Swisher RC14544CPKA

Swisher RC14544CPKA Commercial Pro Rough Cut Mower User Manual

Model: **RC14544CPKA** | Brand: **Swisher**

14.5 HP 12V Kawasaki 44" Commercial Pro Rough Cut Mower

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, setup, and maintenance of your Swisher RC14544CPKA Commercial Pro Rough Cut Mower. This robust tow-behind mower is engineered for clearing dense areas of grass and cutting saplings up to 3 inches in diameter, making it ideal for meadows and small estates. It is important to note that this machine is designed for rough cutting and is not intended to create a fine finish cut on lawns.

Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the mower to ensure proper use and to prevent injury or damage to the equipment.

2. Safety Information

WARNING: Failure to follow these safety instructions could result in serious injury or death.

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including eye protection, hearing protection, and sturdy footwear, when operating the mower.
- Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from moving parts, especially the blades, when the engine is running.
- Ensure the area is clear of bystanders, children, and pets before starting and during operation.
- Never operate the mower under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Handle fuel with extreme care. Store fuel in approved containers, in a well-ventilated area, and away from ignition sources. Do not refuel a hot engine.

- Before performing any maintenance or clearing debris, always turn off the engine, disconnect the spark plug wire, and ensure all moving parts have come to a complete stop.
- Be aware of thrown objects. The mower can propel debris at high speeds.
- Do not exceed the recommended towing speed.
- Inspect the mower for damage or loose parts before each use.

3. Setup

3.1. Unpacking and Assembly

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Refer to the assembly diagram in your separate assembly guide for detailed instructions. Ensure all fasteners are tightened securely before operation.

3.2. Battery Installation

A standard lawn and garden battery (not included) is required for the electric start feature. Locate the battery compartment, which offers tool-free access. Connect the battery terminals according to the polarity markings (+ to + and - to -). Secure the battery in place.

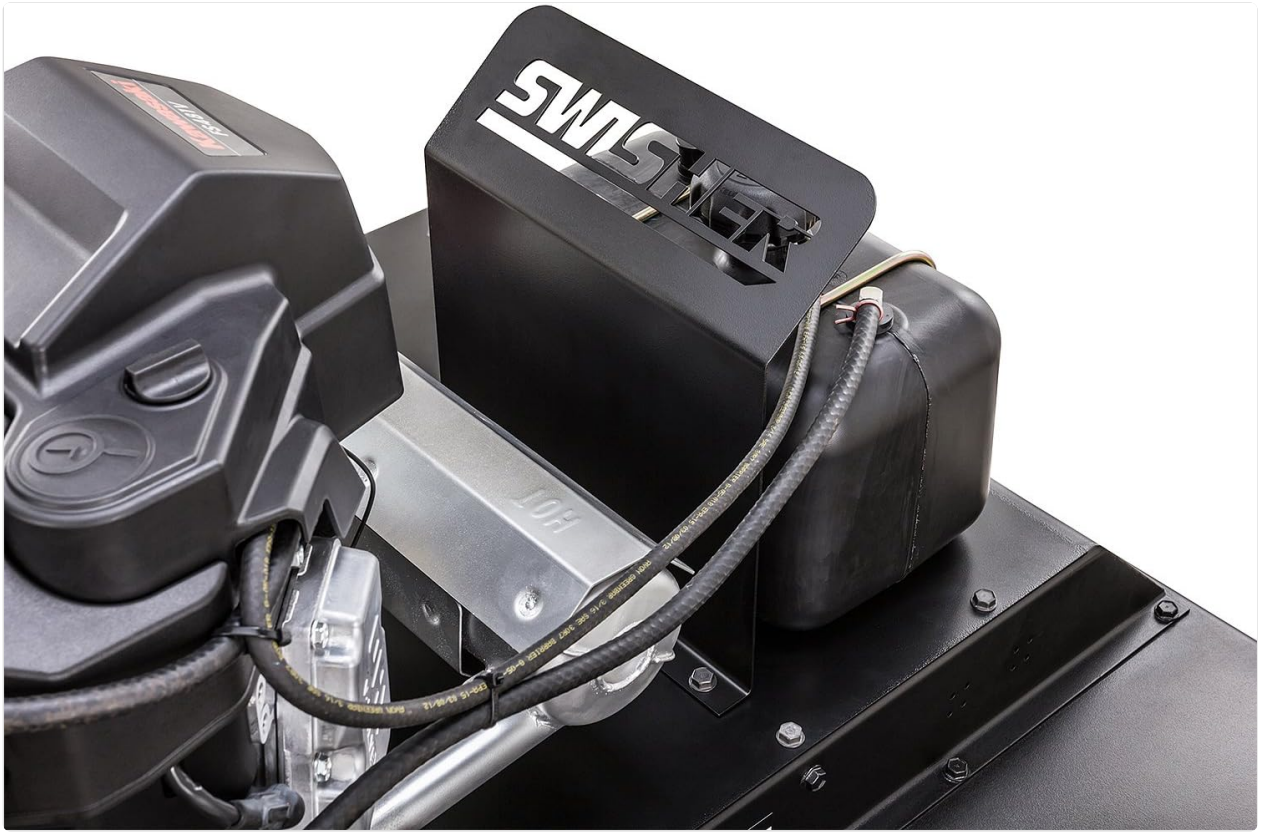


Image: View of the fuel tank and Swisher branding, indicating the location of the engine and related components.

3.3. Hitch Connection

The mower features a universal articulating hitch with a 2-inch ball coupler for infinite adjustment. Attach the mower to your towing vehicle's hitch ball, ensuring a secure connection. The articulating hitch allows for flexible movement and maneuverability.



Image: Detailed view of the mower's hitch mechanism, showing the 2-inch ball coupler for attachment to a towing vehicle.



Image: A closer look at the articulating joint of the hitch, highlighting its flexible design for varied terrain.

3.4. Height Adjustment

The cutting height can be adjusted from 3 inches to 7 inches using the single-point height adjustment mechanism. Locate the adjustment point and set the desired cutting height before operation.



Image: Detail of the turnbuckle mechanism used for adjusting the cutting height of the mower deck.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1. Pre-Operation Checklist

- Check engine oil level.
- Ensure fuel tank is adequately filled (2.5-gallon capacity).
- Verify all guards and safety devices are in place and functional.
- Inspect blades for sharpness and damage.
- Clear the mowing area of any large debris that could be thrown.

4.2. Starting the Engine

The mower is equipped with a 14.5 HP (603cc) Kawasaki electric start engine. Follow the engine manufacturer's instructions for starting. Typically, this involves ensuring the fuel valve is open, setting the choke (if cold), and turning the ignition key.



Image: Detailed view of the 14.5 HP Kawasaki engine, the power source for the rough cut mower.

4.3. Engaging the Blades

Once the engine is running, use the blade/PTO engagement control to activate the cutting blades. This control is typically a lever or switch located conveniently for the operator.



Image: The control box for engaging and disengaging the mower blades (PTO), showing the lever and instructions.

4.4. Mowing Operation

Tow the mower behind your vehicle at a safe and appropriate speed. The heavy-duty stump jumper and two break-away swinging blades are designed to cut most stems up to 3 inches in diameter. For optimal performance, avoid overloading the mower by attempting to cut excessively thick material or by moving too quickly through dense areas.



Image: A comprehensive view of the Swisher Commercial Pro Rough Cut Mower, showcasing its design and components.



Image: An alternative angled view of the mower, providing another perspective on its structure and features.



Image: A third overall view of the mower, offering a complete visual understanding of the product.

4.5. Shutting Down

To shut down the mower, disengage the blades, then turn off the engine using the ignition key or engine kill switch. Allow the engine to cool before storing.

5. Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and safe operation of your Swisher Rough Cut Mower.

5.1. Engine Maintenance

Refer to the Kawasaki engine owner's manual for specific maintenance schedules and procedures, including oil changes, air filter cleaning/replacement, and spark plug inspection.

5.2. Blade Care

Inspect the two break-away swinging blades regularly for sharpness, cracks, or damage. Dull or damaged blades can reduce cutting efficiency and increase strain on the engine. Replace blades as needed. Always wear heavy gloves when handling blades.

5.3. General Inspection and Cleaning

- After each use, clean debris from the mower deck, engine, and cooling fins.
- Check all nuts, bolts, and fasteners for tightness.
- Lubricate all pivot points and moving parts as recommended by the manufacturer.
- The battery, solenoid, and wiring are accessible without tools for easy inspection and maintenance.

6. Troubleshooting

This section provides solutions to common operational issues. For problems not listed here, or if solutions do

not resolve the issue, contact Swisher customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine will not start	No fuel; Spark plug issue; Battery low/dead; Choke not set correctly.	Check fuel level; Inspect/replace spark plug; Charge/replace battery; Adjust choke.
Poor cutting performance	Dull or damaged blades; Mowing speed too fast; Cutting too much material at once.	Sharpen or replace blades; Reduce towing speed; Take smaller passes.
Excessive vibration	Bent or unbalanced blades; Loose fasteners.	Inspect and replace bent blades; Tighten all bolts and nuts.

7. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	Swisher
Model	RC14544CPKA
Engine	14.5 HP (603cc) Kawasaki Electric Start
Power Source	Gas Powered
Cutting Width	44 Inches
Height Adjustment	Single-point, 3-in to 7-in range
Fuel Capacity	2.5 Gallons
Blades	Heavy duty stump jumper and 2 break away swinging blades
Max Cutting Diameter	Up to 3-in stems
Hitch Type	Universal articulating hitch with 2” ball coupler
Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Black
Item Weight	448 Pounds
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	125"D x 59"W x 27"H
Operation Mode	Automatic
Number of Positions	5 (for height adjustment)

8. Warranty and Support

For warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Swisher website. Swisher provides customer support for their products.
If you require assistance with assembly, operation, maintenance, or troubleshooting that is not covered in this manual, please contact Swisher Customer Support directly. Have your model number (RC14544CPKA) and

serial number ready when contacting support.
You can visit the Swisher Store on Amazon for more information or to find contact details for support.

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