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Makita PLM5120N2

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Model: PLM5120N2

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Makita PLM5120N2 51 cm Gasoline Mulching Lawn Mower. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the machine to ensure proper use and to prevent injury or damage.

The Makita PLM5120N2 is a robust and stable steel sheet housing lawn mower, ideal for areas up to 2,000 m². It features a 51 cm cutting width, a Briggs & Stratton 4-stroke engine with 150 cm³ displacement, and a Magneton Electronic Ignition system for quick starting.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when operating power equipment. Failure to follow safety instructions can result in serious injury or death.

- **Read the Manual:** Understand all instructions and warnings before use.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear appropriate eye protection, hearing protection, sturdy footwear, and long pants.
- **Clear the Area:** Before starting, clear the mowing area of stones, sticks, wires, and other debris that could be thrown by the blade.
- **Keep Bystanders Away:** Ensure children, pets, and other people are at a safe distance (at least 15

meters/50 feet) from the operating area.

- **Fuel Handling:** Handle gasoline with extreme care. It is highly flammable. Refuel outdoors, away from sparks or open flames, and allow the engine to cool before refueling.
- **Slope Operation:** Exercise extreme caution when mowing on slopes. Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down. Do not mow excessively steep slopes.
- **Blade Safety:** Never place hands or feet near rotating parts. Disconnect the spark plug wire before performing any maintenance or clearing blockages.
- **Engine Off:** Always turn off the engine and wait for the blade to stop completely before leaving the mower, clearing blockages, or making adjustments.
- **Maintenance:** Perform regular maintenance as described in this manual to keep the mower in safe operating condition.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Makita PLM5120N2 lawn mower.



Figure 1: Overview of the Makita PLM5120N2 51 cm Gasoline Mulching Lawn Mower. This image shows the complete mower from a slight angle, highlighting its robust design, large rear wheels, ergonomic handle, and the Briggs & Stratton engine. The teal-colored deck and black components are clearly visible.

Key Features:

- Robust 3-level height adjustment (handle system)
- Large 28 cm rear wheels with smooth profile, all wheels with double ball bearings
- Handle with premium sheath for comfortable grip
- Side discharge chute for grass cutting, lockable for mulching
- Ergonomic handle system for comfortable maneuvering
- Solid and stable steel sheet mower housing
- Magneton Electronic Ignition system for quick, almost effortless starting
- Central 5-level cutting height adjustment (25 to 70 mm)

SETUP

Follow these steps to prepare your lawn mower for first use.

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove the mower and all accessories from the packaging. Check for any damage or missing parts.
2. **Handle Assembly:**
 - Unfold the handle assembly and secure it in place using the provided knobs or bolts. Ensure the handle is firmly locked.
 - Adjust the handle height to a comfortable operating position using the 3-level adjustment system.
3. **Add Engine Oil:**
 - Locate the oil fill cap/dipstick.
 - Fill the engine with the recommended type and amount of engine oil (refer to the engine manufacturer's manual for specific details, typically SAE 30 or 10W-30). Do not overfill.
4. **Add Fuel:**
 - Ensure the engine is cool.
 - Fill the fuel tank with fresh, unleaded gasoline (Super unleaded recommended). Do not use E85 or other high-ethanol fuels.
 - Do not overfill; leave space for fuel expansion. Securely replace the fuel cap.
5. **Cutting Height Adjustment:**
 - Adjust the cutting height using the central 5-level adjustment lever. The cutting height can be set from 25 mm to 70 mm.
 - For best results, avoid cutting more than one-third of the grass blade length at a time.
6. **Mulching/Side Discharge Setup:**
 - The mower is designed for mulching. To use the side discharge, attach the provided side discharge chute. To enable mulching, ensure the side discharge chute is removed and the opening is covered/locked.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for safe and effective operation of your lawn mower.

Starting the Engine:

1. **Prime (if applicable):** Some engines may require priming. Refer to the engine manual for specific instructions.
2. **Choke (if applicable):** For a cold engine, set the choke lever to the "CHOKE" position. For a warm engine, set it to "RUN".

3. **Throttle:** Set the throttle lever to the "FAST" or "START" position.
4. **Blade Control Bar:** Firmly grasp the blade control bar against the handle. The engine will not start unless this bar is held.
5. **Pull Starter Cord:** Pull the starter cord with a rapid, continuous motion until the engine starts. Do not let the cord snap back.
6. **Adjust Choke:** Once the engine starts, gradually move the choke lever to the "RUN" position as the engine warms up.

Mowing:

- Mow in straight, overlapping lines for an even cut.
- For mulching, ensure the side discharge is closed. The mower will finely chop grass clippings and return them to the lawn as natural fertilizer.
- Do not overload the engine. If the grass is very thick or tall, raise the cutting height or make multiple passes.
- Always push the mower forward. Do not pull it towards you.

Stopping the Engine:

Release the blade control bar. The engine should stop automatically. If it does not, move the throttle lever to the "STOP" position.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your mower. Always disconnect the spark plug wire before performing any maintenance.

After Each Use:

- **Clean the Deck:** Remove grass clippings and debris from the underside of the mower deck. Use a scraper or stiff brush.
- **Inspect Blade:** Check the blade for sharpness, damage, or imbalance. Sharpen or replace as needed.
- **Check for Loose Parts:** Ensure all nuts, bolts, and fasteners are tight.

Seasonal/Periodic Maintenance:

- **Engine Oil:** Check oil level before each use. Change engine oil after the first 5 hours of operation, then every 25-50 hours or annually, whichever comes first.
- **Air Filter:** Clean or replace the air filter regularly (every 25 hours or annually) to ensure proper engine performance.
- **Spark Plug:** Inspect and clean the spark plug annually or every 100 hours. Replace if worn or fouled.
- **Fuel System:** Drain fuel at the end of the season or use a fuel stabilizer to prevent fuel degradation.
- **Blade Sharpening/Replacement:** Sharpen the blade at least once per season, or more frequently if you notice a ragged cut. Replace the blade if it is bent, cracked, or severely worn.

For detailed engine maintenance, refer to the separate Briggs & Stratton engine manual.

TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your lawn mower.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine will not start	No fuel or stale fuel Spark plug wire disconnected or faulty spark plug Blade control bar not held Choke setting incorrect Low oil level (on models with low oil shutdown)	Add fresh fuel. Connect spark plug wire; inspect/replace spark plug. Hold the blade control bar firmly against the handle. Adjust choke for cold/warm engine. Add oil to the correct level.
Engine runs rough or stalls	Dirty air filter Stale fuel Fouled spark plug Carburetor issues	Clean or replace air filter. Drain old fuel and add fresh fuel. Clean or replace spark plug. Consult a qualified service technician.
Mower not cutting evenly	Dull or damaged blade Incorrect cutting height setting Excessive grass height	Sharpen or replace blade. Adjust cutting height appropriately. Mow in multiple passes or raise cutting height.
Excessive vibration	Bent or unbalanced blade Loose components	Inspect and replace blade if bent. Balance blade if necessary. Check and tighten all nuts and bolts.

If you cannot resolve the issue using this table, please contact Makita customer support or a certified service center.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Makita
Model Number	PLM5120N2
Engine Type	Briggs & Stratton 4-stroke
Displacement	150 cm ³
Fuel Type	Unleaded gasoline (Super unleaded recommended)
Cutting Width	51 cm
Cutting Height Adjustment	Central, 5 levels (25 mm to 70 mm)
Recommended Area	Up to 1,500 m ²
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	150 x 68 x 120 cm
Item Weight	25.5 kg
Housing Material	Alloy Steel
Vibration	5.14 m/s ²
K-Value Vibration	1.5 m/s ²
Sound Pressure Level	86.2 dB(A)
Sound Power Level	98 dB(A)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Makita products are manufactured to the highest quality standards. For information regarding warranty coverage, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Makita website.

For technical support, spare parts, or service, please contact your authorized Makita dealer or a Makita service center. When contacting support, please have your model number (PLM5120N2) and serial number (if applicable) ready.

You can find more information and contact details on the official Makita website: www.makita.com