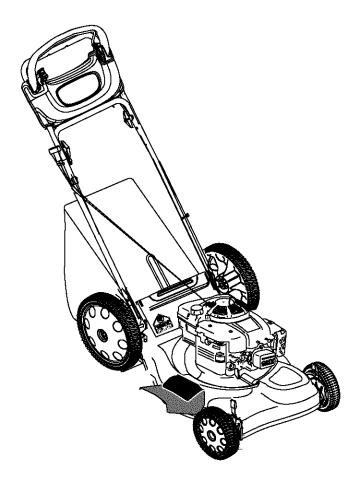


# Operator's Manual



SMART-SPEED

Self Starter Mulching Mower

Model 569

**IMPORTANT:** Read safety rules and instructions carefully before operating equipment.

**Warning:** This unit is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator. In the State of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrester for the muffler is available through your nearest engine authorized service dealer or contact the service department, P.O. Box 361131 Cleveland, Ohio 44136-0019.

Troy-Bilt LLC, P.O. BOX 361131 CLEVELAND, OHIO 44136-0019

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### FINDING MODEL NUMBER

This Operator's Manual is an important part of your new lawn mower. It will help you assemble, prepare and maintain the unit for best performance. Please read and understand what it says.



**Before you start assembling your new equipment**, please locate the model plate on the equipment and copy the information from it in the space provided below. A sample model plate is also given below. You can locate the model plate by standing at the operating position and looking down at the rear of the deck. This information will be necessary to use the manufacturer's web site and/or help from the Customer Support Department or an authorized service dealer.

www.troybilt.com	TROY-BILT LLC P. O. BOX 361131 CLEVELAND, 0H 44136 330-558-7220 1-800-520-5520

Copy the model number here:	
Copy the serial number here:	

### **CUSTOMER SUPPORT**

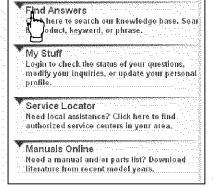
Please do NOT return the unit to the retailer from where it was purchased, without first contacting Customer Support.

If you have difficulty assembling this product or have any questions regarding the controls, operation or maintenance of this unit, you can seek help from the experts. Choose from the options below:



Visit **troybilt.com** for many useful suggestions. Click on Customer Support button and you will get the four options reproduced here. Click on the appropriate button and help is immediately available.

The answer you are looking for could be just a mouse click away!



The answer you are looking for could be just a mouse click away!



To reach a Customer Support Representative, please call 1-800-520-5520.



The **engine** manufacturer is responsible for all engine-related issues with regards to performance, power-rating, specifications, warranty and service. Please refer to the engine manufacturer's Owner's/Operator's Manual, packed separately with your unit, for more information.

### **SECTION 1: IMPORTANT SAFE OPERATION PRACTICES**



**WARNING:** 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 in this manual before attempting to operate this machine. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in personal injury. When you see this symbol—HEED ITS WARNING.

**WARNING:** 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.

**WARNING:** This machine was built to be operated according to the rules for safe operation 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 hands and feet and throwing objects. Failure to observe the following safety instructions could result in serious injury or death.

### **General Operation**

- Read this operator's manual carefully in its entirety before attempting to assemble this machine. Read, understand, and follow all instructions on the machine and in the manual(s) before operation. Be completely familiar with the controls and the proper use of this machine before operating it. Keep this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference and for ordering replacement parts.
- This machine is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore, exercise extreme caution at all times. Your unit has been designed to perform one job: to mow grass. Do not use it for any other purpose.
- 3. Never allow children under 14 years old to operate this machine. Children 14 years old and over should read and understand the operation instructions and safety rules in this manual and should be trained and supervised by a parent. Only responsible individuals who are familiar with these safe operation rules should use this machine.
- 4. Thoroughly inspect the area where 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.
- 5. To help avoid blade contact or a thrown object injury, stay in the operator zone behind the handles and keep bystanders, helpers, children and pets at least 75 feet from the machine while it is in operation. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
- Always wear safety glasses to protect your eyes during equipment operation and while performing an adjustment or repair. Thrown objects which ricochet can cause serious injury to the eyes.

- Wear sturdy, rough-soled work shoes and closefitting 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 the blade can amputate hands and feet.
- 9. A missing or damaged discharge cover can cause blade contact or thrown object injuries.
- 10. 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 if you are falling; release the blade control bar immediately.
- 11. Never pull 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:
  - a. Step back from the mower to fully extend your arms.
  - b. Be sure you are well balanced with sure footing.
  - c. Pull the mower back slowly, no more than half way toward you.
  - d. Repeat these steps as needed.
- 5. Do not operate the mower while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 6. Do not engage the self-propelled mechanism on units so equipped while starting engine.
- 7. The blade control bar is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operation. Doing so makes the safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. The blade control bar must operate easily in both directions and automatically return to the disengaged position when released.
- 8. Never operate the mower in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury. If you feel you are losing

- your footing, release the blade control handle immediately and the blade will stop rotating within three seconds.
- 9. Mow in daylight or good artificial light; walk, not run.
- 10. Stop the blade when crossing gravel drives, walkways or roads.
- 11. If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
- 12. Shut the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass catcher or unclogging the chute. The cutting blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the engine is shut off. Never place any part of the body in the blade area until you are sure the blade has stopped rotating.
- 13. Never operate mower without proper trail shield, discharge cover, grass catcher, blade control bar 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.
- 14. Muffler and engine become hot and can cause a burn. Do not touch.
- 15. Only use parts and accessories made by the original equipment manufacturer (O.E.M). Failure to do so can result in personal injury.
- 16. If situations occur which are not covered in this manual, use care and good judgment. Contact your dealer for assistance. Call1-800-520-5520 for the name of your nearest dealer.

# **Slope Operation**

Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents which can result in severe injury. Operation on slopes requires extra caution. If you feel uneasy on a slope, do not mow it. Before operating this unit on a slope or hilly area, use the slope gauge on page 6 to measure slopes. If the slope is greater than 15 degrees, do not mow it.

### Do:

- 1. Mow across the face of slopes; never up and down. Exercise caution when changing direction.
- 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 3 seconds.

### Do Not:

 Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches or embankments, you could lose your footing or balance.

- 2. Do not mow slopes greater than 15 degrees as shown on the slope gauge.
- 3. 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 the watchful care of a responsible adult other than the operator.
- Be alert and turn mower off if a child enters the area.
- 3. 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.
- 5. Keep children away from hot or running engines. They can suffer burns from a hot muffler.
- Never allow children under 14 years old to operate a power mower. Children 14 years old and over should read and understand the operation instructions and safety rules in this manual and should be trained and supervised by a parent.

### 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.
- 2. Wash your skin and change clothes immediately.
- 3. Use only an approved gasoline container.
- Never fill containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer bed with a plastic liner. Always place containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
- If possible, 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.
- 7. Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.
- 8. Never fuel machine indoors because flammable vapors will accumulate in the area.

- Never remove gas cap or add fuel while the engine is hot or running. Allow engine to cool at least two minutes before refueling.
- Never over fill fuel tank. Fill tank to no more than ½
  inch below bottom of filler neck to provide space for
  fuel expansion.
- 11. Replace gasoline cap and tighten securely.
- 12. If gasoline is spilled, wipe it off the engine and equipment. Move unit to another area. Wait 5 minutes before starting the engine.
- 13. Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, spark or pilot light as on a water heater, space heater, furnace, clothes dryer or other gas appliances.
- 14. To reduce fire hazard, keep mower free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean up oil or fuel spillage and remove any fuel soaked debris.
- 15. Allow a mower 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, listed in this manual. "Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment specifications may

- lead to improper performance and compromise safety!"
- 4. Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade or wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.
- 5. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
- 6. 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.
- 8. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
- 9. Grass catcher 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, listed in this manual. "Use of parts which do not meet the original equipment specifications may lead to improper performance and compromise safety!"
- Do not change the engine governor setting or overspeed the engine. The governor controls the maximum safe operating speed of the engine.
- 11. Maintain or replace safety and instruction labels, as necessary.
- 12. Observe proper disposal laws and regulations. Improper disposal of fluids and materials can harm the environment.

# **Your Responsibility**

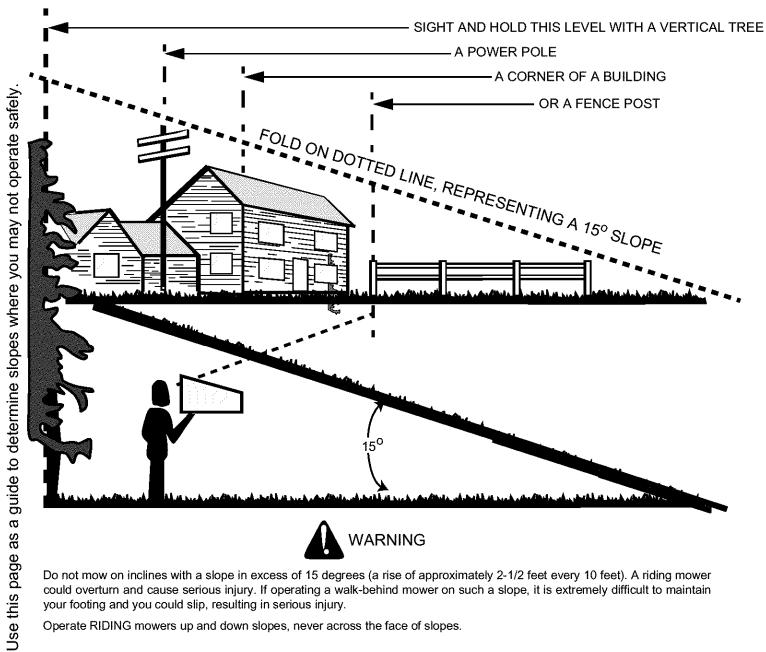
 Restrict the use of this power machine to persons who read, understand and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the machine.







# SLOPE GAUGE **SECTION 2:**



Do not mow on inclines with a slope in excess of 15 degrees (a rise of approximately 2-1/2 feet every 10 feet). A riding mower could overturn and cause serious injury. If operating a walk-behind mower on such a slope, it is extremely difficult to maintain your footing and you could slip, resulting in serious injury.

Operate RIDING mowers up and down slopes, never across the face of slopes.

# **SECTION 3: ASSEMBLING YOUR LAWN MOWER**

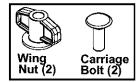
### **Tools Required**

- Pair of Pliers
- Funnel

**NOTE:** Reference to right or left hand side of the mower and/or front or behind the mower is observed from the operating position.

### **Hardware Pack**

Please identify each piece of the hardware pack as shown in figure here.



### **Assembling Handle**

 Remove grass bag from the unit and set it out of the way. See Figure 1. Remove any packing material between the handles.

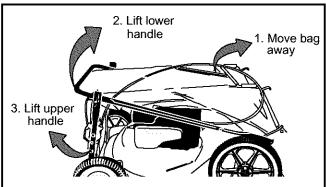


Figure 1

- 2. Raise the lower handle in the direction shown in Figure 1 till it snaps into place.
- 3. Raise the upper handle in the direction shown in Figure 1.
- 4. Tighten the wing nuts shown in Figure 2.

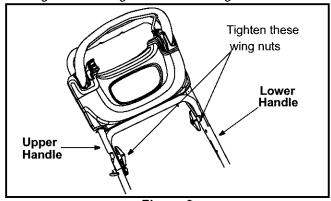


Figure 2

**NOTE:** Route the cables inside the lower handle. Also do not crimp the cables while lifting the handle up.

5. Pull the drive control bar all the way back.

 While holding the drive control bar, hook the "Z" end of the drive cable into the bottom hole of the drive control bar from inside to outside. See Figure 3.

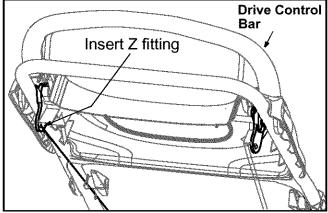


Figure 3

- Remove the hairpin clip from the outer hole of the weld pin on the lower handle. See Figure 4.
- Using a pair of pliers, insert this clip into the inner hole on the weld pin. Repeat on other side. See Figure 4.

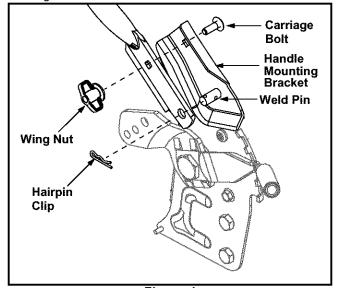


Figure 4

- Insert carriage bolt from the hardware pack into the upper hole on the handle mounting bracket. See Figure 4 for direction of the carriage bolt.
- Secure with plastic wing nut from the hardware pack. Repeat on the other side.
- 11. Attach cables to the lower handle with the two cable ties already on the lower handle. Insert pegs on cable ties into the holes on the lower handle. Pull cable ties tight and cut off the extra.

# **Attaching Drive Adjuster Block**

The drive adjuster block is attached to the drive cable.

- 1. Remove bolt attached to the lower left handle.
- 2. Align the drive adjuster block with hole in handle. Its curved side goes against the handle,
- 3. Secure drive adjuster block with the bolt previously removed. See Figure 5.

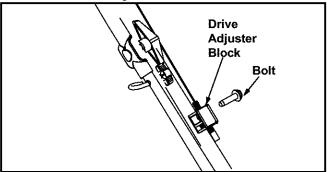
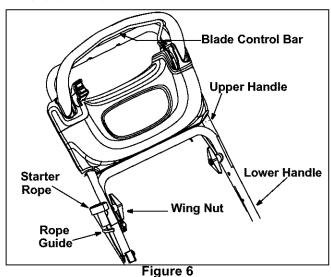


Figure 5

# **Attaching Starter Rope**

The rope guide is already attached to the right side of the lower handle of your mower. See Figure 6.

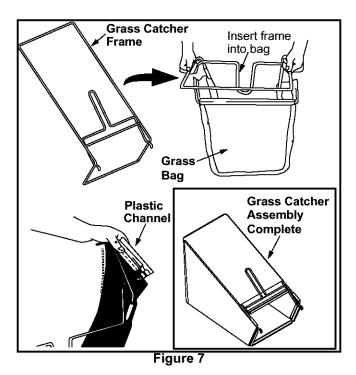
- 1. With spark plug wire disconnected and grounded, hold the blade control bar against the upper handle, and pull the starter rope out of the engine.
- 2. Slip the rope through the rope guide as shown below. Tighten the wing nut holding the rope guide to the handle.



# **Assembling Grass Catcher**

**NOTE:** If the grass catcher came pre-assembled, proceed to the next section. If not, follow the steps below to assemble it before attaching to the mower.

1. Insert frame into grass bag with the black plastic side on the bottom of bag. See Figure 7.



Slip the side openings on the plastic channel of the grass bag over the hooks on the grass catcher frame. Secure bag to the frame by working the six plastic channels.

**IMPORTANT:** Entire channel except the center top of the bag attach from outside of bag. The center top of the bag attaches from inside of bag. See Figure 7.

# **Attaching Grass Catcher**



**WARNING:** If using the grass catcher, the hooks on the grass catcher must be firmly seated on the chute pivot rod, and the rear discharge door must rest firmly on top of the grass catcher.

 Lift the rear discharge door and place the grass catcher on the pivot rod. Let go of the discharge door so that it rests on the grass catcher. See Figure 8.

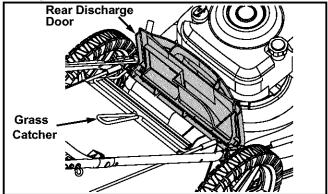


Figure 8

# **Converting To Mulcher**

 Lift the rear discharge door on the mower and lift the grass catcher up. Release the discharge door to allow it to close the rear opening of the mower.

# **Converting To Side Discharge**

- 1. Make sure the grass catcher is off the unit and the rear discharge door is closed. Refer to Figure 9.
- 2. On the side of the mower, lift the mulching plug. See Figure 9.
- Slide the two hooks of the side-discharge chute under the hinge pin on the mulching plug assembly. Lower the side mulching plug.
- 4. Do not remove the side mulching plug at any time, even when you are not mulching.

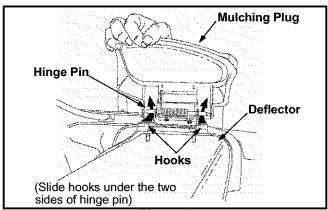


Figure 9

# **SECTION 4: KNOW YOUR LAWN MOWER**

Read this owner's manual and safety rules before operating your lawn mower. Compare the illustrations in Figure 10 with your lawn mower to familiarize yourself with the location of various controls and adjustments. Save this manual for future reference.



**WARNING:** The operation of any lawn mower can result in foreign objects being thrown into the operator's eyes thus causing severe eye damage. **Always wear safety glasses** while operating the mower, or while performing any adjustments or repairs on it.

### **Drive Control Bar**

This mower is equipped with Smart Speed™ transmission which enables the drive control bar to adjust the mowing speed automatically with your walking. The drive control bar is located on the upper handle. Push the bar forward to engage drive, pull it backwards to stop. The farther the bar is pushed forward, the faster the mower will propel.

### **Blade Control Bar**

The blade control bar is located on the upper handle of the mower. The blade control bar must be depressed in order to operate the unit. Release the blade control bar to stop the engine and the blade and to energize the self starter.



**WARNING:** The blade control bar is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operations or alter it in any way. The blade will rotate whenever the engine is running and when the self starter is de-energized.

### **Starter Rope**

The starter rope is attached to the handle. Stand behind the unit and pull the starter rope to start the unit.

### **Grass Catcher Bag**

The grass bag is used for collecting grass clippings. Attach it to the mower for this purpose, but remove it when the intention is to mulch the grass.

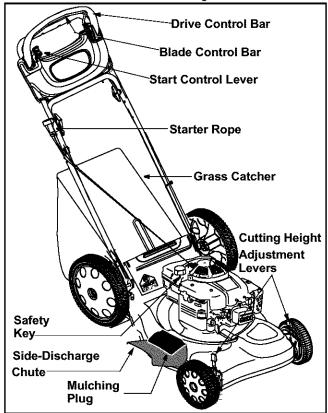


Figure 10

### **Mulching Plug**

The mulching plug is used only for mulching purposes. Instead of collecting the grass clippings in a grass catcher, your mower has the option of recirculating the clippings back to the lawn. This is called mulching.

### **Cutting Height Adjustment Lever**

These levers are located on each wheel and they are used to adjust the cutting height. All four levers have to be at the same relative position to ensure uniform cut.

### Safety Key

The safety key is located on the engine. See Figure 10. The safety key is a safety device used to activate and deactivate the self starter system. The self starter system will not work without the key in it's proper position. See your engine manual for more information on the safety key.

**NOTE:** The safety key must be in the run position to start the mower for both systems, either the self starter or recoil starter.

### Start Control Lever

The start control lever is located on the upper right side of the upper handle. See Figure 10. The start control lever must be depressed fully while pulling the blade control bar toward upper handle for the engine to start. The start control lever will automatically return to the off/up position once the blade control bar is released.

**NOTE:** The starter control lever must be depressed to start the engine either with the self starter or recoil starter system.

### **SECTION 5: OPERATING YOUR LAWN MOWER**

### Gas & Oil Fill-Up

- Check oil level and add oil if necessary. Follow relevant instructions in the engine manual for this.
- Service the engine with gasoline as instructed in the engine manual.



WARNING: 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.

# **Before Starting Mower**

 Attach spark plug wire to spark plug. Make certain the metal cap on the end of the spark plug wire (inside the rubber boot) is fastened securely over the metal tip on the spark plug.



**WARNING:** Be sure no one other than the operator is standing near the lawn mower while starting engine or operating mower.

**WARNING:** Never run engine indoors or in enclosed, poorly ventilated areas. Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odorless and deadly gas.

**WARNING:** Keep hands, feet, hair and loose clothing away from any moving parts on engine and lawn mower.

# **First Time Starting Engine**

**NOTE:** Use recoil starter rope to start engine for the very first time. The mower is shipped with the safety key in the locked position and the self starter in the deenergized mode. Follow instructions as follows:

- 1. Place lawn mower on a level surface outdoors.
- Remove plastic wrap under fuel cap.
- 3. Check oil level.
- 4. Add fuel.
- 5. Open shut off valve (if equipped) 1/4 turn.
- 6. Push spark plug wire firmly on spark plug.
- 7. Turn self starter safety key 1/4 turn clockwise to RUN position.
- 8. Firmly push primer bulb 3 times.
- While standing at upper handle, depress the starter control lever fully with the thumb of your right hand.
- 10. Using your left hand, pull the blade control bar all the way toward the upper handle.
- 11. Release the lever.
- Grasp the recoil rope starter handle with your right hand and slowly pull towards you until you feel a slight resistance, then pull firmly until your arm is fully extended.
- 13. If engine does not start by second pull, repeat steps 8, 9 10,11 and 12.

### **Second Time Starting Engine**

**NOTE:** Follow these instructions if the self starter is already in the energized mode.



**WARNING:** NEVER assume starter is in the de-energized mode, even if the key is in the locked position and or removed from the engine. ALWAYS de-energize starter prior to performing any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower. Follow instructions on the engine and or machine to de-energize starter.

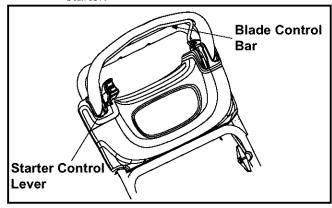


Figure 11

- 1. Check oil level and add fuel, if necessary.
- 2. Open shut off valve (if equipped) 1/4 turn.
- 3. Turn safety key 1/4 turn clockwise to RUN position.
- 4. Firmly push primer bulb 3 times (For a cold engine only!).
- 5. While standing at upper handle, depress the starter control lever with the thumb of your right hand.
- 6. Using your left hand, pull the blade control bar all the way toward the upper handle. See Figure 11. Starter will de-energize and engine will start. (NOTE: If engine does not start, release blade control bar and follow steps 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 in the "First Time Starting Engine" instructions.)

**NOTE:** If any problems are encountered, refer to the Trouble Shooting Guide for helpful information.

# To Stop Engine and Blade



**WARNING:** The blade will continue to rotate for three seconds after the blade control bar is released.

 Release safety blade control bar (the start control lever will automatically return to the off/up position), engine and blade will stop within a few seconds.

**NOTE:** Engine may stop with a ratcheting sound. This sound is the self starter being reactivated/energized for the next start.

2. Turn safety key 1/4 turn counterclockwise to LOCK position. Remove key and store in a safe place.

### To De-Energize Self Starter

- · Remove spark plug wire from spark plug.
- Turn safety key to RUN position (1/4 turn clockwise).
- While standing in the operating position, depress the starter control lever fully with the thumb of your right hand.
- Using your left hand, pull the blade control bar all the way toward the upper handle. (Release lever and wait until blade and starter stop rotating).
- Release safety blade control handle (the start control lever will automatically return to the off/up position).
- · Remove safety key.

**NOTE:** Engine will crank over upon actuating equipment starting controls, but will not spark if spark plug wire was removed from spark plug as described above. Once engine has stopped cranking, self starter is de-energized.



**WARNING:** Self Starting System: If these instructions are not followed, amputation or severe laceration can result.

- ALWAYS disconnect spark plug, de-energize starter, lock and remove safety key BEFORE performing ANY service to the engine or mower.
- DO NOT attempt any maintenance or repairs to the self starter.
- NEVER assume starter is de-energize, even if key is in LOCK AND REMOVE position and/or removed from engine.

**IMPORTANT:** BEFORE removing grass or other debris from under mower deck; BEFORE changing oil, air filter or spark plug; BEFORE removing blade for servicing; BEFORE performing any other service to engine or mower; BEFORE transporting mower-ALWAYS DE-ENERGIZE SELF STARTER.

**NOTE:** See your engine manual packed with your unit for more detailed instructions.

# **Using Your Lawn Mower**

- You can use your mower as a mulcher or a rear bagger or for side discharge of grass.
- Be sure that the 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.
- For best results, do not cut wet grass because it tends to stick to the underside of the mower.
- For a healthy lawn, always cut off one-third or less of the total length of the grass. Lawn should be trimmed in fall as long as there is growth.



**WARNING:** If the mower strikes a foreign object, stop the engine. Remove spark plug wire from the spark plug and thoroughly inspect for any damage. Repair the damage promptly before restarting and operating the mower.

### **Adjusting Cutting Height**

Refer to height adjustments section of this manual on page 15 for instruction on how to adjust the cutting height and the handle height.

For best results in mowing, keep the cutting height position high until you can determine a suitable height.

# **Bagging Grass Clippings**

You can use the grass catcher bag to collect clippings while you are operating the mower.

- Attach grass catcher following instructions on page 8. Grass clippings will automatically collect in the bag as you run the mower. Operate the mower till the grass bag is full.
- Once the bag is full, stop the engine and the mower completely. Lift discharge door and pull grass bag up and away from the mower to dispose of the grass clippings.

### **SECTION 6: MAINTAINING YOUR LAWN MOWER**



**WARNING:** Be sure to disconnect the spark plug wire and de-energize starter before performing any repairs or maintenance. DO NOT attempt any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower equipped with the safety key in the unlocked and or energized mode.



**WARNING:** NEVER assume starter is deenergized, even if the key is in the locked position and/or removed from the engine. ALWAYS de-energize starter prior to performing any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower. Follow instructions on the engine and or machine to de-energize starter. Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

### **Cleaning Mower**

The underside of the mower deck should be cleaned after each use to prevent any build-up of grass clippings, leaves, dirt, or other debris. If this debris is allowed to accumulate, it will result in rust and corrosion.

**NOTE:** We do not recommend the use of pressure washers or garden hose to clean your unit. These may cause damage to pulleys, bearings, or the engine. The use of water will result in shortened life and reduce serviceability.

- Disconnect spark plug wire.
- Drain the gasoline from the lawn mower, or place a piece of plastic under the gas cap.
- Tip the mower so that it rests on the housing. Keep the side with the air cleaner facing up. Hold the mower firmly.

- Scrape and clean the underside of the deck with a suitable tool. Do not spray with water.
- Put the mower back on its wheels on the ground. If you had put plastic under the gas cap, make sure to remove it now.



**WARNING:** Never tip the mower more than 90 degrees in any directions 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.

### **Engine Care**

A list of key maintenance jobs required for good performance by the mower is given below. Follow the accompanying engine manual for a detailed list and instructions.

- Change engine oil regularly, as instructed in the engine manual. Check oil level before starting engine every time.
- Service air cleaner regularly. You may have to service this more frequently if you are operating the mower under extremely dusty conditions.
- Clean the engine periodically. Remove dirt and debris with a cloth or brush.
- Clean the spark plug and reset the gap to.030" at least once a season. Refer to the engine manual for correct spark plug type.
- Inspect muffler periodically, and replace if necessary. Damaged mufflers or spark arresters can create a fire hazard.



**WARNING:** Avoid muffler and surrounding areas while the mower engine is hot because temperature of these areas of the engine may exceed 150° F.

### Lubrication

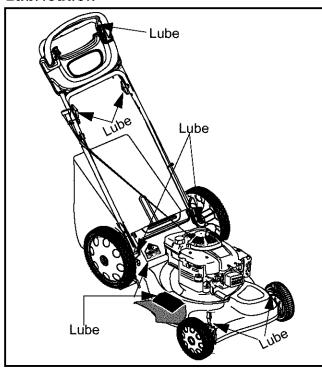


Figure 12: Lubrication Chart

### Wheels

 Lubricate the wheels and bearings, if so equipped, at least once a season with light oil or engine oil.
 Also if the wheels are removed for any reason, lubricate the surface of the pivot arm axle and the inner surface of the wheel with light oil.

### Mulch Plug & Rear Discharge Door

 Lubricate the torsion spring and the pivot point on each end of the rear discharge door using a light oil.

### **Transmission**

 The transmission is pre-lubricated and sealed at the factory and does not require lubrication on a regular basis as part of maintenance.

### **Blade Control**

 Lubricate the pivot points on the blade control bar and the brake cable at least once a season with a light oil. It needs to move in both directions.

### **Engine**

 Follow the engine manual instructions and recommended schedule for lubricating engine components.

### **Blade Care**

Periodically inspect the blade adapter and pulley for cracks, especially if you strike a foreign object. Replace when necessary.

- 1. Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug.
- 2. Turn mower on its side making sure that the air filter and the carburetor are up.



**WARNING:** When removing the cutting blade for sharpening or replacement, protect hands by using heavy gloves or a thick rag to grasp the cutting blade.

- Remove the hex bolt which holds the blade adapter-pulley assembly to the engine crankshaft.
   See Figure 13. Remove the pulley assembly and the bell support from the crankshaft.
- 4. Remove blade from the blade adapter and pulley.

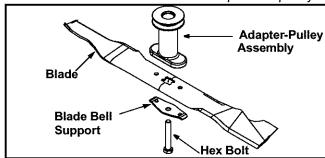


Figure 13

- Before reinstalling the blade-pulley assembly to the unit, lubricate the engine crankshaft and the inner surface of the blade adapter with light oil.
- 6. Also lubricate the bolt hole and the hex bolt.
- Insert the hex bolt, earlier removed, through the center holes on the blade bell support and the blade adapter-pulley assembly respectively.
- 8. Install the blade assembly on the crankshaft.

  Tighten the hex bolt to the recommended torque.

### **Blade Mounting Torque:**

Center bolt: 450 in.lbs. minimum, 600 in.lbs. maximum.

**IMPORTANT:** The bolt used to secure the blade to the engine is specially heat-treated. **Do not substitute.** To order replacement bolt, refer to page 17.



**WARNING:** To ensure safe operation of your unit, all nuts and bolts must be checked periodically for correct tightness.

- Sharpen the blade with a file or on a grinding wheel.Do not attempt to sharpen the blade while it is still on the mower.
- Follow the original angle of grind as a guide. Make sure that each cutting edge receives an equal amount of grinding to prevent an unbalanced blade.

**NOTE:** An unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration when rotating at high speeds, and may cause damage to the mower and could break, causing personal injury. Test the blade by balancing it on a round shaft screwdriver or a blade balancer.

11. If the blade is not balanced, remove metal from the heavy side until it balances evenly.

# **SECTION 7: SERVICE & ADJUSTMENTS**



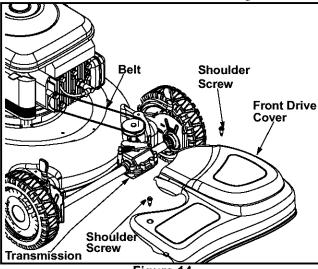
**WARNING:** Be sure to disconnect the spark plug wire and de-energize starter before performing any repairs or maintenance. DO NOT attempt any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower equipped with the safety key in the unlocked and or energized mode.



**WARNING:** NEVER assume starter is deenergized, even if the key is in the locked position and/or removed from the engine. ALWAYS de-energize starter prior to performing any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower. Follow instructions on the engine and or machine to de-energize starter. Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

### **Replacing Drive Belt**

1. Remove two shoulder screws securing the front drive cover to the mower deck. See Figure 14.



- Figure 14
- Press inward on the sides of the front drive cover and release the tabs that secure the front drive cover to the height adjuster brackets. Remove drive cover from the mower.
- 3. Remove the idler and accompanying hardware from the idler bracket using 7/16" wrench and socket.
- 4. Remove the belt from the transmission pulley.
- 5. Lift and stabilize the front of the deck.
- Loosen the center hex bolt and lower the blade and engine pulley until there is adequate clearance to move the belt past the belt keeper.
- 7. Lift the mower to access the belt from the underside of the mower.
- 8. Slide the belt off the engine pulley and around the blade. See Figure 15.



**WARNING:** Use a thick piece of rag to handle the blade while sliding the belt in the next step. Make sure the engine does not start at all while doing this job.

- Replace with the new belt, working around the blade. Make sure the belt is firmly seated on the engine pulley while pulling from the other side and sliding it around the transmission pulley.
   Reassemble the idler bracket. Tighten all hardware.
- 10. Put the mower down with all four wheels firmly placed on one level.

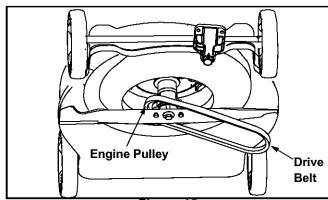
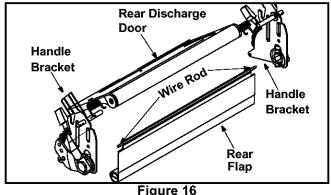


Figure 15

# **Replacing Rear Flap**

- 1. To remove rear flap, cut off the flat end of the wire rod which secures it to the deck. See Figure 16.
- 2. Attach the new flap and new rod to deck, bending the ends of the new rod over to secure to deck.

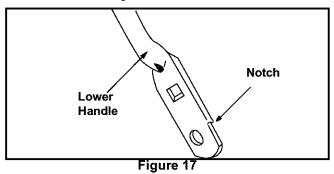


# **Adjusting Handle Height**

Your mower is shipped with the handle in the higher height position.

- 1. Remove the starter rope from the rope guide.
- Remove the upper handle by removing the hand knobs and carriage bolts. Lay the upper handle out of the way, being careful not to bend or kink cables.
- 3. Remove the hairpin clips from the weld pins on the handle brackets. Refer to Figure 4.

- Remove the carriage bolts and wing nuts from the handle brackets. Press out on the legs of the lower handle. Remove lower handle from the mower.
- Turn the lower handle around so the notch on the bottom of the lower handle is facing forward as shown in Figure 17. Reassemble, placing the bottom holes in the handle over the weld pins in the handle mounting bracket.

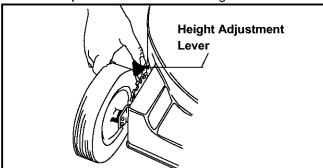


- 6. Reassemble the upper handle to the lower handle.
- Place the hairpin clips in the inner holes of the weld pins and replace the carriage bolts and wing nuts on the handle brackets. Attach the starter rope as instructed in the Assembly section.

# **Adjusting Cutting Height**

An adjusting plate and thumb lever at each wheel position provides cutting height adjustment. Each adjusting plate has nine height positions.

- 1. Simply depress the lever towards wheel and move it to any of the nine positions for the desired cutting height. See Figure 18.
- 2. Place all four levers on the four wheels in the same relative position for uniform cutting.



### Figure 18

# **Adjusting Carburetor**

If the engine is running rough, minor adjustments to the carburetor may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude and load.

**NOTE:** Dirty air cleaner may cause an engine to run rough. Before adjusting carburetor, check air cleaner.

To adjust the carburetor, please follow the recommendations and instructions on carburetor adjustment in the engine manual.

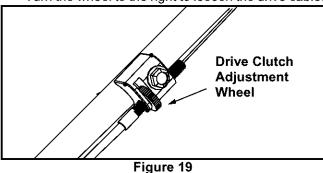


**WARNING:** If any adjustments are made to the engine (e.g. carburetor) while the engine is running, keep clear of all moving parts. Be careful of heated surfaces like the muffler.

# **Adjusting Drive Clutch**

The drive clutch adjustment wheel is located on the lower left handle and is used to tighten or loosen tension on the drive cable. Adjust this cable if

- a. the mower does not propel itself; or
- b. the wheels hesitate with the drive control bar pushed forward.
- To adjust, rotate the adjustment wheel with your fingers. See Figure 19 for location of the wheel.
- 2. Turn the wheel to the left to tighten the drive cable. Turn the wheel to the right to loosen the drive cable.



# SECTION 8: OFF-SEASON STORAGE

Prepare your lawn mower for storage at the end of the season or if the unit will not be used for 30 days or more. Store the mower in a clean, dry area.



**WARNING:** Be sure to disconnect the spark plug wire and de-energize starter before performing any repairs or maintenance. DO NOT attempt any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower equipped with the safety key in the unlocked and or energized mode.



**WARNING:** NEVER assume starter is deenergized, even if the key is in the locked position and or removed from the engine. ALWAYS de-energize starter prior to performing any maintenance or service to the engine and or mower. Follow instructions on the engine and or machine to de-energize starter.

### Mower

- Clean underside of the mower following instructions on page 12.
- Lubricate mower as instructed on page 13.
- You can fold your mower's handle for convenient storage:
  - 1. Remove the starter rope from the rope guide.
  - 2. Loosen the two hand knobs on the sides of the handle, and let the upper handle fold down to the rear.
  - 3. Move the hairpin clips to the outer hole in the weld pins on the handle mounting brackets.

- 4. Spread the sides of the lower handle, and push it forward and down.
- Inspect and replace/sharpen blade, if required.

### **Engine**

- Follow recommendations in the engine manual for off-season storage of the engine.
- Change oil if it has not been changed in the last three months. For instructions on how to change oil, refer to the engine manual.
- · Clean engine and remove any grass clippings.

### **Other**

- Do not store gasoline from one season to another.
- Replace your gasoline can if it starts to rust. Rust and/or dirt in the gasoline will cause problems.
   Store unit in a clean, dry area. Do not store next to corrosive materials, such as fertilizer.

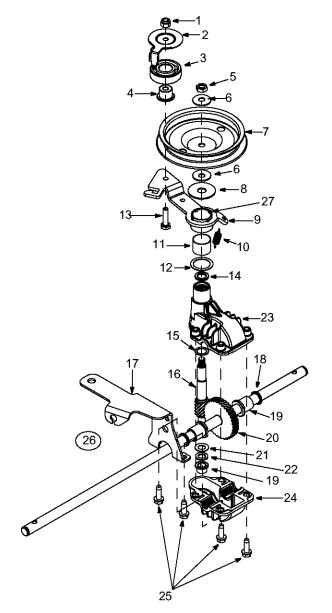
**NOTE:** If storing in an unventilated or metal storage shed, be certain to rustproof the equipment by coating with a light oil or silicone.

# **SECTION 9: TROUBLE-SHOOTING**

Problem Possible Cause		Corrective Action		
Engine fails to start	<ol> <li>Blade control bar disengaged.</li> <li>Spark plug wire disconnected.</li> <li>Fuel tank empty, or stale fuel.</li> <li>Blocked fuel line.</li> <li>Faulty spark plug.</li> <li>Engine flooded.</li> <li>Start control lever not depressed.</li> <li>Safety key not in run position.</li> <li>Self starter already de-energized.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Engage blade control bar.</li> <li>Connect wire to spark plug.</li> <li>Fill up tank with fresh gasoline.</li> <li>Clean fuel line.</li> <li>Clean, adjust gap, or replace.</li> <li>Wait a few minutes to restart. Do not prime.</li> <li>Depress start control lever.</li> <li>Place safety key in run position.</li> <li>Use recoil starter to start engine.</li> </ol>		
Engine runs erratic	<ol> <li>Spark plug wire loose.</li> <li>Blocked fuel line or stale fuel.</li> <li>Vent in gas cap plugged.</li> <li>Water or dirt in fuel system.</li> <li>Dirty air cleaner.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Connect and tighten spark plug wire.</li> <li>Clean fuel line, fill tank with fresh gasoline.</li> <li>Clear vent.</li> <li>Drain fuel tank. Refill with fresh fuel.</li> <li>Clean air cleaner. Refer to engine manual.</li> </ol>		
Engine overheats	Engine oil level low.     Air flow restricted.	Fill crankcase with proper oil.     Clean lawn mower engine.		
Occasional skip (hesitates) at high speed	Spark plug gap too close.	Adjust gap to 030 inches.		
Idles poorly	<ol> <li>Spark plug faulty, or gap too wide.</li> <li>Dirty air cleaner.</li> </ol>	Reset gap to .030 inches or replace spark plug.     Clean air cleaner.		
Excessive vibration	<ol> <li>Blade loose or unbalanced.</li> <li>Bent cutting blade.</li> <li>Bent engine crankshaft.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Tighten blade and adapter, balance blade.</li> <li>Replace blade.</li> <li>Contact the nearest service center.</li> </ol>		
Mower will not mulch grass	<ol> <li>Wet grass.</li> <li>Excessively high grass.</li> <li>Dull blade.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Wait until grass is dry to cut.</li> <li>Mow once at a high cutting height, then mow again at desired height.</li> <li>Sharpen or replace blade.</li> </ol>		
Uneven cut	Wheels not at same height.     Dull blade.	Reposition all wheels at same height.     Sharpen or replace blade.		

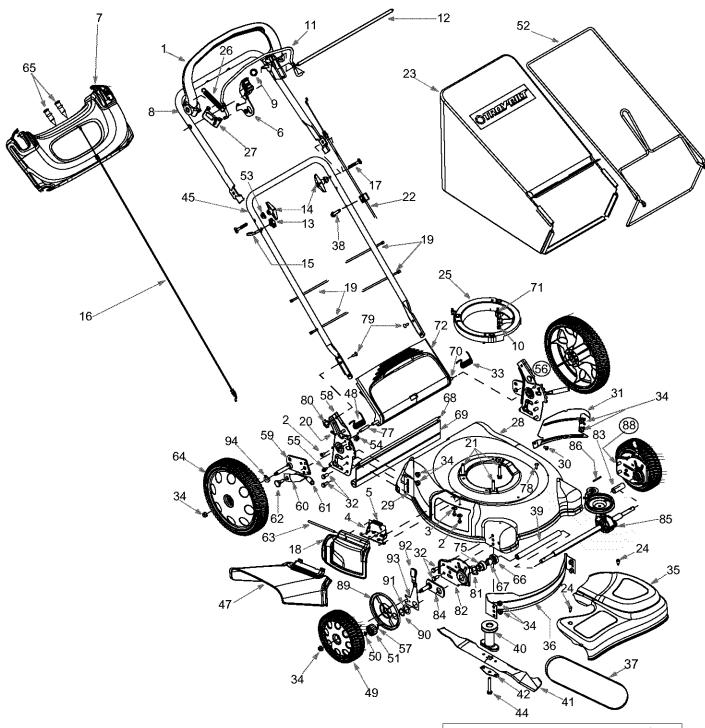
NOTE: For repairs beyond the minor adjustments listed above, contact your local authorized service dealer.

# **SECTION 10: PARTS LIST FOR MODEL F569**



Ref	Part No.	Description	
No.		2000, p. 10.	
1.	712-0896	Lock Nut	
2.	782-7598	Belt Keeper	
3.	741-0124	Ball Bearing	
4.	750-1050	Flange Bearing	
5.	712-3025	Hex Jam Nut 5/16-24	
6.	736-0425	Bell Washer.325 x.930 x.45	
7.	656-0047	Pulley, 3.82 x.313 x.68	
8.	736-0406	Flat Washer.422 x 1.38 x.060	
9.	682-0029	Front Idler Assembly	
10.	732-04001	Extension Spring	
11.	741-0682A	Bearing Sleeve	
12.	736-0570	FI-Wash.865 x 1.145 x.030	
13.	710-0299	Hex Screw 1/4-28 x 1.0	
14.	741-0699	Needle Bearing.438 x.625 x.500	
15.	736-0520	Flat Washer.504 x.700 x.030	
16.	717-1492	Pinion Shaft	
17.	682-0030	Idler Cable Bracket Assembly	
18.	721-0329	Oil Seal	
19.	741-0673	Flange Bearing	
20.	611-0105A	Output Shaft	
21.	736-0314	Thrust Washer.375 x.070 x.030	
22.	736-0569	Thrust Washer.388 x.625 x.062	
23.	618-0300A	Upper Housing	
24.	618-0299A	Lower Housing	
25.	710-1276	Hex Screw w/Washer 1/4-20 x.750	
26.	618-04006	Transmission Assembly Comp.	
27.	721-0457	Oil Seal	

# Model F569



**IMPORTANT:** For a proper working machine, use Factory Approved Parts. **V-BELTS** are specially designed to engage and disengage safely. A substitute (non OEM) V-Belt can be dangerous by not disengaging completely.

**NOTE:** For **painted parts**, please refer to the list of color codes below. Please add the applicable color code, wherever needed, to the part number to order a replacement part. For instance, if a part numbered 700-xxxx is painted powder black, the part number to order would be 700-xxxx-0637.

Red: 0638 Powder Black: 0637

# Model F569

Ref. No	Part No.	Description	Ref. No	Part No.	Description
1.	631-04025	Drive Control Bar: Red	50.	716-0865	Snap Ring
2.	710-0599	TT Screw 1/4-20 x 0.5	51.	717-1762	Gear 14T RH FWD
3.	736-0270	Bell Washer.265 x 0.75		717-1761	Gear 14T LH FWD *
4.	17032A	Deflector Chute Adapter	52.	747-04080	Grass Bag Frame
5.	732-1014	Torsion Spring	53.	736-0451	Saddle Washer
6.	647-04005	Self Start Control Assembly	54.	712-3005	Hex Flange Lock Nut 3/8-16
7.	731-04087	Handle Panel	55.	710-1652	Tt Screw 1/4-20 x.625"
8.	749-1507	Upper Handle	56.	687-02056	Handle Bracket Assembly - RH*
9.	712-04016	Push Nut		687-02057	Handle Bracket Assembly - LH
10.	712-0271	Hex Nut	57.	715-0221	Dowel Pin
11.	747-2133A	Blade Control Bar	58.	687-02033	Handle Bracket - RH
12.	747-2132A	Control Rod		687-02031	Handle Bracket - LH*
13.	720-0279	Handle Knob	59.	687-02039	Pivot Bar RH
14.	720-0284	Handle Knob		687-02040	Pivot Bar LH*
15.	710-1205	Eye Bolt	60.	732-0866	Height Adjustment Lever
16.	746-04014	Smart Speed™ Control Cable	61.	720-0312	Foam Grip
17.	710-0487	Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x 2.0	62.	738-0507B	Shoulder Scr.500 Dia. x.434
18.	687-02055	Mulch Plug Comp.	63.	747-0710	Hinge Pin
19.	726-0240	Cable Tie	64.	734-04019	Wheel, 12 x 2.125
20.	714-0104	Cotter Pin	65.	728-0199	Plastic Rivet
21.	710-1008	Self-Tapping Sems Screw	66.	732-0708	Bearing Retainer
22.	746-04013	Smart Speed™/SS Fwd. Drive Cable	67.	741-0604A	Bearing Sleeve
23.	664-04011	Grassbag Assembly	68.	732-0700	Wire
24.	710-1650	Shoulder Screw # 12 -24	69.	731-1236	Rear Trailing Shield
25.	631-0075B	Engine Spacer	70.	747-0996	Pivot Rod
26.	732-04020	Extension Spring	71.	711-1293	Belt Keeper Pin
27.	787-01038	Cable Bracket	72.	731-04134	Rear Discharge Door
28.	787-01006	21" Deck	75.	748-0355	Bearing Support
29.	782-5004A	RH Rear Baffle	77.	750-04162	Spacer.375 x.50 x 1.02
30.	710-1017	Screw AB: 1/4-14:.625	78.	738-1002	Shoulder Screw 1/4-14
31.	782-5003	LH Rear Baffle	79.	710-0703	Carriage Bolt 1/4-20
32.	710-0216	Hex Screw 3/8-16 x.75	80.	712-0397	Wing Nut
33.	732-04089	Torsion Spring LH	81.	736-0447	Wave Washer
34.	712-0431	Hex Nut 3/8-16	82.	782-0512B	Height Adjuster Plate - RH
35.	731-04584	Transmission Cover		782-0511A	Height Adjuster Plate - LH*
36.	782-5002A	Front Baffle	83.	750-1166	Slev. Spacer 2.1" Lg.
37.	754-0465	V-Belt	84.	687-02044	Pivot Plate Assembly
38.	710-0809	TT-Scr. 1/4-20 x 1.25	85.	618-04006	Transmission Assembly
39.	750-1165	Sleeve Spacer 10.1" Lg.	88.	682-0512A	Height Adjustment Assembly RH*
40.	748-04015A	Blade Adapter w/ Pulley		682-0511A	Height Adjustment Assembly LH
41.	742-0741	21" Mulching Blade	89.	782-7551	Wheel Dust Cap
41. 42.	736-0524A	Blade Bell Support	90.	716-0102	Snap Ring
44.	710-1257	Hex Screw 3/8-24 x 2.50	91.	736-0474	Washer
44. 45.	749-0928A	Lower Handle	92.	720-0426	Adjustment Knob
45. 47.	731-04177	Chute Deflector	93.	732-0706	Front Lever RH
47. 48.	732-04177	Torsion Spring RH		732-0707	Front Lever LH*
		Wheel 8 x 2.125	94.	736-0182	Spring Washer
49.	734-04018A	VVIIEEI Ö X Z. IZƏ			•

<sup>\*</sup> Not shown in illustration

### MANUFACTURER'S LIMITED WARRANTY FOR:



The limited warranty set forth below is given by Troy-Bilt LLC with respect to new merchandise purchased and used in the United States, its possessions and territories.

"Troy-Bilt" warrants this product against defects in material and workmanship for a period of two (2) years commencing on the date of original purchase and will, at its option, repair or replace, free of charge, any part found to be defective in materials or workmanship. This limited warranty shall only apply if this product has been operated and maintained in accordance with the Operator's Manual furnished with the product, and has not been subject to misuse, abuse, commercial use, neglect, accident, improper maintenance, alteration, vandalism, theft, fire, water, or damage because of other peril or natural disaster. Damage resulting from the installation or use of any part, accessory or attachment not approved by Troy-Bilt for use with the product(s) covered by this manual will void your warranty as to any resulting damage.

Normal wear parts are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of purchase. Normal wear parts include, but are not limited to items such as: batteries, belts, blades, blade adapters, grass bags, rider deck wheels, seats, snow thrower skid shoes, shave plates, auger spiral rubber and tires.

**HOW TO OBTAIN SERVICE:** Warranty service is available, WITH PROOF OF PURCHASE, through your local authorized service dealer. To locate the dealer in your area, check your Yellow Pages, or contact Troy-Bilt LLC at P.O. Box 361131, Cleveland, Ohio 44136-0019, or call 1-866-840-6483 or 1-330-558-7220, or log on to our Web site at www.troybilt.com.

This limited warranty does not provide coverage in the following cases:

- The engine or component parts thereof. These items may carry a separate manufacturer's warranty. Refer to applicable manufacturer's warranty for terms and conditions.
- b. Log splitter pumps, valves, and cylinders have a separate one year warranty.
- c. Routine maintenance items such as lubricants, filters, blade sharpening, tune-ups, brake adjustments, clutch adjustments, deck adjustments, and normal deterioration of the exterior finish due to use or exposure.
- Service completed by someone other than an authorized service dealer.

- e. Troy-Bilt does not extend any warranty for products sold or exported outside of the United States, its possessions and territories, except those sold through Troy-Bilt's authorized channels of export distribution.
- f. Replacement parts that are not genuine Troy-Bilt parts.
- g. Transportation charges and service calls.

No implied warranty, including any implied warranty of merchantability of fitness for a particular purpose, applies after the applicable period of express written warranty above as to the parts as identified. No other express warranty, whether written or oral, except as mentioned above, given by any person or entity, including a dealer or retailer, with respect to any product, shall bind Troy-Bilt. During the period of the warranty, the exclusive remedy is repair or replacement of the product as set forth above.

The provisions as set forth in this warranty provide the sole and exclusive remedy arising from the sale. Troy-Bilt shall not be liable for incidental or consequential loss or damage including, without limitation, expenses incurred for substitute or replacement lawn care services or for rental expenses to temporarily replace a warranted product.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above exclusions or limitations may not apply to you.

In no event shall recovery of any kind be greater than the amount of the purchase price of the product sold. Alteration of safety features of the product shall void this warranty. You assume the risk and liability for loss, damage, or injury to you and your property and/or to others and their property arising out of the misuse or inability to use the product.

This limited warranty shall not extend to anyone other than the original purchaser or to the person for whom it was purchased as a gift.

**HOW STATE LAW RELATES TO THIS WARRANTY:** This limited warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

**IMPORTANT:** Owner must present Original Proof of Purchase to obtain warranty coverage.