

Arnold 490-100-m085

Arnold 490-100-m085 Mulching Mower Blade User Manual

Model: 490-100-m085

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Arnold 490-100-m085 Mulching Mower Blade is a high-quality replacement blade designed for MTD 22-inch walk-behind lawnmowers. This blade is engineered to provide superior mulching performance, finely cutting grass clippings and returning them to the lawn as natural fertilizer. Its durable carbon steel construction ensures long-lasting performance and resistance to wear.



Figure 1: Arnold 490-100-m085 Mulching Mower Blade. This image shows the full length of the blade, highlighting its unique mulching design and central star-shaped hole.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when handling and installing mower blades. Failure to follow safety instructions can result in serious injury.

- **Disconnect Spark Plug:** Before performing any maintenance or blade replacement, always disconnect the spark plug wire from the spark plug to prevent accidental engine starting.
- **Wear Protective Gear:** Always wear heavy-duty gloves and eye protection when handling mower blades. Blades are sharp and can cause cuts.
- **Secure the Mower:** Ensure the lawnmower is stable and cannot tip over during blade removal or installation. Use appropriate blocking or stands if necessary.
- **Inspect Blade Regularly:** Periodically inspect the blade for damage, bends, or excessive wear. A damaged blade can cause vibration and unsafe operation.
- **Proper Torque:** Ensure blade mounting bolts are tightened to the manufacturer's specified torque. Refer to your lawnmower's owner's manual for specific torque values.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the steps for replacing your lawnmower blade with the Arnold 490-100-m085 Mulching Mower Blade.

1. **Prepare the Mower:** Turn off the lawnmower engine. Disconnect the spark plug wire and secure it away from the spark plug.
2. **Position the Mower:** Carefully tilt the lawnmower onto its side, ensuring the carburetor and air filter are facing upwards to prevent fuel or oil leaks.
3. **Secure the Blade:** Use a block of wood or a specialized blade removal tool to prevent the blade from rotating while loosening the mounting bolt.
4. **Remove Old Blade:** Using a wrench, loosen and remove the blade mounting bolt(s). Carefully remove the old blade, noting its orientation.
5. **Install New Blade:** Position the new Arnold mulching blade with the cutting edges facing the correct direction (usually indicated by an arrow or "grass side" marking on the blade or mower deck). Ensure the star-shaped center hole aligns perfectly with the mower's blade adapter.
6. **Tighten Bolt:** Reinstall the blade mounting bolt(s) and tighten them securely. Refer to your lawnmower's manual for the correct torque specification. Over-tightening or under-tightening can be dangerous.
7. **Final Check:** Once the blade is installed, reconnect the spark plug wire. Before starting the engine, manually rotate the blade to ensure it spins freely and does not hit any part of the mower deck.



Figure 2: Example of a walk-behind lawnmower. This image shows a typical push mower, illustrating the type of equipment this blade is

4. OPERATION

Once the Arnold mulching blade is installed, operate your lawnmower as per its manufacturer's instructions. The mulching design of this blade is optimized for cutting grass into fine particles, which are then dispersed back into the lawn.

- **Optimal Cutting Height:** For best mulching results, avoid cutting more than one-third of the grass blade length at a time. This allows the mulching action to be most effective.
- **Dry Grass:** Mulching works best on dry grass. Wet grass tends to clump and can clog the mower deck.
- **Regular Mowing:** Frequent mowing helps maintain a healthy lawn and allows the mulching blade to process smaller amounts of clippings more efficiently.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance of your mulching blade ensures its longevity and optimal performance.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the underside of the mower deck and the blade to remove accumulated grass clippings. This prevents rust and maintains mulching efficiency.
- **Sharpening:** The blade should be sharpened regularly, typically after every 25 hours of use or at least once per mowing season. A sharp blade provides a clean cut and promotes healthier grass. Ensure the blade remains balanced after sharpening.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the blade for signs of damage, such as bends, cracks, or excessive wear. If the blade is severely damaged, it should be replaced immediately.
- **Storage:** When storing the mower for extended periods, ensure the blade is clean and dry to prevent rust.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Common issues related to mower blades and their solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor Mulching Performance	Dull blade, wet grass, cutting too much grass at once, clogged deck.	Sharpen blade, mow when grass is dry, raise cutting height, clean mower deck.
Excessive Vibration	Unbalanced blade, bent blade, loose blade bolt.	Balance or replace blade, replace bent blade, tighten blade bolt to specification.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Uneven Cut	Dull blade, bent blade, uneven tire pressure (on mower).	Sharpen or replace blade, check mower tire pressure.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** Arnold 490-100-m085
- **Type:** Mulching Mower Blade
- **Length:** 22 inches (55.88 cm)
- **Center Hole Size:** 1 inch (2.54 cm)
- **Center Hole Type:** Star
- **Material:** Carbon Steel
- **Compatibility:** MTD 22-inch Walk Behind Lawnmowers
- **Product Dimensions:** 22 x 2.25 x 1 inches
- **Item Weight:** 1.75 pounds

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your Arnold 490-100-m085 Mulching Mower Blade, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official Arnold website. Arnold products are designed for durability and performance, and customer support is available for inquiries.

Manufacturer: Arnold Corp

For further assistance, you may contact Arnold customer service or visit their official website. Always provide your product model number (490-100-m085) when seeking support.



Figure 3: MTD Logo. Arnold is a brand under the MTD family of brands, which manufactures various outdoor power equipment and accessories.

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This manual is for informational purposes only. Always refer to your specific lawnmower's owner's manual for detailed instructions and safety warnings.

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