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› Craftsman 42" Gas Zero-Turn Riding Lawn Mower User Manual

## CRAFTSMAN 17ARFACS093

# Craftsman 42" Gas Zero-Turn Riding Lawn Mower User Manual

Model: 17ARFACS093 | Brand: CRAFTSMAN

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Craftsman 42" Gas Zero-Turn Riding Lawn Mower. Powered by a reliable 20 HP\* Kohler® 7000 series engine, this mower is designed to provide a consistent, high-quality cut for yards up to 2 acres. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the machine to ensure proper use and longevity.

### Key Features:

- **42" Zero-Turn Gas Ride-On Mower:** Optimized power and performance for efficient yard maintenance.
- **High-Performance Engine:** Reliable 20 HP\* Kohler 7000 series engine for easy starting and superior results.
- **Durable and Efficient Design:** Features a rugged 42" stamped steel deck, robust steel frame, and dual hydrostatic transmission, capable of cutting up to 1 acre of grass. Includes a mulching kit for professional finishing.
- **Twin-Cylinder Design:** Ensures quick and efficient startup in various temperatures.
- **Enhanced Traction:** Equipped with 20x8 Turf Master tires for increased traction control.
- **Comfortable Operation:** Offers 3 easily adjustable lap bar positions and a specially designed high-back seat for a comfortable ride.



Figure 1.1: Angled front view of the Craftsman 42" Gas Zero-Turn Riding Lawn Mower, showcasing its red and black design with the 42-inch cutting deck visible.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

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Your safety and the safety of others are extremely important. Always follow the safety instructions provided in this manual to prevent serious injury or death. This symbol **DANGER** indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

### General Safety Rules:

- Read the entire operator's manual carefully before attempting to assemble or operate the machine.
- Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, especially small children and pets.
- Never allow children or untrained persons to operate the mower.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses, hearing protection, and sturdy footwear.
- Inspect the area where the equipment is to be used thoroughly and remove all objects which can be thrown by the machine.
- Do not operate the mower when barefoot or wearing open sandals.
- Never operate the mower in wet grass or on steep slopes where traction may be lost.
- Turn off the engine and remove the key before performing any maintenance, adjustments, or clearing clogs.
- Handle fuel with extreme care; it is highly flammable. Store fuel in approved containers only.

## 3. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

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### 3.1 Unpacking

Carefully remove the mower from its shipping crate. Ensure all components are present and undamaged. Refer to the packing list for a complete inventory.

1. Cut the banding straps securing the mower to the pallet.
2. Remove any protective packaging materials.
3. Roll the mower off the pallet carefully, ensuring the wheels are properly aligned.

### 3.2 Initial Checks and Assembly

Before first use, perform the following checks and minor assembly steps:

1. **Install Steering Levers:** Attach the lap bar steering levers to their respective mounts. Ensure they are securely fastened.
2. **Check Tire Pressure:** Verify that all tires are inflated to the recommended pressure (refer to tire sidewall for specifications).
3. **Check Engine Oil Level:** Ensure the engine oil is at the proper level using the dipstick. Add oil if necessary (refer to engine manual for oil type).
4. **Add Fuel:** Fill the fuel tank with fresh, unleaded gasoline. Do not overfill.
5. **Battery Connection:** Connect the battery terminals, ensuring proper polarity.



Figure 3.1: Side view of the Craftsman Zero-Turn Mower, illustrating its compact design and the position of the operator's seat and controls.

## 4. OPERATION

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### 4.1 Controls Overview

Familiarize yourself with the mower's controls before starting the engine:

- **Lap Bar Steering Levers:** Control direction and speed. Pushing both forward moves the mower forward; pulling back reverses. Differential movement turns the mower.
- **Deck Lift Lever:** Adjusts the cutting height of the mower deck.
- **PTO (Power Take-Off) Switch:** Engages and disengages the mower blades.
- **Throttle Control:** Adjusts engine speed.
- **Ignition Switch:** Starts and stops the engine.
- **Parking Brake:** Engages to prevent accidental movement.



Figure 4.1: An operator demonstrating the use of the Craftsman Zero-Turn Mower in a residential lawn setting, highlighting the comfortable seating and control accessibility.

### 4.2 Starting the Engine

1. Ensure the parking brake is engaged.

2. Make sure the PTO switch is in the disengaged position.
3. Place the throttle control in the FAST position.
4. Insert the key into the ignition switch and turn it to the START position. Release the key once the engine starts.
5. Allow the engine to warm up for a few minutes before engaging the blades.

### 4.3 Mowing Tips

- Always mow with the engine at full throttle for the best cut quality.
- Overlap cutting paths slightly to ensure complete coverage.
- Avoid sudden turns or stops, especially on slopes.
- For optimal results, do not remove more than one-third of the grass blade length at a time.
- Clean the underside of the mower deck regularly to prevent grass buildup.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and optimal performance of your Craftsman Zero-Turn Mower. Refer to the following guidelines and the detailed maintenance guide image.

### 5.1 Routine Maintenance Schedule

Item	As Needed	Every Season	Every 50 Hours
Clean Mower Deck	X		
Check Engine Oil	X		
Inspect Blades	X		
Change Engine Oil		X	X
Replace Fuel Filter		X	X
Check Drive Belts		X	
Inspect Battery		X	



# MOWER MAINTENANCE GUIDE

## MOWER MAINTENANCE KEY

AS NEEDED

EVERY SEASON

EVERY 50 HOURS



**AGM BATTERY**  
725P17335



**ENGINE OIL**  
CMXGZAM000044



**ARNOLD® SIPHON PUMP**  
490-850-0008



**FUEL FILTER**  
CMXGZAM202005



Refer to the parts list label under the seat for original equipment parts.



**DRIVE BELT**  
CMXGZAM501069



**DECK BELT**  
CMXGZAM501081



**SPINDLE ASSEMBLY**  
618P09260



### WHEELS

FRONT 634-05664A  
REAR 634Z07264  
DECK 634Z07264-0637



**ARNOLD® BLADE REMOVAL TOOL**  
490-850-0005



**HIGH-LIFT BLADE**  
CMXGZAM110191



**MULCH BLADE**  
CMXGZAM110202



**LOW LIFT / SAND BLADE**  
CMXGZAM110198



Figure 5.1: Craftsman Mower Maintenance Guide, detailing essential parts like the AGM battery, engine oil, fuel filter, drive belt, deck belt, spindle assembly, and various blade types, along with a maintenance key for 'As Needed', 'Every Season', and 'Every 50 Hours' intervals.



**BAGGER**  
CMXGZAMB70054  
(ACCESSORY ONLY)



**ARNOLD® TIRE CHAINS**  
490-241-0023  
(ACCESSORY ONLY)



**MULCH KIT**  
CMXGZAMA30046



**ARMREST KIT**  
757-06093



**ALL SEASON PLOW**  
CMXGZAMA70063



**EZ STOW HAULER**  
19B40026OEM



**TOOL HOLDER**  
19A40030OEM  
(ACCESSORY ONLY)



**HANDLE**  
19A40027OEM



**DECK-MOUNTED STRIPING ROLLER KIT**  
19A70060OEM  
(ACCESSORY ONLY)

Figure 5.2: Craftsman Attachments and Accessories, showing optional items such as a bagger, Arnold® tire chains, mulch kit, armrest kit, all-season plow, EZ Stow hauler, tool holder, handle, and deck-mounted striping roller kit, compatible with the Craftsman Zero-Turn Mower.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section provides solutions to common operational issues. If the problem persists, contact customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine will not start	No fuel; Dead battery; Spark plug issue; Safety switch engaged	Add fuel; Charge/replace battery; Check/replace spark plug; Ensure PTO is disengaged and parking brake is set
Mower cuts unevenly	Dull/bent blades; Uneven tire pressure; Deck not level	Sharpen/replace blades; Adjust tire pressure; Level mower deck
Loss of power during operation	Clogged air filter; Stale fuel; Engine overheating	Clean/replace air filter; Drain and refill with fresh fuel; Check cooling fins for debris

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive vibration	Bent blade; Loose fasteners; Debris on deck/blades	Inspect/replace blades; Tighten all fasteners; Clean deck and blades thoroughly

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	CRAFTSMAN
Model Number	17ARFACS093
Power Source	Gas Powered
Engine	20.0 HP* Kohler 7000 Series
Cutting Width	42 Inches
Transmission	Dual Hydrostatic
Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Red
Item Weight	470 Pounds
Product Dimensions (LxWxH)	80"D x 52"W x 45"H
UPC	043033593125

## 8. WARRANTY AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT

CRAFTSMAN products are built to last and are backed by a comprehensive warranty. For specific warranty details, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official CRAFTSMAN website.

For technical assistance, parts, or service, please contact CRAFTSMAN Customer Support:

- **Online Support:** Visit the CRAFTSMAN official website for FAQs, service center locators, and online contact forms.
- **Phone Support:** Refer to your product documentation for the customer service phone number.
- **Authorized Service Centers:** For professional service and repairs, locate an authorized CRAFTSMAN service center near you.

*Always provide your product model number (17ARFACS093) and serial number when contacting customer support.*