

Answers & Low Prices Down Every Aisle SM

Your guide to **MOWER MAINTENANCE**



The sound of lawn mowers and the smell of fresh cut grass is right around the corner. Is your mower ready to come out of winter hibernation? Whether you have 5 acres or 50 square feet of lawn to mow, you'll want to keep your mower in tip-top shape as long as possible. Performing a maintenance check often is the best way to do so, and could save you a lot of money in the long run. Keep your machine's performance up to par with our handy list of routine maintenance on page 2. Most of these operations are DIY friendly.

Did you **KNOW?**

Old gasoline is one of the main reasons a lawn mower may refuse to start. Old fuel can gel up and clog the fuel line or carburetor. To prevent a problematic future, run all of the gas out of the mower at the end of each mowing season. Fresh gasoline should be used for the first round of mowing in the Spring.

What you'll need....

Pick up your maintenance and replacement parts and supplies at your local Orscheln store!

- Oil & Oil Pan
- Filter Wrench
- Air Compressor or Canned Air
- Shop Towels
- Fuel Stabilizer



- Oil Filter
- Air Filter
- Mower Blades
- Batteries
- Spark Plugs
- Belts

Check the Battery

The battery is typically located under the seat of the mower. You should always have a load test done on the battery at the beginning of every season.



Draining the Oil

First start the mower and let it run for about 5 to 10 min. This will warm the oil and allow it to drain better and faster. Place a pan under the drain valve, or on the ground beside a push mower. Make sure the fuel is drained, then tip your push mower to the side to pour the oil into the pan. Once all the oil is drained, fill the new oil to the manufacturer recommended specifications of your mower.



Replacing the Oil Filter

You will need a filter wrench to remove the filter from the mower. Once the old filter is off place some oil on your finger and put it on the seal of the new filter. You will only have to hand tighten the new filter into place.



Checking the Air Filter

Remove the filter from the housing and inspect it for dirt and debris. If the filter is not dirty, or is only slightly dirty on the outside, you can blow it out with compressed air and put it back in the housing. If the filter is black and very dirty, it will need to be replaced.



Replacing the Fuel Filter

The fuel filter should be replaced at the start of every season. It's usually an inexpensive item and will keep everything clean in the fuel system. The fuel filter cleans the fuel before it reaches the carburetor.

Check the Spark Plug

The spark plug does not have to be changed every year. They should last a few years at least. To check the spark plug you need to look at the end. If it's a light brown or tan color, it does not need to be replaced. If the end of the spark plug is black and has carbon build-up, it will need to be replaced.



Check all Grease Fittings

See your owner's manual for all grease fitting locations.



Check Tire Pressure

Tire pressure should be on the side wall of the tire.

Sharpen Blades

Blades should be sharpened every year.



Check all Belts

Run your fingers along the belts feeling for cracks, wear spots and missing pieces.

What's next?

Now that your mower is set for the season, check out some of our other project guides! Want to start raising chickens? Grow a giant pumpkin, or update your landscaping? We can help!



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