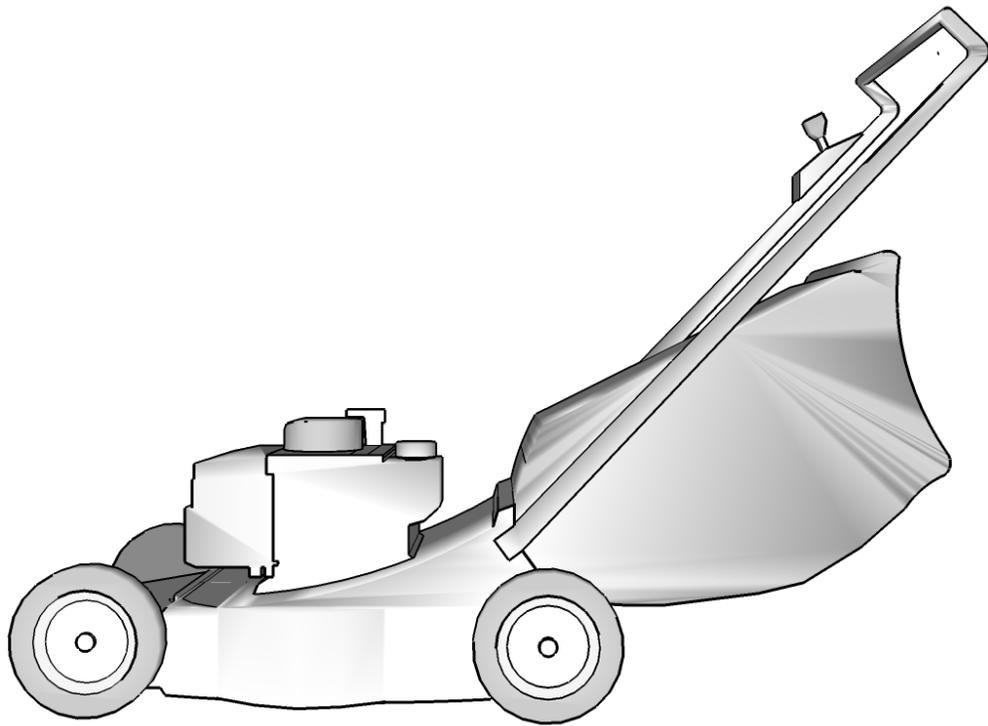


CCC Project Manual

YARD WORK



How-To's

Yard Work

Yard Work Tools

Yard work tools can be easy to confuse, so here is a short illustrated guide to help you remember what's what:

<p>Pruning Shears</p> 	<p>Hedge Clippers</p> 	<p>Hand Pruners</p> 	<p>Grass Clippers</p> 
<p>Also called "loppers." Used to prune branches.</p>	<p>Used to trim shrubs, smaller branches, and limbs.</p>	<p>Smaller version of pruning shears, used for small pruning.</p>	<p>Used to trim small patches of grass or weeds.</p>

Safety Precautions

- You should be wearing them anyway, but always make sure to have on long pants and closed-toed shoes when operating lawnmowers and weed eaters.
- Always wear safety goggles when operating weed eaters.
- Make sure that you keep a safe distance from others when operating lawnmowers, weed eaters, swing blades, and other yard work implements.
- Be watchful for hazards such as poison ivy, poison oak, wasps, bees, etc. when doing yard work. Have bee/wasp spray handy. If you are allergic to bee stings, make sure you bring your EpiPen.



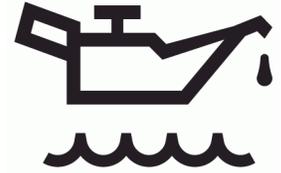
Poison Ivy



Poison Oak

How to Start a Lawnmower

1. First, make sure you have enough oil in the lawn mower. Most mowers use 2-Cycle (aka 2-Stroke) Engine Oil. Look for the a cap on the mower that reads “oil” or has a symbol like the one pictured to the right. Open the cap and use the dipstick to check the oil level. Fill with oil as needed, but do not overfill.
2. Next, make sure you have enough gasoline. There should be a clearly labeled cap on the gas tank. If you open it, you should be able to look down into the tank and see the approximate level. Add more (preferably using a funnel) if needed.
3. Locate the prime button, usually a red or black squishy bulb somewhere on the mower's body. Push it 3-5 times to send gasoline into the lines.
4. Grasp and hold down the starting lever on the main handlebar. This is a safety feature most lawnmowers have that, when held down, will allow the mower to start and continue running. When it is released, the engine will cut off.
5. Continuing to hold down the starting lever, and pull the rip cord. It is not uncommon to have to pull the cord several times for the motor to start up. Make sure feet and other objects are clear before starting.



How to Properly Use a Lawnmower

- Always wear long pants and heavy-duty, closed-toed shoes when operating a lawnmower.
- Always make sure to keep feet and other extremities at a safe distance from the mower blade.
- Keep a safe distance from other people, objects, etc.
- Clear the path of debris, children's toys, and other obstacles.
- The grass should be dry before mowing. If it is wet, it will stick to the blade and underside of the mower creating, making it more difficult to mow and sometimes causing mechanical difficulties.
- Do not mow up steep inclines.
- Always turn off the mower before pushing it across sidewalks, driveways, or rocky surfaces.

How to Start a Weed Eater

1. First, ensure that the weed eater has enough gas and oil. Unlike mowers, which have separate reservoirs for gas and oil, weed eaters use a gas/oil mix. Make sure you know what the ratio of gas to oil should be for the weed eater (common ratios are 40:1 or 32:1, gas to oil). Use 2-Cycle (aka 2-Stroke) Engine Oil. Mix these together in a gas can, and mark it as a “gas/oil mix” so that it is not inadvertently used for another engine. Here are some sample ratios
 - a. 32:1 = 1 gallon of gasoline and 4 oz. oil (or 2 gallons of gasoline and 8 oz. oil, etc.)
 - b. 40:1 = 1 gallon of gasoline and 3.2 oz. oil (or 2 gallons of gasoline and 6.4 oz. oil, etc.)
2. Locate the prime button or bulb. Push it 3-5 times to send the gas/oil mix into the engine.

Yard Work

3. Push down the choke lever. The choke should be open as far as possible and can be adjusted once the engine starts.
4. Grasp the start knob firmly. Be sure to maintain a safe distance from any people or objects before you attempt to start the weed eater. It will be easier to start the engine if the weed eater is resting on the ground.
5. Pull the rip cord to start the engine. It is not uncommon to have to pull the cord several times to get the engine started.
6. Pick up and hold the weed eater with both hands and put one hand on the trigger. The trigger speeds up or slows down the weed eater.
7. Turn off the engine using the button near the trigger.

How to Properly Use a Weed Eater

- Always wear long pants and closed-toed shoes when operating a weed eater. Also wear safety goggles, as objects can sometimes fly back towards you.
- Keep a safe distance from other people, objects, etc.
- Do not hold the weed eater too close to the ground. Keep the string head 2 to 3 inches off the ground.
- A common mistake for some folks is to squeeze and let go of the trigger constantly, causing the engine to rev up and down. This causes the motor a lot of extra work on the inside, thus making them prone to tear up more quickly. Instead, you should hold the trigger down, allowing the motor to run full speed while working through the grass, weeds, etc.