

MOWER

Choosing a Mower That's Right for You

We spend a bit of time behind our lawn mowers, but we don't know as much about them as we should. There are two basic types of lawn mowers: rotary and reel. Each has its advantages and disadvantages.

Rotary Mower

- Has a horizontal mowing, high speed blade which cuts grass by impact
- Are simpler, less expensive and require less skill to operate and maintain than reel mowers
- Easy to adjust
- More adaptable to rougher conditions
- Suited for longer grass, 2"- 3"
- More practical on home lawns

Reel Mower

- Has fixed blades, part of a turning cylinder (reel) which moves down and back against a stationary bedknife, at the base of the mower
- When sharp, this mower cuts better
- They are flexible enough to cut grass extremely short, like golf greens
- Can be used on home lawns if grass is cut at 1" or lower

Keeping your lawn mower in good condition will extend its life and ensure that it will be ready to give your lawn a good, clean cut whenever you need it. Performing some regular maintenance procedures will keep your mower in tip-top shape.

Routine maintenance

You will need to do some simple maintenance as you use your mower over the course of growing season:

- use only fresh and the right type of gas
- keep the mower blade sharp to achieve a clean cut
- keep your lawn mower clean (wipe or scrape off built-up grass clippings and dirt)

Give your lawn mower a complete service once a year, either before you store it for the winter or before the first mowing in the spring.