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› MTD Genuine Parts 954-0349 Replacement Belt User Manual

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Model: 954-0349

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides important information regarding the installation, maintenance, and safe operation of your MTD Genuine Parts 954-0349 Replacement Belt. This belt is an original equipment part designed for specific MTD lawn and garden equipment. Proper installation and maintenance are crucial for optimal performance and longevity of your equipment.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always disconnect the spark plug wire or remove the battery before performing any maintenance or installation on your equipment to prevent accidental starting.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and eye protection, when handling parts and working on machinery.
- Ensure the equipment is on a stable, level surface and properly supported before beginning any work.
- Refer to your equipment's original owner's manual for specific safety instructions and procedures related to belt replacement.
- Keep children and pets away from the work area.

PRODUCT COMPATIBILITY

The MTD Genuine Parts 954-0349 Replacement Belt is a cross drive belt specifically designed for 46-inch side discharge lawn mowers from the 600, 700, and 800 series manufactured between 1987 and 2000. It replaces part number 754-0349. To ensure correct fitment, always verify the part number in your equipment's owner's manual or on the existing belt before purchase and installation.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Tools Required:

- Wrenches or sockets (sizes may vary depending on equipment)
- Pliers
- Gloves
- Eye protection

Step-by-Step Belt Replacement:

1. **Prepare the Equipment:** Park the lawn mower on a flat, stable surface. Engage the parking brake. Disconnect the spark plug wire or remove the battery to prevent accidental starting.
2. **Access the Belt:** Depending on your mower model, you may need to remove the cutting deck or other covers to access the drive belt system. Refer to your mower's owner's manual for specific instructions on accessing the belt.
3. **Relieve Tension:** Locate the belt tensioner or idler pulley. Use a wrench or lever to relieve tension on the old belt. This may involve moving a spring-loaded pulley.
4. **Remove Old Belt:** Carefully remove the old belt from all pulleys, noting its routing path. It can be helpful to take a photo of the belt routing before removal.
5. **Inspect Pulleys:** While the belt is off, inspect all pulleys for wear, damage, or excessive play. Replace any worn components as necessary.
6. **Install New Belt:** Route the new MTD 954-0349 belt around the pulleys, following the exact path of the old belt. Ensure the belt is seated correctly in all pulley grooves.
7. **Apply Tension:** Re-engage the belt tensioner or idler pulley to apply proper tension to the new belt. Double-check that the belt is securely in place on all pulleys.
8. **Reassemble and Test:** Reattach any covers or the cutting deck that were removed. Reconnect the spark plug wire or battery. Start the engine and engage the drive system briefly to ensure the belt operates smoothly without slipping or unusual noise.



Image: MTD Genuine Parts 954-0349 Replacement Belt. This image displays the brown V-belt, coiled to show its length and construction.

MAINTENANCE

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the belt for signs of wear, cracking, fraying, glazing, or stretching. A worn belt can lead to reduced performance and potential damage to other components.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the belt and pulleys free from dirt, debris, oil, and grease. Contaminants can cause the belt to slip or wear prematurely.
- **Proper Tension:** Ensure the belt maintains proper tension. A belt that is too loose will slip, and a belt that is too tight can cause excessive wear on pulleys and bearings. Refer to your equipment's manual for tension specifications.
- **Storage:** If the equipment is stored for an extended period, especially in extreme temperatures, inspect the belt before next use.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Belt slipping or squealing	Loose tension, worn belt, oil/grease on belt/pulleys	Adjust tension, replace belt, clean belt and pulleys
Belt breaking prematurely	Improper installation, misaligned pulleys, worn pulleys, excessive load	Re-install correctly, check pulley alignment/wear, reduce load
Unusual noise from belt area	Worn belt, worn/damaged pulleys or bearings, improper tension	Inspect and replace worn parts, adjust tension

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Part Number:** MTD 954-0349
- **Replaces Part Number:** 754-0349
- **Belt Type:** V-belt, Cross Drive
- **Dimensions:** 1/2-inch (width) by 79-inch (length)
- **Material:** Covered
- **Manufacturer:** MTD Genuine Parts

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your MTD Genuine Parts 954-0349 Replacement Belt, please refer to the documentation provided with your original equipment or contact MTD Genuine Parts customer support directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

For further assistance or technical support, please visit the official MTD Genuine Parts website or consult your local authorized MTD service dealer.

