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CUB CADET 942-04217

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Model: 942-04217

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the official user manual for your CUB CADET 942-04217 2-in-1 Blades. This document provides essential information for the safe and effective installation, operation, and maintenance of your new lawn mower blades. These blades are designed as a direct OEM replacement for specific Cub Cadet tractor models, ensuring optimal cutting performance and durability.

This set includes two 22-inch blades, featuring a star-shaped center hole, engineered for both side discharge and bagging operations on compatible 42-inch decks.





Image 1.1: Front view of the two CUB CADET 942-04217 2-in-1 Blades.

2. COMPATIBILITY

The CUB CADET 942-04217 blades are OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) parts, directly replacing prior MPN 742-04217. These blades are specifically designed for the following Cub Cadet tractor models with 42-inch decks:

- Cub Cadet i1042 Tractor (2011, 2010 & Before)
- Cub Cadet LTX1040 Tractor (2009, 42" Deck)
- Cub Cadet LTX1042 Tractor (2009, 42" Timed Deck)
- Cub Cadet ZTT42 (2010 & Before)

It is crucial to refer to your original equipment owner's manual to verify compatibility and ensure these blades are the correct fit for your specific lawn tractor model and deck size before proceeding with installation.

3. SAFETY INFORMATION

Adhering to safety precautions is paramount when handling and installing lawn mower blades. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in serious injury.

- **WARNING:** Always disconnect the spark plug wire(s) or remove the battery before performing any maintenance or installation on your lawn tractor to prevent accidental starting.
- Wear heavy-duty work gloves when handling mower blades, as their edges are extremely sharp.
- Ensure the mower deck is stable and securely supported before working underneath it. Use jack stands or appropriate lifting devices.
- Use only appropriate tools for blade removal and installation.
- Keep hands and feet clear of the blades and cutting deck at all times.
- Dispose of old blades responsibly according to local regulations.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Required Tools:

- Wrench (size appropriate for blade bolt)
- Block of wood or specialized blade removal tool
- Torque wrench (for proper tightening)

Installation Steps:

1. **1. Preparation:** Park the tractor on a flat, level surface. Engage the parking brake. Disconnect the spark plug wire(s) or remove the battery to prevent accidental engine start-up.
2. **2. Access Blades:** Carefully raise the front of the mower deck or lift the entire tractor using a safe and stable lifting device to gain access to the underside of the deck. Ensure the tractor is securely supported.
3. **3. Remove Old Blades:** Place a sturdy block of wood between the blade and the mower deck to prevent the blade from turning while loosening the bolt. Using a wrench, loosen and remove the blade bolt. Carefully remove the old blade. Note the orientation of the old blade to ensure correct installation of the new one.
4. **4. Install New Blades:** Position the new blade with the cutting edge facing the direction of rotation. This is typically indicated by an arrow on the blade or the mower deck. Ensure the star-shaped center hole of the blade aligns correctly with the spindle.
5. **5. Secure Blades:** Reinstall the blade bolt and tighten it by hand until snug. Use the block of wood again to prevent the blade from turning, then tighten the bolt to the manufacturer's specified torque. Refer to your tractor's owner's manual for the exact torque specifications. Proper torque is critical for safety and performance.
6. **6. Final Check:** Ensure both blades are securely fastened and spin freely without obstruction. Lower the mower deck or tractor. Reconnect the spark plug wire(s) or battery.





Image 4.1: Side view of a single CUB CADET 942-04217 blade.



Image 4.2: Top view of a single CUB CADET 942-04217 blade, showing the star center hole.

5. OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

These 2-in-1 blades are designed to provide efficient cutting for both side discharge and bagging operations. For optimal performance and a healthy lawn, consider the following:

- Ensure blades are sharp and free of debris before each use.
- Avoid mowing wet grass, as it can clump under the deck and strain the blades and engine.
- Do not attempt to cut excessively tall or thick grass in a single pass. Raise the cutting height or make multiple passes if necessary.
- Regularly check for foreign objects in the mowing area that could damage the blades.

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance of your mower blades extends their lifespan and ensures consistent cutting quality.

Blade Inspection:

- Regularly inspect blades for sharpness, bends, cracks, or excessive wear. Dull blades tear grass, leading to an unhealthy lawn and increased engine strain.
- Damaged blades can cause excessive vibration, which can harm your mower's components and pose a safety hazard.

Sharpening:

- Blades can be sharpened using a file or grinder. Maintain the original cutting angle.
- It is critical to ensure blades are balanced after sharpening to prevent vibration. An unbalanced blade can cause significant damage to the mower's spindle and bearings.

Replacement:

- Replace blades if they are severely bent, cracked, or worn beyond safe limits.
- It is recommended to replace blades as a set to maintain balanced cutting and prevent uneven wear on your mower's components.



Image 6.1: Angled view of a single CUB CADET 942-04217 blade.



Image 6.2: Bottom view of a single CUB CADET 942-04217 blade.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues related to lawn mower blades.

Issue: Uneven Cut

- *Possible Cause:* Dull or bent blades, unbalanced blades, incorrect blade installation, uneven tire pressure on the tractor.
- *Solution:* Inspect blades for sharpness and damage. Replace if necessary. Ensure blades are installed correctly and torqued to specification. Check and adjust tractor tire pressure.

Issue: Excessive Vibration

- *Possible Cause:* Unbalanced blades (due to wear or improper sharpening), bent spindle, loose blade bolt, debris caught under the deck.
- *Solution:* Check blade balance. Ensure blade bolt is tightened to specification. Clear any debris from the underside of the deck. Inspect the spindle for damage; if bent, professional repair may be required.

Issue: Poor Bagging/Discharge Performance

- *Possible Cause:* Dull blades, wet grass, excessive grass height, clogged discharge chute.
- *Solution:* Sharpen or replace blades. Avoid mowing wet grass. Adjust cutting height for tall grass. Clear any blockages in the discharge chute.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Part Number	942-04217 (Replaces 742-04217)
Blade Length	22 inches
Center Hole Type	Star
Blade Type	2-in-1 (Side Discharge/Bagger Timing Deck Blade)
Quantity	Set of 2 Blades
Product Dimensions (each blade)	Approximately 23 x 4 x 2 inches
Item Weight (for the set)	5.99 pounds

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Specific warranty information for this replacement part is typically provided with the original product purchase or can be obtained from an authorized Cub Cadet dealer. As this is a replacement part, its warranty may be covered under the original equipment's warranty or a separate limited warranty for replacement parts.

For technical support, further assistance, or to locate an authorized service center, please contact Cub Cadet customer service directly or visit their official website. Always provide your product model number (942-04217) and the model number of your Cub Cadet tractor when seeking support.

