

# ASSEMBLY

**IMPORTANT:** This mower is shipped without gasoline or oil in the engine. Be certain to service engine with gasoline and oil as instructed in the Operation section of the Engine Operator's Manual before starting or operating your mower.

**NOTE:** Reference to right and left hand side of the Lawn Mower is observed from the operating position.

## Unpacking

### OPENING CARTON

1. Cut each corner of the carton vertically from top to bottom.
2. Remove all loose parts:
  - Grass Catcher (if equipped)
  - Engine Oil
3. Remove loose packing material.

### REMOVING MOWER FROM CARTON

1. Lift mower from the rear to detach it from underlying carton material and roll mower out of carton.
2. Check carton thoroughly for any other loose parts.

## Mower Assembly

Perform the following Procedures to assemble and set up the mower:

### • Handle Assembly

- Pull-Out Handle. See page 7.
- Vertical Storage Handle. See page 8.
- Recoil starter Rope Handle Assembly
- Attaching the Grass Catcher (if equipped)
- Attaching Side Discharge Cover (if equipped)

**NOTE:** If necessary, refer to the procedures in the Adjustments Section after assembling the mower.

## Handle Assembly

### PULL-OUT HANDLE

1. Remove any packing material which may be between upper and lower handles.
2. Remove knobs or wing nuts and carriage bolts from the handle (Figure 1). Do not loosen or remove adjacent hex head screws.

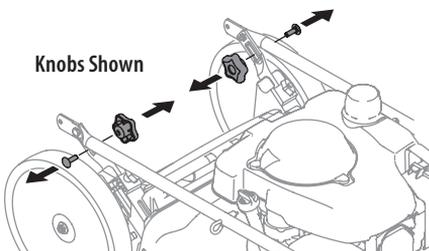


Figure 1

3. While stabilizing mower so it doesn't move, pivot upper handle up (Figure 2). Do not crimp blade control cable while lifting the handle up.



Figure 2

4. Remove T-bolts from the handle brackets (Figure 3).

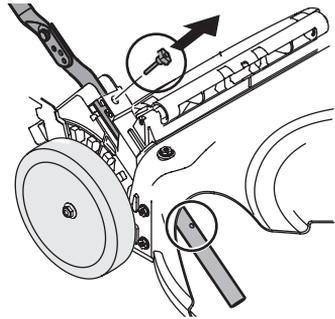


Figure 3

5. Pull upward on the handle (Figure 4) until holes in lower handle line up with holes in handle brackets (Figure 3 deck cutaway).

**NOTE:** When pulling upward on handle, do not pull handle all the way out of the handle brackets.

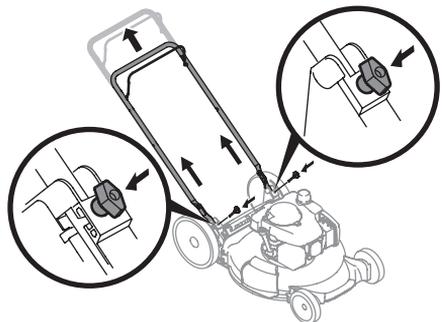


Figure 4

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6. Insert the T-bolts removed in STEP 4 through the handle brackets and lower handle (Figure 4) and tighten securely to secure the handle in place.
7. Reattach knobs or wing nuts and carriage bolts removed in STEP 2 into lower holes of the handle (Figure 5).

## Knobs Shown

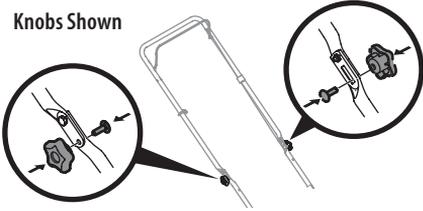


Figure 5

## VERTICAL STORAGE HANDLE

1. Remove the four carriage bolts and nuts from the lower handles (Figure 6).

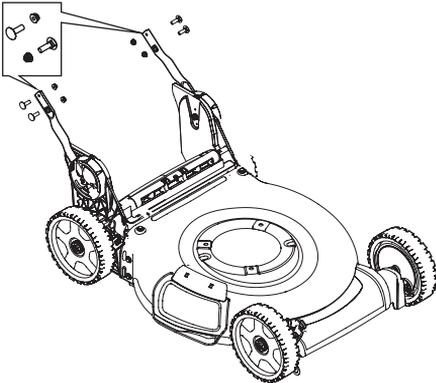


Figure 6

2. Unlock the two handle release levers. See inset, Figure 7.
3. Ensure the lower handles are folded forward towards the front of the mower.

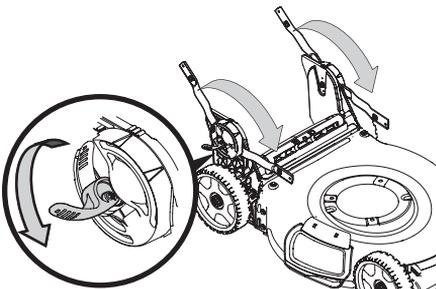


Figure 7

4. Using the four carriage bolts and nuts removed in STEP 2, secure the upper handle to the lower handle. Tighten hardware securely to secure the handle in place.

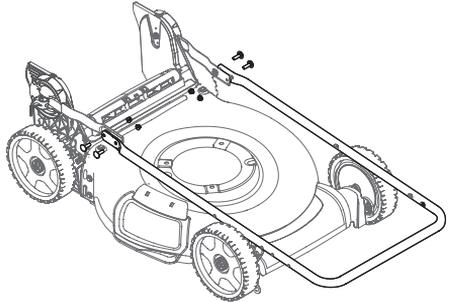


Figure 8

5. While stabilizing mower so it doesn't move, lift the upper handle up (a) (Figure 9). Do not crimp blade control cable while lifting the handle up.
6. When lifting the upper handle ensure the position indicator (b) aligns with one of three handle positions (c). See inset, Figure 9.
7. Lock the two handle release levers. See inset, Figure 9.
8. Ensure all hardware is securely tightened.

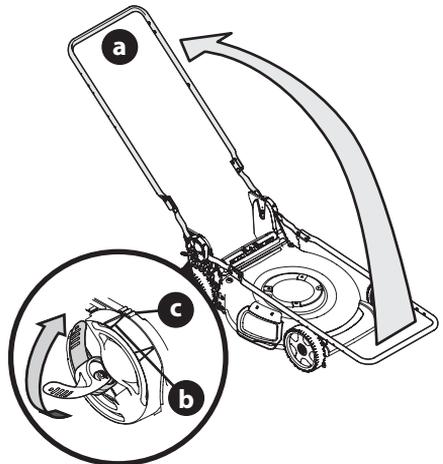


Figure 9

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## Recoil Starter Rope Handle Assembly

**NOTE:** The rope guide is attached to the right side of the upper handle. Loosen the knob securing the rope guide (Figure 10).

**NOTE:** Vertical Storage Mowers Only: The recoil starter rope is equipped with a rope stop clamp to prevent the starter rope being pulled into the engine. Do not remove the rope stop clamp.

1. Hold blade control against upper handle.
2. Slowly pull recoil starter rope handle from engine and slip starter rope into the rope guide.
3. Tighten rope guide knob.

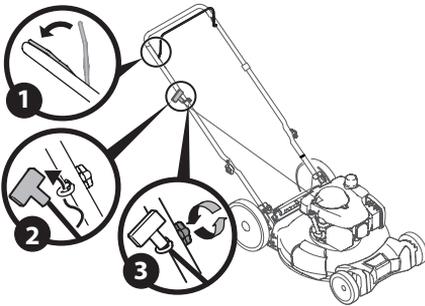


Figure 10

## Attaching the Grass Catcher (if equipped)

1. Perform the following to assemble the grass catcher (Figure 11).

**NOTE:** Before assembling the grass catcher, ensure the grass bag is turned right side out, with the warning label showing on the outside.

- a. Place bag over frame so that its black plastic side is at the bottom.
- b. Slip plastic channels (a) of grass bag over the frame (b).

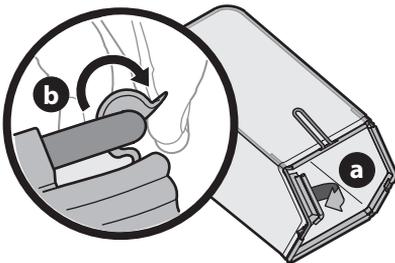


Figure 11

2. Follow steps below to attach grass catcher (Figure 12).
  - a. Lift mower rear discharge door (a).
  - b. Place grass catcher into the slots in the handle brackets (b). Lower the discharge door so that it rests on the grass catcher.

**NOTE:** To remove grass catcher reverse STEP 2. Lift mower rear discharge door. Lift grass catcher up and off the slots in the handle brackets and lower the rear discharge door.

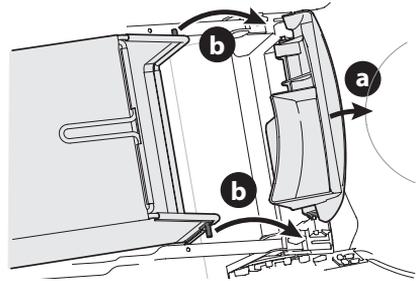


Figure 12

## Attaching Side Discharge Cover (if equipped)

The mower is shipped as a mulcher. To convert to side discharge, ensure the grass catcher is removed and the rear discharge door is closed.

1. Lift the side mulch cover (Figure 13).
2. Slide the two hooks of the side discharge cover under the mulch cover hinge pin. Lower the side mulch cover.

**IMPORTANT:** Do not remove side mulch cover at any time.

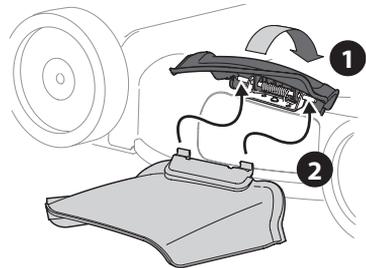


Figure 13

**NOTE:** Some side discharge chutes include a clip to secure the discharge chute to the handle. If equipped, the side discharge chute can be secured to the handle when not in use (Figure 14).

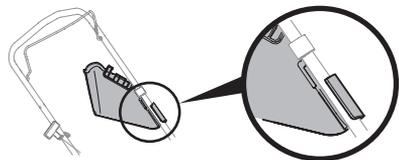


Figure 14