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> CRAFTSMAN 40 Inch Tow Behind Lawn Plug Aerator (CMXGZBF7124213) Instruction Manual

CRAFTSMAN CMXGZBF7124213

CRAFTSMAN 40 Inch Tow Behind Lawn Plug Aerator (Model CMXGZBF7124213) Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective assembly, operation, and maintenance of your CRAFTSMAN 40 Inch Tow Behind Lawn Plug Aerator. This aerator is designed to improve lawn health by loosening compacted soil, allowing better air, water, and nutrient penetration to grass roots. Please read this manual thoroughly before use and retain it for future reference.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Always wear appropriate protective gear, including safety glasses and gloves, when operating this equipment. Keep the area clear of debris before use to prevent projectiles. Be cautious of moving parts, such as the coring points and drawbar, to avoid injury. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper operation and maintenance.

SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

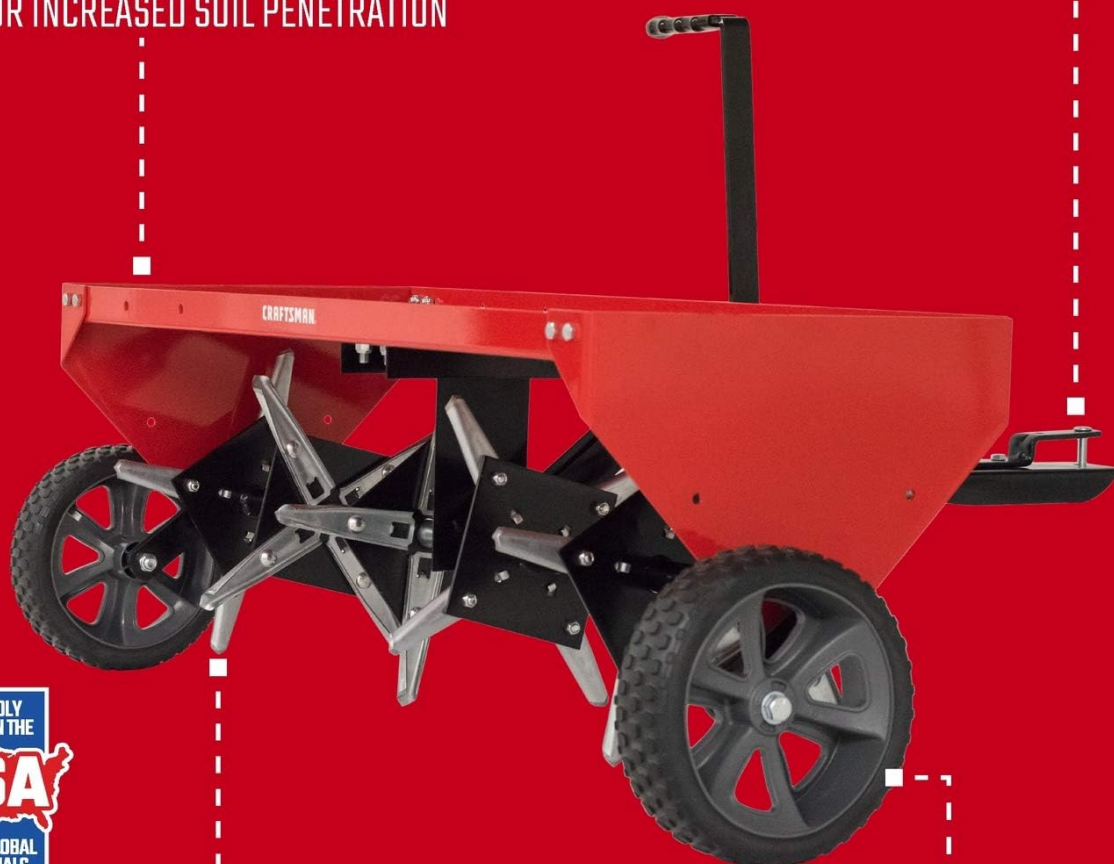
The CRAFTSMAN 40 Inch Tow Behind Lawn Plug Aerator requires assembly. It is recommended to have all necessary tools, such as crescent and socket wrenches, readily available. Review the assembly video for visual guidance.

Assembly Overview

Follow the step-by-step instructions provided in the packaging. Pay close attention to bolt lengths and ensure correct placement. The galvanized aerator knives are sharp; exercise caution during installation. It is often easier to install the knives after the main frame is assembled by tipping the unit.

**140 LB. CAPACITY WEIGHT TRAY
FOR INCREASED SOIL PENETRATION**

**UNIVERSAL FIT HITCH
ATTACHES TO ANY BRAND TRACTOR**



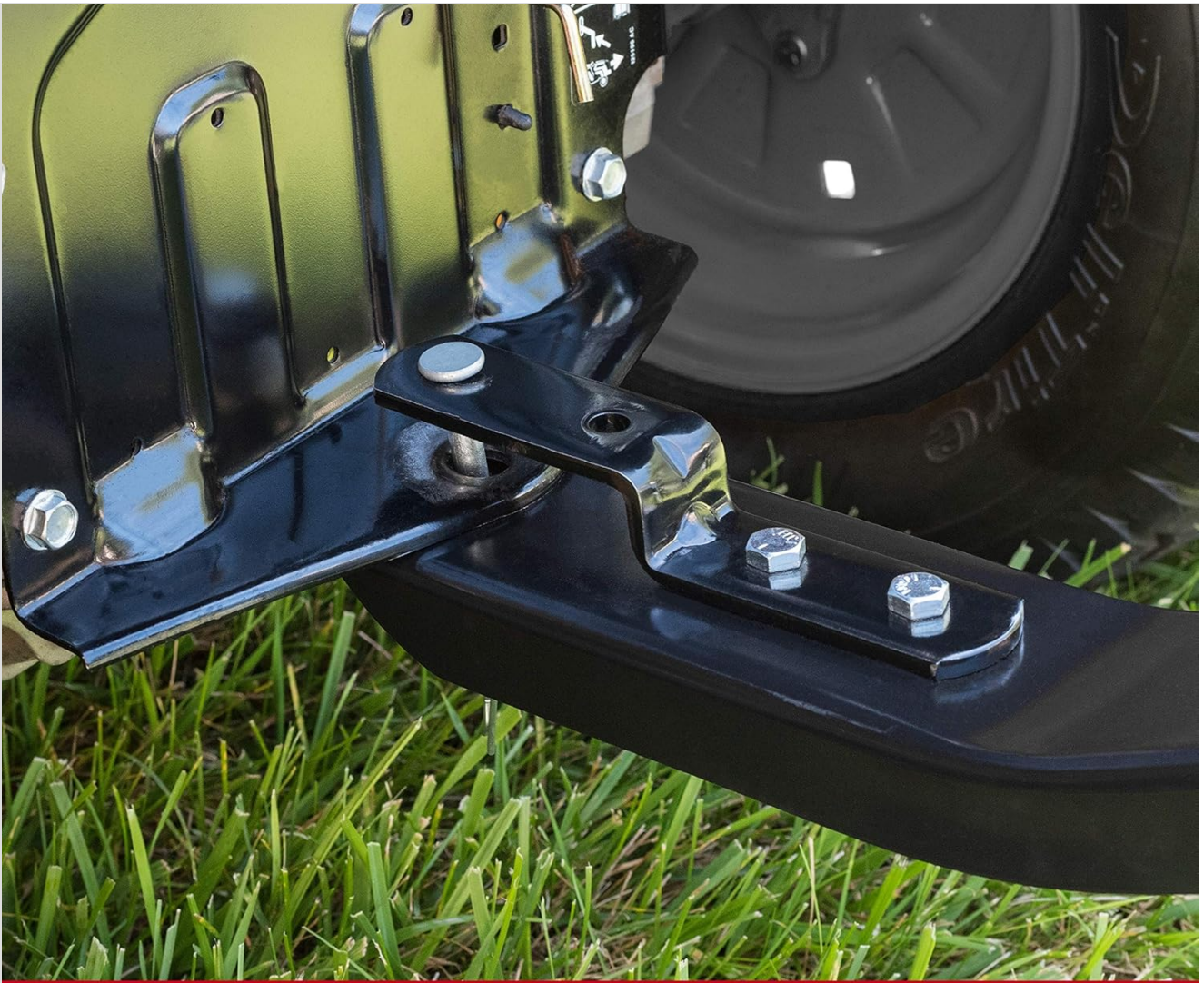
**GALVANIZED AERATOR KNIVES
DEPENDABLE YEAR AFTER YEAR**

**FLAT FREE WHEELS
FOR HASSLE-FREE MAINTENANCE**

Image: Overview of the Craftsman 40 Inch Tow Behind Lawn Plug Aerator, highlighting key features like the weight tray, universal hitch, galvanized aerator knives, and flat-free wheels.

Attaching to a Tractor

The aerator features a universal fit hitch designed to attach to most lawn, garden, and yard tractors. Ensure the hitch is securely fastened to your towing vehicle before operation.



UNIVERSAL FIT HITCH ATTACHES TO ANY BRAND TRACTOR.

Image: A detailed view of the universal fit hitch, demonstrating how it connects to a tractor's tow bar.

Adding Weight for Penetration

For optimal soil penetration, especially in tougher compacted soil conditions, utilize the weight tray. The tray supports up to 140 lbs of ballast. Concrete blocks or similar heavy objects can be used. Secure any added weight to prevent shifting during operation.



**140 LB. WEIGHT TRAY CAPACITY
FOR INCREASED SOIL PENETRATION.**

Image: A person adding concrete blocks to the aerator's weight tray to increase downward pressure for better soil penetration.



Image: A close-up shot of concrete blocks resting on the aerator's weight tray, secured with straps.

Assembly Video

For a comprehensive visual guide on assembly, refer to the official product assembly video:

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video: Official Craftsman 40" Plug Aerator assembly video, providing detailed instructions for putting the unit together.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Preparing for Aeration

1. Ensure the aerator is properly assembled and securely attached to your towing vehicle.
2. Add appropriate weight to the tray (up to 140 lbs) based on your soil type. More weight is needed for compacted or dry soil.
3. Clear the lawn of any obstacles, rocks, or debris that could damage the aerator or be propelled during operation.
4. For best results, aerate when the soil is moist but not saturated. This allows the coring points to penetrate effectively and pull plugs.

Aerating the Lawn

Engage the aerator by lowering the coring points into the ground using the lift handle release system. Drive your tractor at a consistent, moderate speed across the lawn. Overlap passes slightly to ensure complete coverage. The 24 galvanized steel coring points will pull plugs of soil, creating channels for air, water, and nutrients.



GALVANIZED AERATOR KNIVES DEPENDABLE YEAR AFTER YEAR.

Image: A close-up view of the aerator's galvanized steel coring points actively pulling small plugs of soil from the lawn, demonstrating its function.

Transporting the Aerator

When moving the aerator to and from the work area, or between sections of your lawn, use the lift handle to raise the coring points off the ground. This prevents damage to the aerator and your lawn, and allows for smoother transport on flat-free tires.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

After Each Use

- **Cleaning:** Remove any accumulated soil, grass, or debris from the coring points and the aerator frame. A stiff brush or hose can be used.
- **Inspection:** Check all bolts, nuts, and pins for tightness. Ensure the galvanized coring points are not bent or excessively worn. Replace any damaged parts.

- **Lubrication:** Periodically lubricate moving parts as recommended in the full product manual to ensure smooth operation.



DURABLE FLAT FREE WHEELS FOR HASSLE-FREE MAINTENANCE.

Image: A close-up of the durable flat-free wheels, highlighting their robust design for reliable maneuverability and reduced maintenance.

Storage

The aerator features an easy-store design, allowing it to be stored upright against a wall to save space. Ensure the unit is clean and dry before storing. Store in a covered area to protect it from weather elements.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Insufficient soil penetration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough weight on the tray. • Soil is too dry or compacted. • Coring points are worn or damaged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add more weight to the tray (up to 140 lbs). • Water the lawn thoroughly 1-2 days before aerating. • Inspect and replace coring points if necessary.
Aerator lever disengages during operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bumpy terrain causing vibrations. • Lever mechanism not fully secured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider using a bungee cord or strap to secure the lever in the engaged position on rough terrain. • Ensure the lever is fully locked into its operating position.
Uneven aeration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconsistent driving speed. • Insufficient overlap between passes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a steady, moderate speed. • Ensure each pass slightly overlaps the previous one.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Brand: CRAFTSMAN

Model Number: CMXGZBF7124213

Product Dimensions (D x W x H): 50" x 38" x 24"

Item Weight: 78.8 Pounds

Power Source: Manual (Tow-Behind)

Material: Alloy Steel

Coring Points: 24 Galvanized Steel

Coring Depth: Up to 3 inches

Weight Tray Capacity: 140 lbs

Tires: Flat-Free

Included Components: CRAFTSMAN CMXGZBF7124213 40 Tow Plug Aerator

Manufacturer: Agri-Fab Inc.

UPC: 052613105559

WARRANTY INFORMATION

This CRAFTSMAN product is covered by a **3-Year Limited Warranty**. For detailed terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or contact CRAFTSMAN customer support.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For assistance with assembly, operation, parts, or warranty claims, please contact CRAFTSMAN customer support. Refer to the contact information provided in your product packaging or visit the official CRAFTSMAN website. You can also visit the [CRAFTSMAN Store on Amazon](#) for additional product information and resources.