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› CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9" Blade User Manual

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For Z-Force 50 and Tank M50 Zero-Turn Lawn Mowers

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective installation, operation, and maintenance of your CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9" Blade. This blade is an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) replacement part, designed for specific CUB CADET zero-turn lawn mower models, including the Z-Force 50 and Tank M50. It replaces prior MPN 01010168. Always refer to your mower's original equipment owner's manual to verify compatibility and for detailed instructions specific to your mower model.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Improper installation or maintenance of mower blades can result in serious injury. Always follow safety guidelines.

- Always wear heavy-duty gloves when handling mower blades. Blades are sharp and can cause severe cuts.
- Disconnect the spark plug wire(s) or remove the battery before performing any maintenance or installation on the mower to prevent accidental starting.
- Ensure the mower is on a flat, stable surface and properly supported before working underneath it.
- Use appropriate eye protection (safety glasses or goggles) to protect against debris.
- Never attempt to sharpen or balance a blade while it is attached to the mower.
- Replace bent, cracked, or excessively worn blades immediately.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general procedure for replacing a mower blade. Always consult your specific mower's owner's manual for detailed, model-specific instructions and torque specifications.

1. **Prepare the Mower:** Park the mower on a level surface. Turn off the engine, remove the ignition key, and disconnect the spark plug wire(s) or remove the battery to prevent accidental starting. Engage the parking brake.

2. **Access the Deck:** Depending on your mower model, you may need to raise the deck to its highest position or remove it from the mower frame to access the blades.
3. **Secure the Blade:** To prevent the blade from turning while loosening the bolt, wedge a block of wood between the blade and the mower deck.
4. **Remove Old Blade:** Using a wrench or socket, loosen and remove the blade retaining bolt. Note the orientation of the old blade for correct installation of the new blade. Remove the old blade and any washers or spacers.
5. **Inspect Components:** Inspect the blade spindle, washers, and bolt for wear or damage. Replace any damaged components.
6. **Install New Blade:** Position the new CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9" Blade onto the spindle, ensuring the cutting edge faces the correct direction (typically upwards towards the deck). The blade's center hole should align with the spindle shaft.



Image 1: Side view of the CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9 inch blade, showing its curved profile and high-lift design.

7. **Secure the Blade Bolt:** Reinstall the blade retaining bolt and any washers. Tighten the bolt to the torque specification provided in your mower's owner's manual. Overtightening or undertightening can cause damage or unsafe operation.
8. **Final Check:** Ensure the blade is securely fastened and rotates freely without obstruction. Reconnect the spark plug wire(s) or reinstall the battery.

4. OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

Once the new blade is installed, proper operation of your lawn mower is crucial for optimal cutting performance and safety. The CUB CADET 01010168-0637 is a high-lift blade, designed to create a strong airflow for effective grass discharge, especially in bagging or high-volume cutting conditions.

- **Blade Balance:** A properly balanced blade is essential for smooth mower operation and to prevent excessive vibration, which can damage the mower and affect cut quality.
- **Cutting Height:** Adjust your mower's cutting height according to grass type and desired lawn appearance.
- **Mowing Speed:** Operate the mower at a speed that allows the blades to cut cleanly without tearing the grass.
- **Avoid Obstacles:** Always inspect the mowing area for debris, rocks, or other objects that could damage the blade or be thrown by it.



Image 2: Top view of the CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9 inch blade, highlighting the central mounting hole and the shape of the cutting edges.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular inspection and maintenance of your mower blade will ensure optimal performance and extend its lifespan.

- **Inspection Frequency:** Inspect the blade before each use and after hitting any object.
- **Check for Damage:** Look for bends, cracks, nicks, or excessive wear. A bent or cracked blade must be replaced immediately. Nicks can be sharpened out, but significant damage requires replacement.
- **Sharpening:** A dull blade tears grass, leading to an unhealthy lawn. Sharpen the blade regularly using a file or grinding wheel. Maintain the original cutting angle. After sharpening, always check the blade balance.
- **Balancing:** An unbalanced blade causes vibration, which can damage the mower's engine and deck. Use a blade balancer to ensure the blade is perfectly balanced after sharpening or if vibration is noticed. Remove material from the heavier side until balanced.
- **Cleaning:** Clean grass clippings and debris from the blade and underside of the deck after each use to prevent buildup and corrosion.



Image 3: Angled view of the CUB CADET 01010168-0637 High Lift 17.9 inch blade, illustrating its full length and the high-lift design.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues related to your mower's cutting performance, consider the following:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Uneven Cut	Dull blade, bent blade, unbalanced blade, incorrect deck leveling.	Sharpen or replace blade. Check blade for bends. Balance blade. Refer to mower manual for deck leveling.
Excessive Vibration	Bent blade, unbalanced blade, loose blade bolt.	Replace bent blade. Balance blade. Tighten blade bolt to specifications.
Poor Grass Discharge	Dull blade, excessive grass buildup under deck, wet grass.	Sharpen blade. Clean underside of deck. Mow when grass is dry.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Part Number:** 01010168-0637 (Replaces 01010168)
- **Blade Type:** High Lift
- **Blade Length:** 17.9 inches
- **Material:** Alloy Steel
- **Item Weight:** 2.3 Pounds
- **Compatible Mower Deck Size:** 50 Inches (for Z-Force 50, Tank M50 models)
- **Included Components:** 1 x Blade
- **UPC:** 195997003841

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

This CUB CADET blade comes with a manufacturer's warranty of 3 months. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. The warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. It does not cover damage resulting from misuse, neglect, accident, or normal wear and tear.

9. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or to inquire about replacement parts, please contact CUB CADET customer service or an authorized CUB CADET service center. Always provide the model number (01010168-0637) and your mower's model information when seeking support. You can find contact information on the official CUB CADET website or in your mower's owner's manual.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

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