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Scheppach MS173-51

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Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Scheppach MS173-51 self-propelled thermal lawn mower. This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your new lawn mower. Please read these instructions carefully before assembly, operation, or maintenance to ensure proper use and to prevent injury or damage.

The Scheppach MS173-51 is designed for mowing lawns in residential settings. It features a powerful 4-stroke engine, a 51 cm cutting width, a 65-liter grass collection bag, mulching capability, and a quick wash connection for easy cleaning.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Always observe the following safety precautions to reduce the risk of injury or damage:

- Read the entire manual before operating the machine.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including eye protection, hearing protection, sturdy footwear, and long trousers.
- Never operate the lawn mower when children or pets are nearby. Maintain a safe distance from others.
- Inspect the area to be mowed and remove any objects that could be thrown by the blades (stones, sticks, wires, etc.).
- Do not operate the lawn mower in wet grass or rain.
- Always turn off the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire before performing any maintenance, cleaning, or clearing blockages.
- Refuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine off and cool. Do not smoke while refueling.
- Be aware of the self-propelled function and maintain control of the machine at all times.
- Do not modify the lawn mower or use it for purposes other than those specified in this manual.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Scheppach MS173-51 lawn mower is equipped with several features for efficient lawn care:

- **Powerful 4-Stroke Engine:** 4.1 HP (3 kW / 173 cm³) for reliable performance.
- **51 cm Cutting Width:** Ideal for large lawn areas.
- **7-Position Central Height Adjustment:** Easily adjust cutting height from 25 to 75 mm.
- **65 L Robust Grass Collection Bag:** Reduces emptying frequency.
- **Mulching Function:** Returns fine grass clippings to the lawn as natural fertilizer.
- **Side Discharge:** For cutting taller grass without collecting.
- **Quick Wash Connection:** For easy cleaning of the cutting deck.
- **Self-Propelled Drive:** High-torque transmission for effortless mowing, even on challenging terrain.
- **Foldable Handle:** For space-saving storage and easy transport.



Figure 3.1: Overview of Scheppach MS173-51 functions and specifications.

4. SETUP

4.1 Unpacking and Assembly

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. The lawn mower is largely pre-assembled. Follow these steps for final assembly:

1. **Handlebar Assembly:** Attach the lower and upper handlebar sections using the provided bolts and knobs. Ensure all connections are secure. The handle is foldable for compact storage.
2. **Grass Collection Bag:** Assemble the grass collection bag if necessary and attach it to the rear of the mower.
3. **Side Discharge Chute:** If using side discharge, attach the chute to the side of the mower.
4. **Mulching Plug:** If mulching, ensure the mulching plug is inserted into the rear discharge opening.



Figure 4.1: The foldable handle allows for space-saving storage and easy transport.

4.2 Adding Engine Oil and Fuel

Your lawn mower requires both engine oil and fuel for operation. Engine oil is included with this model.

1. **Engine Oil:** Locate the oil fill cap on the engine. Using a funnel, carefully add the provided engine oil to the crankcase. Do not overfill. Check the oil level with the dipstick; it should be between the 'Min' and 'Max' marks.
2. **Fuel:** Fill the fuel tank with fresh, unleaded gasoline (minimum 95 octane). Do not use E85 or other ethanol-heavy fuels. Ensure the fuel cap is securely tightened after filling.

Always refer to the engine manufacturer's instructions for specific oil and fuel recommendations and capacities.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Starting the Engine

1. Ensure the spark plug wire is securely connected.
2. Press the primer bulb (if equipped) 3-5 times until fuel is visible in the bulb.
3. Move the throttle lever to the 'Start' or 'Choke' position.
4. Firmly pull the starter cord until the engine starts. Do not let the cord snap back.
5. Once the engine starts, move the throttle lever to the 'Run' position.

5.2 Adjusting Cutting Height

The Scheppach MS173-51 features a central cutting height adjustment with 7 positions, ranging from 25 mm to 75 mm.

1. Ensure the engine is off and the blade has stopped rotating.
2. Locate the central height adjustment lever, typically near one of the rear wheels.
3. Pull the lever outwards and move it to the desired height setting. Release the lever to lock it into place.



Figure 5.1: Central cutting height adjustment in 7 steps from 25-75 mm.

5.3 Mowing Functions (Collecting, Mulching, Side Discharge)

Your lawn mower offers versatile mowing options:

- **Collecting:** Ensure the grass collection bag is properly attached and the mulching plug (if present) is removed.
- **Mulching:** Remove the grass collection bag and attach the mulching plug securely into the rear discharge opening.
- **Side Discharge:** Remove the grass collection bag and mulching plug. Attach the side discharge chute to the side opening.



Figure 5.2: The side discharge can be easily mounted or dismantled as needed.

5.4 Engaging Self-Propelled Drive

To engage the self-propelled drive, squeeze the drive lever (usually located on the handlebar) towards the main handle. Release the lever to disengage the drive.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your lawn mower. Always turn off the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire before any maintenance.

6.1 Cleaning

Quick Wash Connection: Your mower is equipped with an 'Easy Clean' function. Connect a garden hose to the quick wash connection point on the cutting deck. Start the engine briefly and engage the blade to allow water to clean the

underside of the deck. Turn off the engine and disconnect the hose once clean.

Easy Clean - Reinigungsfunktion mit Wasseranschluss.



Figure 6.1: Easy Clean - Cleaning function with water connection.

General Cleaning: After each use, clean grass clippings and debris from the mower deck, engine cooling fins, and wheels. Use a brush or compressed air. Do not use high-pressure washers directly on the engine or electrical components.

6.2 Engine Oil Check and Change

Check the engine oil level before each use. Change the engine oil after the first 5 hours of operation, and then every 25 hours or annually, whichever comes first. Refer to the engine manual for detailed instructions on oil change procedures.

6.3 Air Filter

Inspect the air filter regularly and clean or replace it as needed. A dirty air filter can reduce engine performance and increase fuel consumption.

6.4 Spark Plug

Inspect the spark plug annually or every 50 hours. Clean or replace it if it is fouled or worn. Ensure the correct gap is maintained.

6.5 Blade Maintenance

Regularly inspect the cutting blade for sharpness and damage. A dull blade can tear grass, leading to an unhealthy lawn. Have the blade sharpened or replaced by a qualified service technician if necessary. Always wear heavy-duty gloves when handling the blade.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine does not start	No fuel Old or stale fuel Spark plug disconnected or faulty Engine oil level too low/high Choke not engaged/disengaged correctly	Add fresh fuel Drain and refill with fresh fuel Connect spark plug wire; replace spark plug Adjust oil level Adjust choke lever
Engine runs poorly or stalls	Dirty air filter Stale fuel Spark plug fouled Carburetor issues	Clean or replace air filter Drain and refill with fresh fuel Clean or replace spark plug Contact service technician
Uneven cutting	Dull or damaged blade Incorrect tire pressure (if applicable) Uneven wheel height adjustment	Sharpen or replace blade Check and adjust tire pressure Ensure all wheels are set to the same height
Excessive vibration	Bent or unbalanced blade Loose components	Inspect and replace blade if bent; balance blade Check and tighten all fasteners
Grass not collecting properly	Grass bag full Discharge chute clogged Blade dull Mulching plug installed	Empty grass bag Clear chute (engine off!) Sharpen or replace blade Remove mulching plug for collecting

If you encounter problems not listed here or if the suggested solutions do not resolve the issue, please contact Scheppach customer support or a qualified service center.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	Scheppach
Model Number	5911259903-900
Power Source	Thermal (Gasoline)
Engine Type	4-Stroke, 173 cm ³
Engine Power	4.1 HP (3 kW)
Cutting Width	51 cm
Cutting Height Adjustment	Central, 7 positions
Minimum Cutting Height	2.54 cm
Maximum Cutting Height	7.5 cm
Grass Collection Bag Capacity	65 Liters
Operating Mode	Automatic (Self-propelled)
Item Weight	31.5 Kilograms
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	84 x 59 x 50 cm
Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Red
Country of Origin	China

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This product is covered by standard legal guarantees. For specific warranty details, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or contact the retailer.

For technical support, spare parts, or service inquiries, please contact Practixx Germany, the seller, or visit the official Scheppach website. Keep your purchase receipt and model number (MS173-51) handy when contacting support.

You can find more information about Scheppach products and support at the official brand store: [Scheppach Brand Store](#)