is a special monofilament line. Your trimmer comes complete with a supply of this line already wound onto the spool.

1. To avoid line tangle during shipment, the tip of the monofilament line has been taped to the cutter head. **The tape must be removed before operation** (Fig. 10).



### CAUTION

- Cutting knife on grass shield is sharp.
- Contact with cutting knife could cause personal injury.
- Be careful when handling shield. Avoid contact with knife blade.

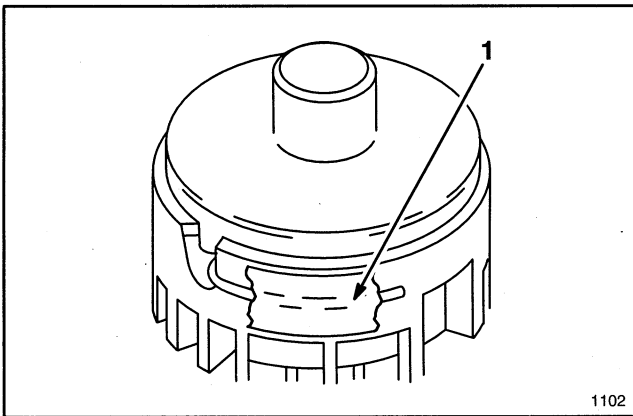


Figure 10

1. Line taped to cutter head

## SECURING EXTENSION CORD

**Note:** The proper extension cord is a requirement for safe and efficient use of your Toro trimmer. Use only a UL listed extension cord recommended for outdoor use. Refer to Extension Cord Chart on page 2.

1. Your trimmer has a polarized plug. This means one prong in the handle socket is larger than the other (Fig. 11). When inserting the end of a suitable extension cord into the handle socket, be sure to insert the enlarged prong into the wide slot in the extension cord end.

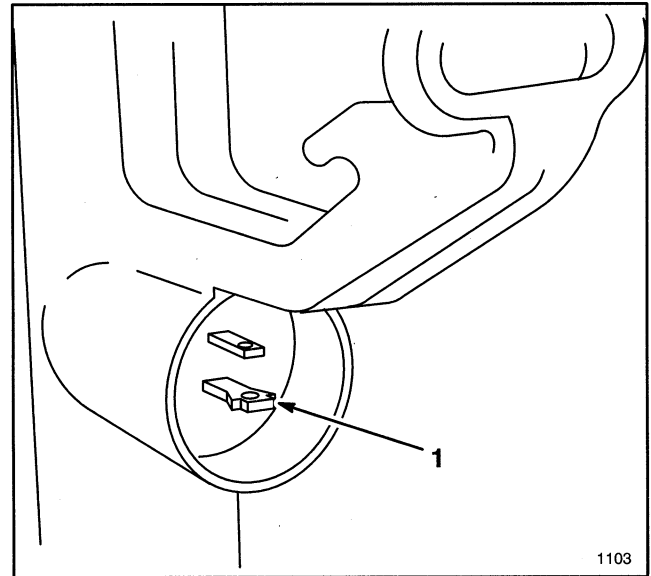


Figure 11

1. Enlarged prong

2. Form a loop in the extension cord and insert it into the slot in the rear of the upper handle (Fig. 12).
3. Secure extension cord in cord lock as shown in Figure 12.

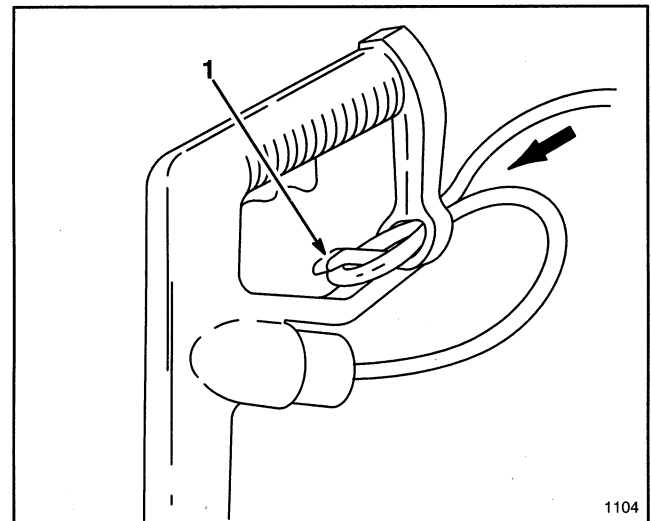


Figure 12

1. Cord lock



### WARNING

- Never use an electrical cord that is damaged.
- A damaged electrical cord could cause a shock or fire.
- Thoroughly inspect electrical cord before using trimmer. If cord is damaged, do not operate trimmer. Replace or repair damaged cord immediately. Contact your TORO service dealer for assistance.

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## WARNING

- Objects can be thrown by the trimmer while it is in operation.
- Thrown objects could cause injury to the operator or bystanders.
- Always wear safety goggles or other suitable eye protection, long pants and shoes while operating trimmer.
- Keep people and pets away from trimming area.

Your trimmer will cut grass and small weeds in difficult and hard to reach places. However, you will most likely experience some line breakage during your first few uses. As you learn the trimming techniques, you will be able to cut areas around trees, shrubs, foundation walls, fences, sidewalks, patios, etc., with minimal line wear or line breakage.

1. Inspect area to be trimmed for any wire, cord, or string-like matter which could become entangled in the rotating line. Also pick up any objects or debris that could be thrown by the trimmer.
2. Lay out the extension cord so that it won't be in your way and to prevent kinking or tangling.
3. Trim only when grass and weeds are dry.
4. Slowly move unit in and out of area being cut, maintaining unit at desired cutting height. This can be either a forward-backward or side-to-side motion as indicated (Fig. 13 & 14).

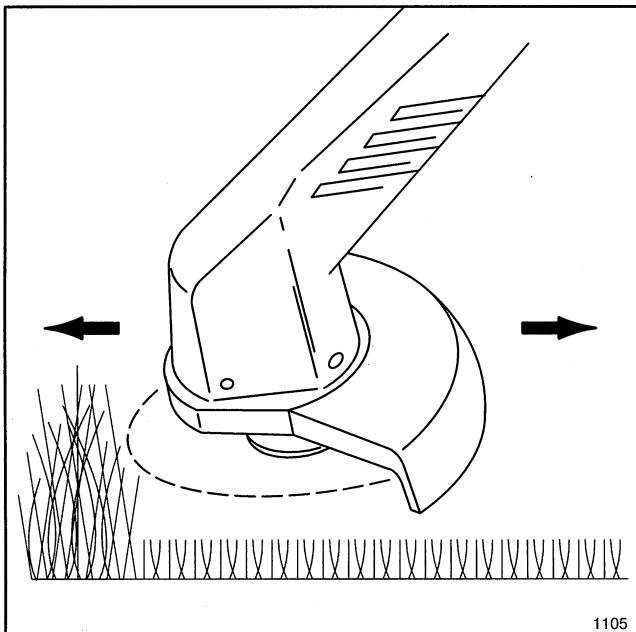


Figure 13

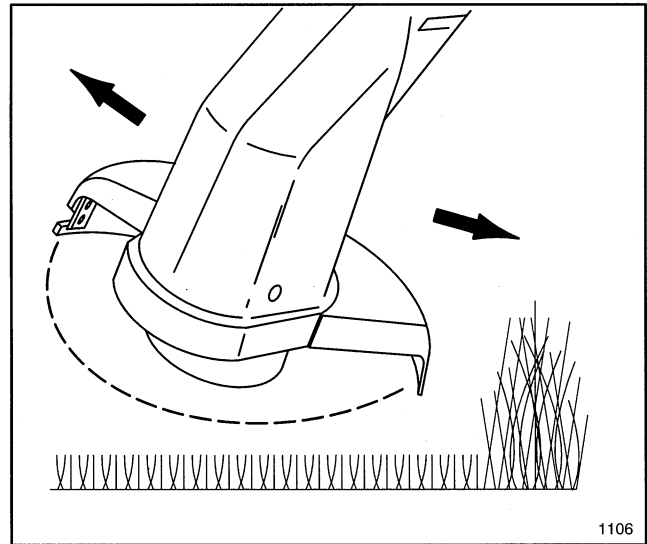


Figure 14

5. Grass in excess of eight inches tall or small weeds should be cut by working from the top to the bottom in small increments to avoid premature line wear.

6. **DO NOT FORCE THE UNIT.** Allow the very tip of the nylon line to do the cutting (especially along walls) (Fig. 15). Cutting with more than the tip will reduce cutting efficiency and overload the motor.

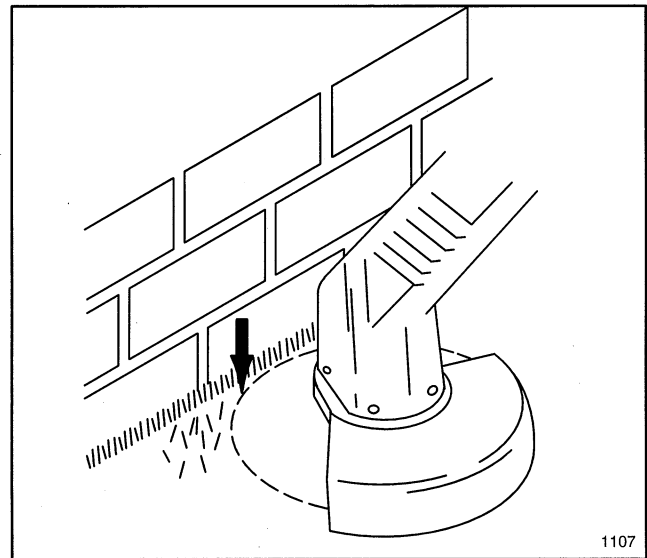


Figure 15

The tip of the cutting line will wear during use and cause a reduction in the cutting swath. If the line is not advanced occasionally, it will wear down to the metal eyelet. When the trimmer is stopped the line will tend to **relax** and **may retract into the cutter head**. Should this occur, remove spool, refeed the line through metal eyelet, and reassemble spool to trimmer.

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

7. The life of your cutting line is dependent upon following the preceding trimming techniques, as well as what is being cut, and where the cutting is being done. For example, line wears faster when trimming against a foundation wall as opposed to trimming around a tree.

Some line breakage will occur from moving unit too fast, from entanglement with foreign matter, from normal line fatigue, and from attempting to cut thick, stalky weeds in excess of unit's capability. As cutting line wears, for best performance, lengthen as indicated in Lengthening Cutting Line procedure.

8. **Never drag the trimmer spool on the ground while trimming (Fig. 16). This causes motor overload and spool wear.**

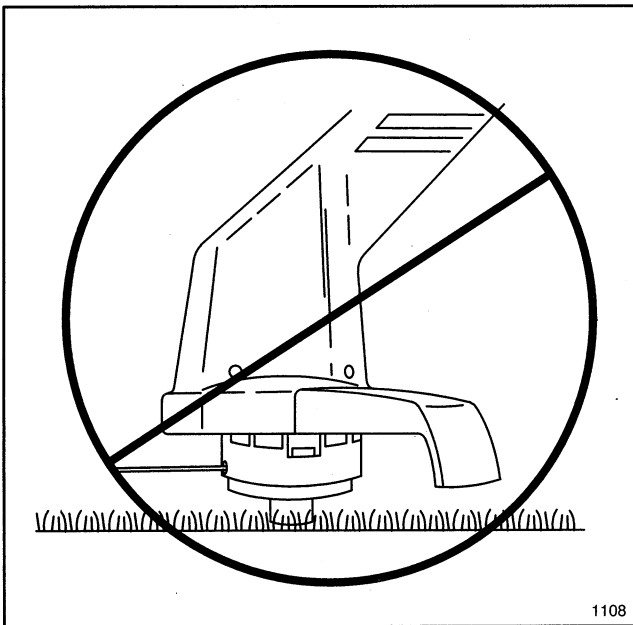


Figure 16

9. After each use, feed out some line to prevent line from retracting into cutting head.

10. Trimmer may be used as a decorative edger by rotating support handle 180° (Fig. 17).

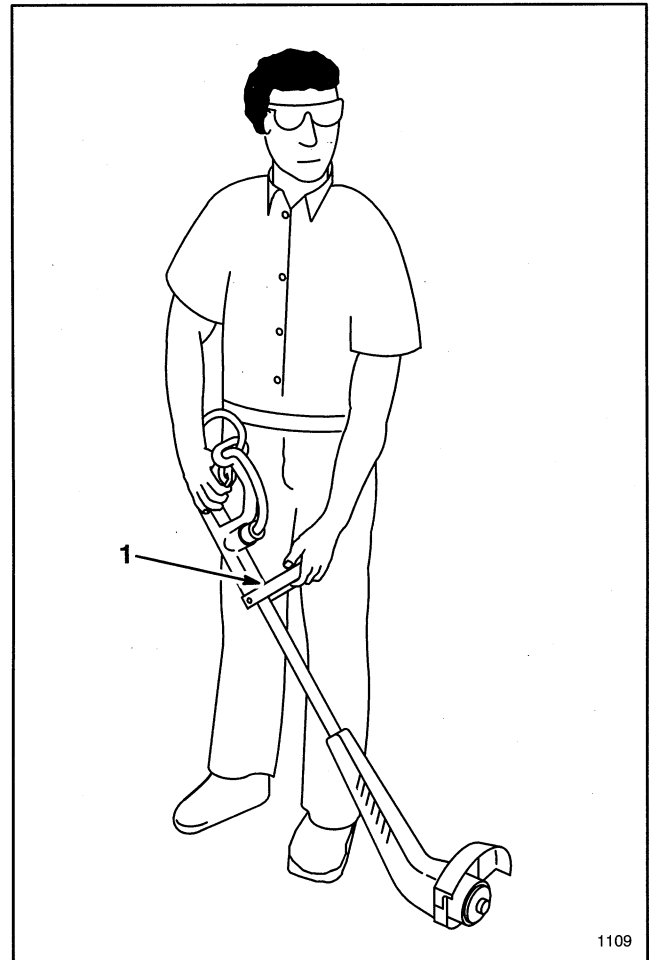


Figure 17

1. Support handle rotated 180°



## WARNING

- When trimmer is used for decorative edging, objects may be thrown in operator's or bystander's direction.
- Thrown objects could cause injury to the operator or bystanders.
- Always wear safety goggles or other suitable eye protection, long pants and shoes while operating trimmer.
- Keep people and pets away from trimming area.

# LENGTHENING CUTTING LINE

1. To lengthen line, firmly tap spool on the ground while the motor continues to run. The line will be fed from the spool and cut off to the proper length by the cutting knife attached to the shield (Fig. 18).

Remember to keep the trimmer 'on' while lengthening the line. Just tap the trimmer on the ground; do not hold it on the ground. After the line feeds out, wait until you hear the line being cut to the proper length before continuing to trim.

**Note:** To help prevent line tangle, tap only once to lengthen line. If additional line is required, wait a few seconds before retapping trimmer head. Do not allow line to wear too short. Keep line length at full cutting diameter as much as possible.

2. Lengthen line only when line has been shortened by wear. Unnecessary lengthening will waste line.

**Note:** The spool may wear during normal use of the line advance feature and may require occasional replacement. Replacement spools are available through your TORO retailer. See page 11 for accessories.

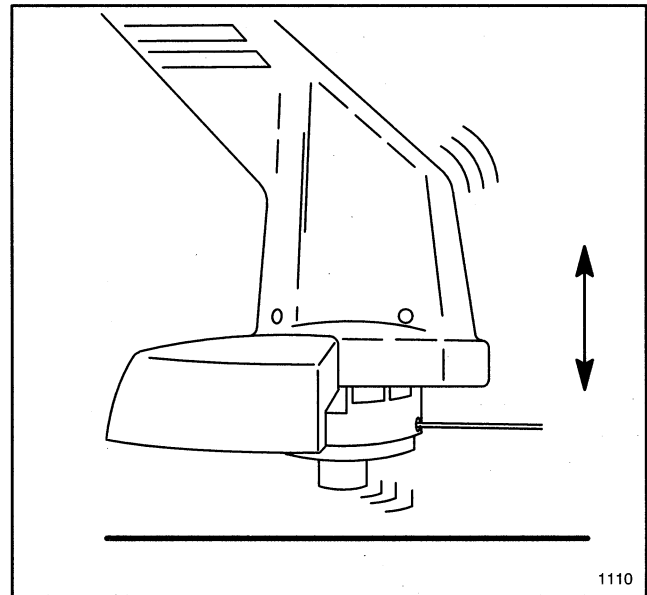


Figure 18



# REPLACING CUTTING LINE

Prewound replacement spools can be purchased from your local Toro retailer. The cutting line used by Toro is specially formulated for use on your trimmer. Other line may not provide the same high quality performance.

## CAUTION

- Use of improper monofilament line could result in personal injury.
- Do not use any type of wire or other string-like substance.
- Use only TORO .065" dia. nylon monofilament cutting line, 30 feet maximum.

## WARNING

- When trimmer is in operation, the cutting head is rotating.
- Contact with rotating cutting head could cause personal injury.
- Always be sure cutting head has completely stopped rotating and trimmer is unplugged before inverting trimmer.
- Never activate trimmer when it is in an inverted position.

1. Disconnect trimmer from power source.

## CAUTION

- Cutting knife on grass shield is sharp.
- Contact with cutting knife could cause personal injury.
- Be careful when removing spool. Avoid contact with knife blade.

2. To remove empty spool, invert trimmer, place hand over spool and press in tabs on each side of cap (Fig. 19).

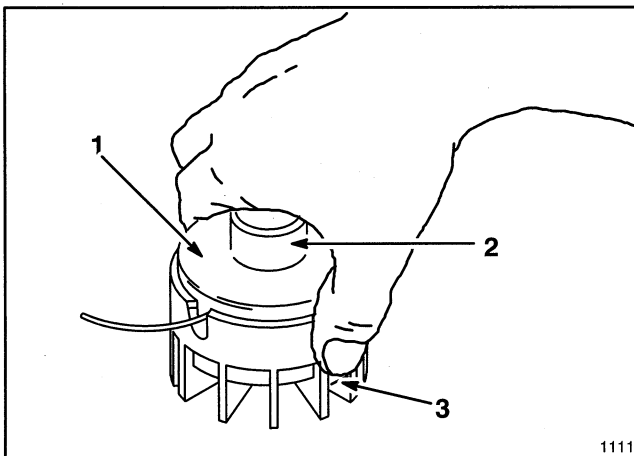


Figure 19

1. Cap
2. Spool
3. Tabs on cap

3. If there is any line on spool, hold free end of line with one hand to prevent spool from unraveling and with other hand grasp spool and lift off spool and cap together (Fig. 20).

**Note:** If spring falls off cutter head during this procedure, reinstall spring before reinstalling spool and cap.

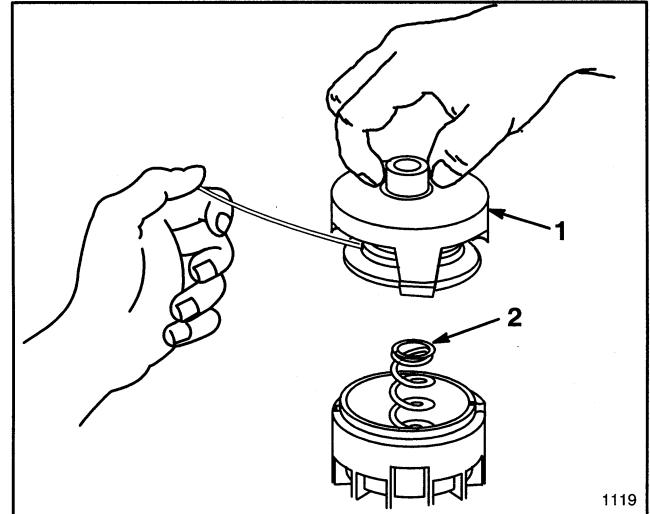


Figure 20

1. Cap & spool
2. Spring

**Note:** Before reinstalling spool, be sure to thoroughly clean out cutter head and visually inspect for any damaged or worn parts.

4. Unwind no more than three inches of line from new spool and hold line and spool to prevent unraveling.
5. Place cap on spool.
6. Insert line into metal eyelet in cutter head (Fig. 21) and hold line with one hand while using your other hand to place spool and cap on spring. Align cap tabs with slots in cutter head, press in tabs and push down cap and spool to lock cap in place (Fig. 21).

**Note:** Spool may need to be rotated slightly to allow it to be fully installed.

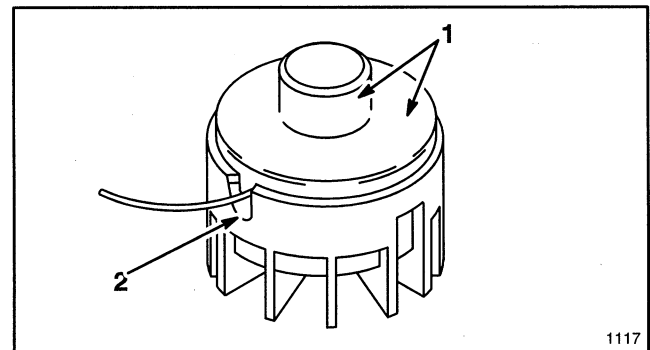


Figure 21

1. Cap & spool
2. Metal eyelet

## REPLACING CUTTING LINE



### CAUTION

- An improperly installed cap or spool could fly off trimmer.
- Contact with a thrown spool could cause injury to the operator or bystanders.
- Be sure spool is fully secured before operating the unit. Replace spool if it is damaged or if cap does not securely snap onto cutter head.
- Keep bystanders and pets away from trimming area.

7. If line should tangle or break at metal eyelet, unplug trimmer, remove spool, refeed the line through eyelet, and reassemble spool to trimmer.

## REWINDING EMPTY SPOOLS

Replacement line can be purchased from your local Toro retailer. To rewind an empty spool, follow the steps below:

1. Hook one end of line into slot on spool, **allowing no more than 1/8" to protrude. Push end of line all the way to the inner end of slot.** Wind line in direction of arrow on spool in level rows between spool flanges (Fig. 22).

**Note:** Trimmer will not function properly if line is wound in the wrong direction or if end of line protrudes more than 1/8" at inner end of slot.

2. Do not wind line beyond outer edges of spool; trimmer will not function properly.

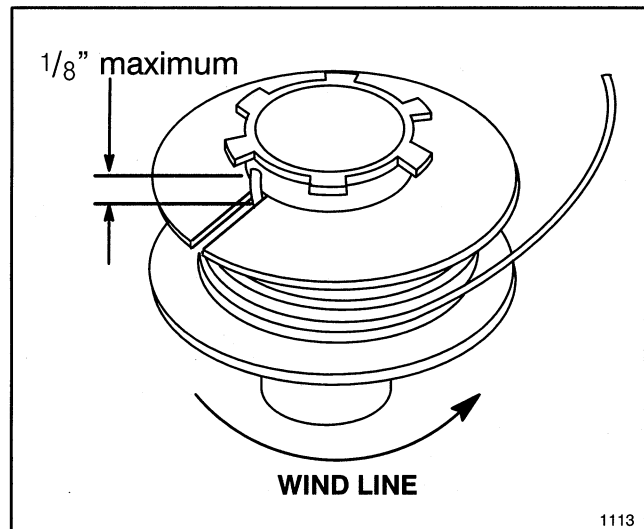


Figure 22

# GENERAL MAINTENANCE

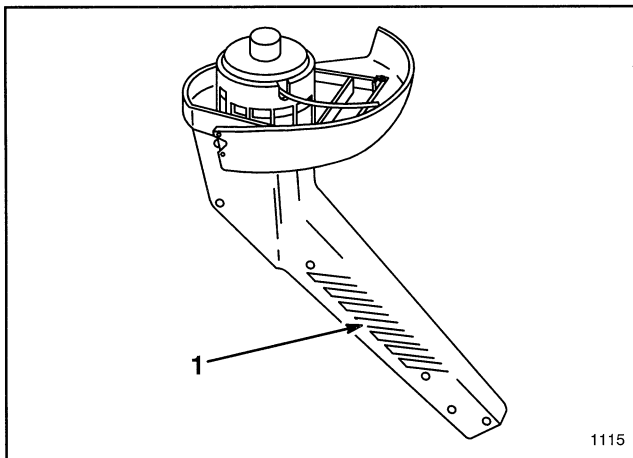


## WARNING

- There is the possibility that trimmer could be inadvertently started when the extension cord is plugged into an electrical socket.
- Inadvertent starting could cause personal injury to operator or bystanders.
- Always be sure your trimmer is unplugged and the cutting head has stopped rotating before attempting any maintenance or repairs.

1. To keep the exterior clean, just wipe it off with a damp cloth. **Never hose it down.**
2. Wipe or scrape clean the cutter head and spool area any time there is an accumulation of dirt or cuttings.
3. Check and tighten all fasteners. If any part is damaged or lost, repair or replace it.
4. Scrape debris away from air intake vents in both sides of motor housing (Fig. 23).

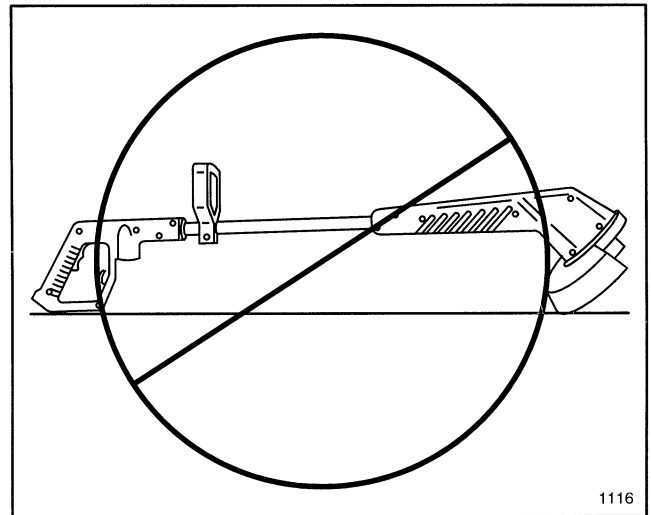
**IMPORTANT:** Keeping air intake vents free of grass and debris prevents motor overheating and possible failure.



**Figure 23**

1. Air intake vents

**IMPORTANT:** To avoid damaging shield when storing trimmer, rest trimmer on cutter head or motor housing or hang trimmer from handle(s). **DO NOT REST TRIMMER ON GRASS SHIELD AS SHOWN (Fig. 24).** THE GRASS SHIELD MAY WARP AND INTERFERE WITH CUTTING LINE.



**Figure 24**

5. Any other servicing should be performed by an authorized Toro Service Dealer.

# ACCESSORIES

REPLACEMENT PART NUMBERS		
PREWOUND SPOOL	EMPTY SPOOL	COIL OF CUTTING LINE
Model #88175	Part #73-8190	50' of .065" Model #88003

# TORO SERVICE SUPPORT

If your unit requires service or maintenance, your nearest TORO Master Service Dealer (U.S. only) is the best dealer to assist you. Refer to the "Yellow Pages" of your local telephone directory in the section titled "Lawn Mowers." TORO Master Service Dealers are listed under the TORO trademark. If you need help locating a TORO Master Service Dealer near you, call 1-800-421-9684 (U.S. only) for assistance.

## The Toro Promise

### A Full Two Year Residential Use Warranty

The Toro Company warrants this TORO Product for two years against defects in material or workmanship. To receive a replacement or repair, at Toro's option, just return the complete unit, with a copy of proof of purchase, to:

- The Seller,
- Any Toro Master Service Dealer (U.S. only), or
- The Toro Service Center,  
5300 Shoreline Blvd.,  
Mound, MN 55364 (U.S. only), postage prepaid.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with the remedy obtained above or if you need a referral to a Toro Service Dealer, please feel free to contact us at the following address:

Toro Customer Service Department  
8111 Lyndale Avenue South  
Bloomington, MN USA 55420-1196  
612-888-8801

This warranty covers product defects only. It does not cover incidental or consequential damages. **Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation may not apply to you.** This warranty gives you specific rights, and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.