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› Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly Instruction Manual for Cub Cadet

Stens 285-703

Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly Instruction Manual

For Cub Cadet Lawn Mowers

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly. This component is designed as a replacement part for specific Cub Cadet lawn mower models. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation to ensure safe and effective use.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Always disconnect the spark plug wire or remove the battery before performing any maintenance or installation on your lawn mower to prevent accidental starting.

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves and eye protection, during installation.
- Ensure the mower deck is securely supported if working underneath.
- Refer to your lawn mower's original owner's manual for specific safety procedures related to deck removal and spindle replacement.
- Improper installation can lead to equipment damage or personal injury. If unsure, consult a qualified service technician.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly is a critical component for the cutting deck of compatible Cub Cadet lawn mowers. It houses the bearings that allow the blade to rotate freely and connects the blade to the drive system via its pulley.



Figure 1: Top view of the Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly, showing the pulley and mounting bolts.



Figure 2: Bottom view of the Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly, showing the blade mounting shaft with a 6-point star design.

Key Features:

- 5/8"-18 UNF Thread for secure attachment.
- 5 1/2" Pulley Outer Diameter for optimal belt engagement.

- 6 point star design on the blade mounting shaft for precise blade fit.

4. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

This section outlines the general steps for replacing a spindle assembly. Specific procedures may vary based on your lawn mower model. Always consult your mower's service manual for detailed instructions.

1. **Preparation:** Park the lawn mower on a flat, level surface. Disconnect the spark plug wire or remove the battery. Engage the parking brake.
2. **Deck Removal (if necessary):** Carefully remove the mower deck from the tractor according to your mower's manual.
3. **Blade Removal:** Secure the blade to prevent it from turning. Remove the blade retaining nut and washer, then remove the blade. Note the orientation of the blade for reinstallation.
4. **Pulley Removal:** Loosen and remove the nut securing the pulley to the top of the spindle shaft. Remove the pulley.
5. **Old Spindle Removal:** Remove the bolts that secure the spindle housing to the mower deck. Carefully lift the old spindle assembly from the deck.
6. **New Spindle Installation:** Position the new Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly onto the mower deck, aligning the mounting holes. Secure it with the original or new mounting bolts, tightening them evenly and to the manufacturer's specified torque.
7. **Pulley Reinstallation:** Place the pulley back onto the spindle shaft and secure it with the nut. Ensure the belt groove is clean and clear.
8. **Blade Reinstallation:** Attach the blade to the spindle shaft, ensuring the cutting edge faces the correct direction. Secure with the washer and retaining nut, tightening to the manufacturer's specified torque.
9. **Deck Reinstallation & Testing:** Reinstall the mower deck. Reconnect the spark plug wire or battery. Test the mower in a safe, open area to ensure proper operation and blade engagement.

5. OPERATION

Once installed, the spindle assembly functions automatically as part of your lawn mower's cutting deck. Ensure that the mower deck belt is properly tensioned and aligned to the spindle pulley for efficient power transfer and optimal cutting performance. Listen for any unusual noises during operation, which may indicate an issue with the spindle bearings or installation.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the spindle assembly for signs of wear, damage, or looseness. Check for excessive play in the shaft or unusual noise during operation.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the area around the spindle and pulley free of grass clippings and debris to prevent buildup that can hinder performance or cause premature wear.
- **Lubrication:** This spindle assembly is typically sealed and does not require regular lubrication. If your specific model has grease zerks, follow your mower's manual for lubrication intervals and type of grease.
- **Blade Balance:** Ensure mower blades are sharp and balanced. Unbalanced blades can cause excessive vibration, leading to premature spindle bearing failure.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive vibration	Unbalanced blade, bent spindle shaft, worn bearings.	Inspect and balance blade. Check spindle for damage. Replace spindle if bearings are worn.
Loud grinding noise	Worn or damaged spindle bearings.	Replace the spindle assembly.
Blade not spinning freely	Debris buildup, seized bearings, bent shaft.	Clean debris. Replace spindle if bearings are seized or shaft is bent.
Belt slipping off pulley	Improper belt tension, worn pulley, misaligned pulley.	Adjust belt tension. Inspect pulley for wear. Ensure spindle is correctly mounted.

8. SPECIFICATIONS



Figure 3: Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly showing approximate measurements.

- **Model Number:** 285-703
- **Brand:** Stens
- **Compatible with:** Cub Cadet (replaces 918-06976A)
- **Thread Size:** 5/8"-18 UNF
- **Pulley Outer Diameter:** 5 1/2" (approx. 5.6")

- **Blade Mount:** 6 point star design
- **Overall Height:** Approximately 6 1/2" (6.5")
- **Product Dimensions:** 7.3 x 6.5 x 6.5 inches
- **Item Weight:** 4.34 pounds
- **Country of Origin:** United States

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support regarding your Stens 285-703 Spindle Assembly, please contact Stens customer service directly or refer to the official Stens website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Manufacturer: Stens

Website: [Visit the Stens Store on Amazon](#)

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