

FLYMO Airborne Mower Instruction Book



**Make sure you know how
to get the best possible
use from your Flymo**

Please read this book carefully

Specification

Flymo 19" Domestic

Engine

83.7 cc., air cooled, 2-stroke, provided with a fixed jet diaphragm carburettor, and primer. Pull-up starter. Large Silencer. Suppressed for radio and T.V.

Cutting blade

19" (48 cm) tempered steel

Height of cut

$\frac{1}{2}$ "- $1\frac{3}{4}$ " (1 cm to 4 cm) obtained by fitting different numbers of distance washers.

Weight

28 lbs (12.7 kgs).

Flymo 19" Professional

Engine

95 cc., air cooled, loop scavenged 2-stroke. Needle bearings and steel connecting rod. Fixed jet diaphragm carburettor and primer. Pull-up starter. Large Silencer. Suppressed for radio and T.V.

Cutting blade

19" (48 cm) tempered steel

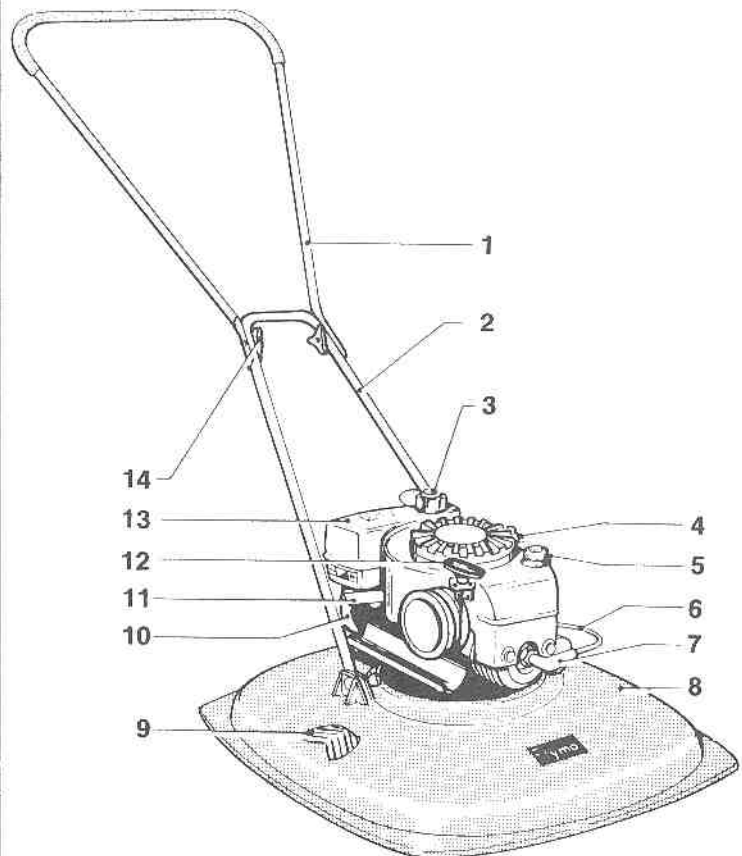
Height of cut

$\frac{1}{2}$ "- $1\frac{3}{4}$ " (1 cm to 4 cm) obtained by fitting different numbers of distance washers.

Weight

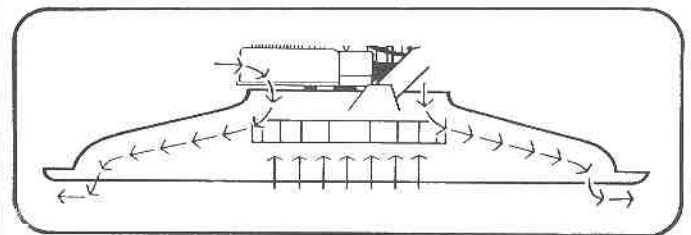
29 lbs (13.1 kgs).

Your Flymo mower



- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Upper handle | 8. Hood |
| 2. Lower handle | 9. Footrest for starting |
| 3. Air vent screw | 10. Pre-cleaner |
| 4. Up-Stop latch for handle | 11. Stop/Start lever |
| 5. Primer | 12. Starting handle |
| 6. H.T. Lead | 13. Fuel tank |
| 7. Spark plug | 14. Releasing knob for folding handle. |

How it works



The hood supports the engine which rotates the cutting blade and impeller. The impeller sucks in air through the opening in the centre of the hood. This air is forced downwards and forms an air cushion between the mower and the ground. Your Flymo therefore becomes airborne and floats approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the ground

Manufactured in United Kingdom under Patent Numbers 929610, 1034760.

Flymo Limited reserve the right to change the specification without prior notice.

Before starting

Before cutting decide on height of cut required.

Note following:

For cutting grass down to 1/2", all three distance washers should be inserted under blade (see below for height adjustment).

If grass is required to be left longer, remove, distance washers as required.

Special note: For cutting grass 6" or more, remove all but one distance washer.

At least one distance washer must be fitted at all times.

Adjusting the cutting height

Adjustments to the cutting height must be made by removing or replacing the distance washers.

1. Disconnect ignition cable and shut fuel tank air vent screw.
2. Turn Flymo upside down in order to expose cutting blade and blade bolt.
3. Remove blade bolt A and the blade B.
4. You can now take out or add one or more distance washers C.
5. Re-assemble and

Starting Fuel mixture

(Ratio : 1 oil to 16 petrol)

Do not use standard 2-stroke mixture as normally supplied, premixed, from garage pumps, neat petrol or multigrade oil.

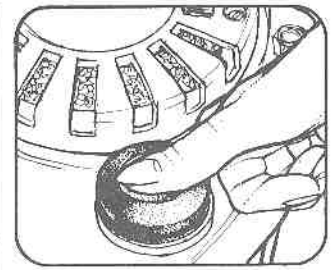
Use only 1/2 pint Flymo 2-Stroke Mower Oil mixed with 1 gallon of fresh commercial grade petrol. Shake well.

Always ensure that the fuel in both your fuel mixture container and the Flymo fuel tank are agitated before use. Do not fill tank when engine is hot. To avoid introducing dirt into the fuel system wipe all grass and dirt from filler cap before unscrewing it; fill tank through a funnel with a filter.

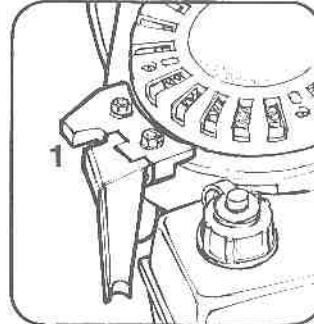
tighten blade bolt firmly with spanner provided. Do not use a longer spanner. Failure to tighten the bolt sufficiently may be the cause of difficult starting. In addition, damage to the engine in use and to the distance washers could result.

It is important to make sure that each distance washer is firmly embedded into the impeller D or the next distance washer.

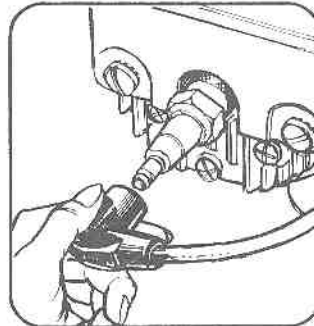
Always follow this procedure



E When the Flymo is new or if the tank has been emptied previously, press the primer bulb on top of the engine 8-12 times to fill the carburettor. For normal starting press the primer bulb 2 or 3 times.



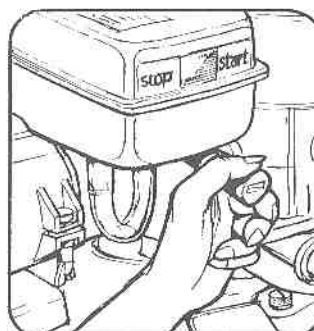
A Press down on outer edge of the Up-Stop latch and move handle to position 1 (See also p.4)



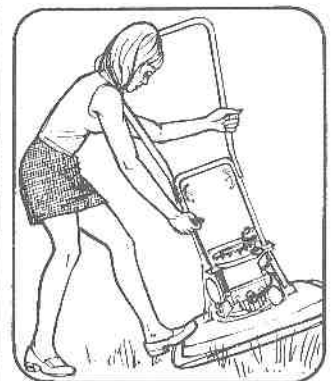
B Connect ignition cable.



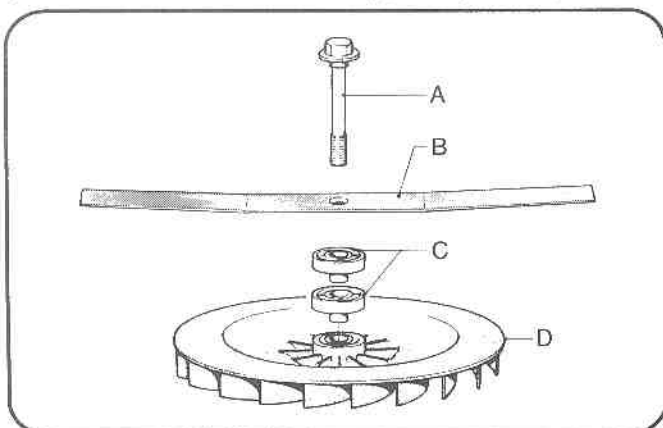
C Open fuel tank air vent screw.



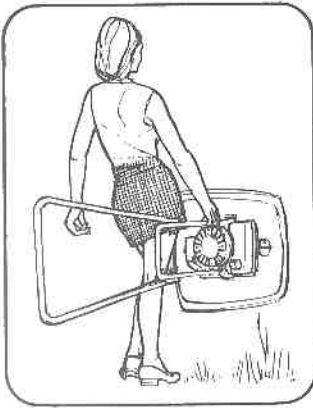
D Move Stop/Start lever to start' position.



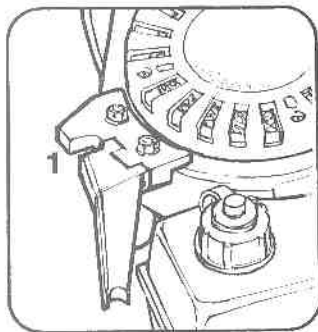
F Place your left foot on the hood and grasp the far arm of the handle with your left hand. Tilt the Flymo towards you. Pull starting handle gently until you feel compression. Let the starting handle return slowly. Firmly pull the handle the full length, when the engine should start; if not, repeat procedure from instruction E. Only when the engine is running should the mower be gently lowered to the horizontal floating position. Press down on the Up-Stop latch to release the handle. Always allow the engine to warm up for a minute or two before mowing. Sometimes, after the mower has been stored for a long time, the engine will start but then fades. In such a case start the engine as described above and then press the primer bulb several times until the engine gains speed and is running normally.



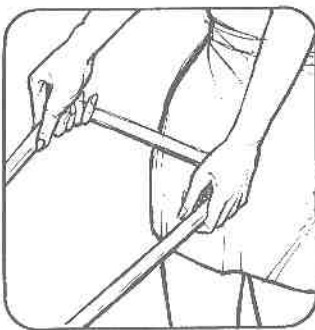
How to use your Flymo



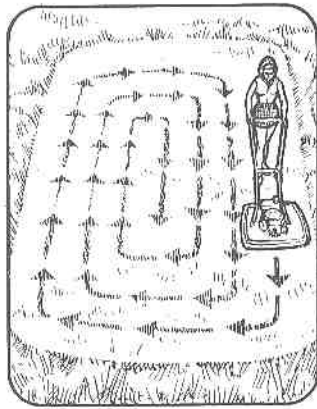
Flymo is easy to carry if you follow the illustration. Remember to disconnect the ignition cable first.



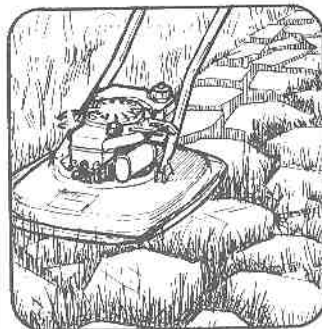
Up-Stop latch for handle. The spring-loaded latch has two positions. The first position locks the handle for starting and carrying. The second position will release the handle for mowing. This is done by pressing down on the latch (see also p.3)



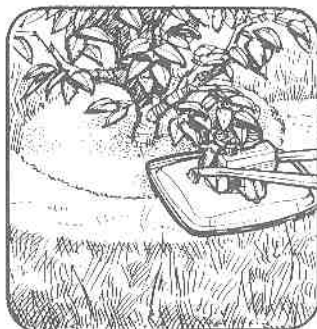
How to hold Flymo. Follow the illustration. In general use the machine should be pushed forward with the name Flymo at the front of the mower. Do not press on mower.



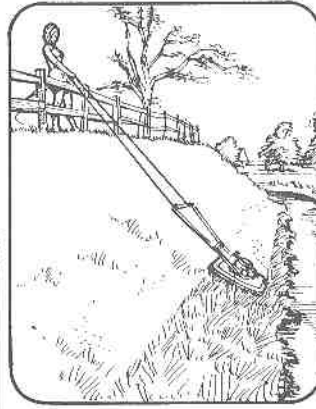
How to cut. To obtain the best results, cut area of grass starting from the outer edge. Mow in a clockwise direction in decreasing circles from the edge of the lawn inwards. This makes full use of Flymo's ability to mulch the clippings. *Trim your lawn twice a week during the growing season.* Your lawn will suffer if more than a third of the length of grass is cut at any time.



Paving. Flymo cuts the grass growing between concrete paving which is on the same level as the grass.



Bushes. Cut around bushes by moving Flymo in half circles to the left and right of the stem.

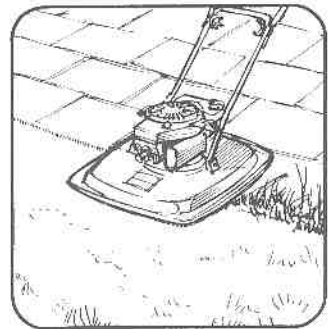


Steep Slopes. Do not try to cut steep banks by hand. Use a rope, *from the top*, on banks which are too steep for a firm foothold. Attach a rope to the handle of the machine and walk along the level part at the top of the bank. Lengthen the rope to lower the mower. *Always make sure your foothold is secure. Keep rope away from moving parts of machine.*

Gentle slopes. Ensure your foothold is secure. Always keep the mower flat on the ground. Never pull the Flymo towards the feet.



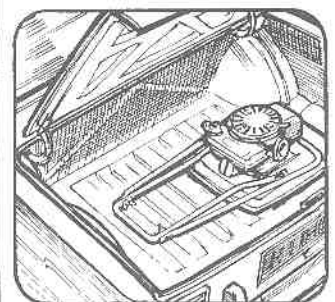
Flower Bed Edges. Walk forward pulling the Flymo behind you, clockwise round the lawn, so that the rotation of the blade throws any cuttings away from the flower bed. The hood of the mower should not be more than 3" or 4" over the edge of the lawn.



Path Edges. Where the lawn is on the same level as the path, push the Flymo slowly towards the grass edge. The airflow will lift the overhanging grass and trim it neatly.

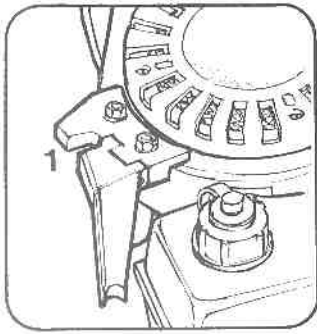


Tough and high grass. To cut very tough or high grass, remember to remove all but one distance washer. Don't push the mower. Walk forward but pull the Flymo behind you. If grass is particularly tough, go slowly in order to keep engine revs up. Before cutting, particularly in long grass, examine the ground and remove stones etc.

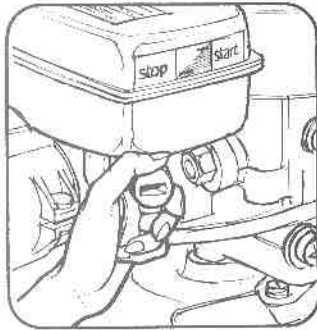


For transportation or storage. Disconnect ignition cable. Loosen knobs on each side of the lower handle and fold upper handle towards the mower.

Stopping



Move handle to position 1



Move Stop/Start lever to 'stop' position.



When operating on lawn, remember to tilt the Flymo before switching off. **Failure to do this will cause the blade to cut a ring on the lawn.**

Remember

the few essential points for long engine life and reliability

- Use the correct fuel mixture, with only Flymo 2-stroke Mower Oil, and fresh commercial grade petrol.
- Do not leave the mower in bright sunlight. The sun's rays can affect the petrol/oil mixture and cause 'gumming' of moving parts and difficult starting.
- Ensure that the blade is correctly fitted and is balanced. (See pages 3 and 6.)
- Keep the mower clean, particularly the outside of the carburettor, the underside of the hood, and the fuel filler cap.
- Clean and oil the air filter after every five hours use. (See page 6).
- Choose the cutting height which best suits the grass cutting conditions. At least one distance washer must be fitted at all times.
- Always make sure the Pre-Cleaner is pushed fully home when refitted.
- Do not continually float your mower over ungrassed surfaces. This will cause excessive wear to the hood.
- When stopping the Flymo, always tilt it slightly towards you to avoid leaving circular marks on the grass.
- Keep your commonsense tips card handy.

Safety precautions



■ Using mower

Always keep mower flat on the grass when in use.

■ Lifting and carrying

Do not lift the mower or carry it while the engine is running.

■ Hands & feet

Keep hands and feet away from the rotating blade.

■ Pulling machine

Do not in any circumstances pull the mower toward your feet.

■ Children

Do not allow children to operate Flymo.

■ Unattended mower

Do not leave Flymo when the engine is running.

■ Gravel paths

Do not cross gravel paths with the engine running.

■ Stones etc.

Keep your lawn free from stones or other objects which may be hit by the blade.

■ Hitting objects

If the blade hits an object, stop the mower and examine the impellor and blade for possible damage.

■ Filling fuel tank

Do not fill up the fuel tank when the engine is running or hot. This could cause a fire.

■ Adjustment

Do not touch the blade or carry out any maintenance until the ignition cable has been disconnected.

■ Width of blade

Regularly measure the width of the blade, particularly after sharpening and balancing. See page 6

■ Speed of engine

Do not adjust the preset governed speed.

■ Carbon monoxide

Do not run the engine indoors. Carbon monoxide in the exhaust is toxic.

■ Using a rope

When using a rope, while cutting a bank or slope, keep it away from the moving parts of the machine.

■ Engine overheating

Do not allow grass to collect in the slots between the cooling fins of the engine, or beneath the starter.

■ Safe Foothold

Cut grass is slippery. Make sure your foothold is secure.

How to maintain your Flymo

Winter care of your Flymo

For trouble-free mowing next season make sure that your Flymo is serviced, immediately after the last cut of the year, as follows:

Drain all fuel from the tank and allow the engine to run until it stops. Fuel left in the machine becomes stale and causes difficult starting.

Thoroughly clean all external parts of the mower.

Clean and re-oil air filter element.

Remove HT lead and spark plug. Insert a long bladed screw driver or pencil into the spark-plug hole until resistance is felt. Then slowly pull starting handle until screw driver will not go into hole any further. In this position the magneto points are closed thus ensuring they are not affected by damp and its resulting corrosive action. Inspect, clean and replace spark-plug. Do not replace HT lead.

Sharpen and balance blade.

Store the mower in a dry, damp proof place, preferably indoors.

IMPORTANT:

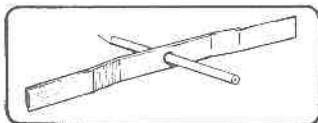
The increasing popularity of motor mowers - particularly Flymo - puts a greater work load on the Service Dealers. It is not unknown to wait 6-8 weeks for a mower to be serviced during the spring and summer. To ensure a flying start to your mowing season, have your Flymo serviced between October and January.

After use.

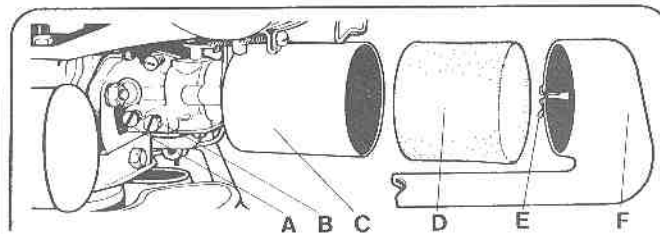
1. Disconnect ignition cable.
2. Close air vent on filler cap.
3. Clean grass from under hood with a thin flat piece of wood. Clean any leaves or grass away from engine cooling fins, carburettor and impeller air openings.
4. Check that the distance washers and blade are correctly fitted and that the blade bolt is tightened.
5. Periodically check and tighten, if necessary, all external screws, nuts and bolts.

Blade balancing.

It is not normally necessary to have a razor edge to your Flymo blade. The speed of rotation is the main reason for a clean cut. However, if the blade is deformed by hitting stones, it should be periodically removed and filed clean. Make sure that not too much metal is filed off one side of the blade as against the other side since this will cause excessive vibration and damage to the engine. After filing, balance your blade on a



pencil to ensure even weight either side (see illustration). Now measure the width of the blade. If it is less than $\frac{2}{3}$ of its original width at the ends, the cutting blade must be replaced by a new one. Your Flymo Authorised Service Dealer has special instruments to balance your blade more accurately. It is in your interests to consult him.



- A. Idling jet
- B. Main jet
- C. Cover
- D. Filter element
- E. Wing nut
- F. Pre-cleaner

Cleaning the air-filter.

The filter must be cleaned and oiled once a month or after every five hours use. Otherwise the engine will suffer damage. Remove the Pre-Cleaner (by first loosening wing nut) and clean it. Remove the foam filter element and wash in petrol or paraffin, making sure it is thoroughly clean and squeezed dry. Pour a tablespoonful of Flymo oil on to the foam filter element, squeeze out excess oil and replace, taking care not to wrinkle it. Always ensure that the filter element is replaced facing the same direction as when it was previously removed. Replace the Pre-Cleaner, push it fully home and tighten wing nut. The engine should never be run without the air filter and Pre-Cleaner. A dirty filter will reduce the efficiency of the engine.

Spark Plug

Use only the following types of plugs. A.C. M45, Bosch W 175 T3, Champion J8J.

An oily or carboned spark plug makes starting difficult and decreases the efficiency of the engine. The spark plug should be removed for cleaning and adjustment when necessary. The

correct gap between the electrodes is 0.020" (0.5 mm) and should be checked with a wire or feeler gauge.

Suppressor Cap. Champion WC X 600

Decarbonising

In order to obtain maximum efficiency and long life from your engine, it is recommended that your engine be decarbonised once a year. We suggest that you ask your nearest Flymo Authorised Distributor or Service Dealer to do this for you.

Carburettor.

The carburettor on your engine has been carefully set in the factory. No further adjustment is necessary.

Throttle.

For efficient operation of the engine, the throttle mechanism must be kept free from dust and dirt.

Simple fault finding hints

Difficult starting

- Check that stop/start lever is in 'start' position.
- Petrol/oil mixture may be stale (e.g. a long time since your Flymo was used). Renew with fresh mixture
- Check that the correct amount of Flymo 2-stroke oil is being used in the fuel mixture (see page 3) and that the hole in tank cap and seal is clear.
- You may have overprimed the engine. If so remove and dry the spark plug. Crank engine, with spark plug out, to remove excess fuel.
- Before replacing the dried plug, check for spark. Move lever to 'start' position. Hold base of plug. (connected to H.T. lead) against the engine. Crank engine when a spark should jump across the plug points. If there is no spark clean or renew plug.
- Ensure that air vent screw is open.
- Check that blade bolt is tightened. A loose blade bolt could cause difficult starting.

Poor flotation or lack of power

- Check that correct fuel mixture is being used (see page 3).
- Make sure underside of hood is clean.

- Check that stop/start lever is 'free'.
- Foam air filter may need cleaning (see page 6).
- Ensure that pre-cleaner is pushed fully home.
- Ensure that the exhaust ports on silencer do not have an excessive build-up of carbon.

Engine overheating

- Check the flow of air over cylinder. Remove all grass and dirt.
- Check that correct fuel mixture is being used. (See page 3).

Excessive vibration

- Cutting blade may be unbalanced (see page 6).
- Check that cutting blade and distance washers are fitted correctly (see page 3).
- Tighten all external bolts and screws.
- Crankshaft may have been bent by hitting heavy or immovable objects such as tree roots.

If in doubt
consult
your Flymo
Authorised
Service
Dealer

Lawn care

All you need for a really fine lawn are air, water and regular cutting with your Flymo.

Regular cutting - twice a week during the growing season - is essential if you are to have a good lawn; furthermore it prevents the mulching capacity of your Flymo being overloaded and unsightly lines of cuttings being left on the lawn. It is also most important not to cut too closely. Mowing with only two spacers fitted will almost always produce a much denser, greener lawn.

The mulched grass cuttings produced by your Flymo not only slow down the evaporation of moisture from the lawn during hot weather, but also provide a feed back of lawn nutrients which stimulate and encourage grass growth.

However, application of a nitrogenous fertiliser, such as sulphate of ammonia, at the beginning of every season will get things off to a good start. The slightly acid soil condition produced by this fertiliser encourages healthy grass growth and discourages clover. If the soil is too acid already - poor grass growth, many weeds and a complete absence of worm casts are the usual symptoms of this - a more alkaline fertiliser such as nitro-chalk should be used instead of sulphate of ammonia.

Grass experts recommend that, **using any type of mower**, all lawns should be "scarified" - that is thoroughly raked during spring and autumn to allow the penetration of both air and water. This action also brings up the grasses which grow horizontally. At these times of the year, scarifying will remove any odd stalks of dead grass which have not been properly mulched (i.e. fully minced up at the time of mowing); these hold back the growth of fine new lawn grasses.

Your Flymo Authorised Dealer will probably be able to help you with the hire of power equipment to make scarifying easy.

Service

For any repairs or major adjustments to the engine, contact your nearest Flymo Authorised Distributor or Service Dealer.

They alone have the technical knowledge, the special tools and genuine spare parts.

AUSTRALIA: FLYMO-SCOTT BONNAR, 33-47 HOLLAND STREET, THEBARTON 5031

AUSTRIA: AGROMOTOR INH, 1141 WIEN XIV, KEISSLERGASSE 26-28

BELGIUM: FLYMO SPRL, RUE BUNTINCX 17, 1160 BRUXELLES

DENMARK: FLYMO A/S, LUNDTOFTEVEJ 160, 2800 LYNGBY

FINLAND: MACHINERY OY TUKKU, VALIMONTIE 4, HELSINKI 37.

FRANCE: FLYMO S.A., 31 RUE HUDRI, 92 COURBEVOIE.

GERMANY: FLYMO GMBH, 2000 HAMBURG 76, BACHSTRASSE 56/58

HOLLAND: R.S. STOKVIS & ZONEN N.V., POSTBUS 426, ROTTERDAM

ITALY: FLYMO SPA, VIA VITERBO 6, 25100 BRESCIA

NORWAY: ELECTROLUX RENGJØRINGSMASKINER A.S., POSTBOX 6645, OSLO 5

SWEDEN: AB FLYMO, STORTORGET 17, BOX 318, S-201 23 MALMÖ 1.

SWITZERLAND: OTTO RICHEI A.G., MELLINGERSTRASSE, BADEN 5401

UNITED KINGDOM: FLYMO LIMITED, GREYCAINE ROAD, WATFORD WD2 4PT, HERTS.

Guarantee

The Flymo airborne lawnmower, is guaranteed to the original purchaser for one year from the date of purchase, provided it is demonstrated and installed by a Flymo Authorised Distributor or Dealer.

Where the product is used commercially the guarantee is for 90 days.

We will replace, free of charge to the original purchaser, any part or parts found to be defective in material and/or workmanship by any Flymo Authorised Distributor or Service Dealer.

ITEMS NOT COVERED BY GUARANTEE.

- Use of parts other than those issued by Flymo Ltd.
- Damage caused by use of incorrect oil or fuel mixture.
- Improperly serviced air cleaner.
- Damage caused by incorrect fitting of blade.
- Operating engine above preset governed speed.
- Bent or broken crankshaft or damage to machine caused thereby.
- General cleaning, maintenance and adjustments.
- Defects arising from fair wear and tear or misuse of the product.
- Damage to cylinder head thread caused by removing spark plug when engine is hot.
- Dismantling of mower by other than a Flymo Authorised Distributor or Service Dealer.
- Any transportation charges or service calls incurred in connection with repairs.

COMMONSENSE TIPS FOR BETTER MOWING

Your Flymo has tremendous potential but don't expect it to do the impossible. Please be sensible and use Flymo properly.

BEFORE USING YOUR FLYMO

READ THE INSTRUCTION BOOK carefully. Do not ignore this warning. Incorrect use may damage the machine.

FUEL MIXTURE. Use only Flymo 2-stroke Mower Oil mixed with fresh commercial grade petrol. Shake well. Do not use standard 2-stroke mixture as normally supplied, premixed, from garage pumps, neat petrol or multigrade oil. Agitate the fuel in your fuel container and in the Flymo fuel tank before use. **Consult your Instruction Book for correct proportions of oil and petrol.**

FILL THE FUEL TANK BEFORE STARTING. Filling a hot tank may cause an explosion.

Do not smoke while filling your tank.

EXAMINE THE AREA OF GRASS TO BE CUT. Ensure that the grass is free from stones, bits of metal, wire, toys etc. Be particularly careful when cutting long grass which may conceal unsuspected dangers. These can damage your mower in a second.



ENSURE THAT THE BLADE IS CORRECTLY FITTED with the right number of distance washers to give the height of cut you desire.

WHEN STARTING THE MACHINE ENSURE THAT YOUR FOOT IS FIRMLY PLACED ON THE TOP OF THE HOOD - the machine should be tilted towards you (see illustration in the instruction book). Failure to do this may cause ripples on the lawn.

WHILE MOWING

DO NOT LIFT OR CARRY THE MOWER WHILE THE ENGINE IS RUNNING. If it will not float across from one lawn to another, stop the engine, carry it correctly and restart.

ALWAYS KEEP THE FLYMO FLAT ON THE GROUND DURING OPERATION. The fact that a Flymo floats so close to the ground ensures complete safety from flying stones.

DO NOT TRY TO USE YOUR FLYMO AS A CULTIVATOR. If you are trying to tame a 'jungle' in your garden which is overgrown with weeds, brambles and bushes it is better to use a machete rather than a Flymo because in such circumstances the machine cannot be kept flat on the ground and you may lose control. A Flymo can do many jobs but learn from experience what can and cannot be done safely.



P.T.O.

DON'T BE A MOUNTAIN GOAT and try to cut steep banks by hand. Use a rope, from the top, on banks which are too steep for a firm foothold. When using a rope be sure to keep it away from moving parts of the engine. Even on a dry day cut grass is slippery and even on the shallowest slopes a firm foothold is essential to maintain complete control of the machine. Slippers can be slippery; strong shoes are best.



NEVER WALK BACKWARDS WHEN MOWING - you can slip and pull the machine on top of you. When cutting long grass walk forward pulling the mower behind you.

DO NOT ALLOW CHILDREN TO OPERATE THE MOWER. A sensible parent should not permit his offspring to operate any power tool.

DO NOT FLOAT FLYMO OVER GRAVEL PATHS - it is a grass cutter not a stone cutter.

NEVER USE YOUR FLYMO WITH AN UNBALANCED BLADE. This will cause heavy vibration and undue wear.

AFTER MOWING

ALWAYS SWITCH OFF AND DISCONNECT THE SPARK PLUG CABLE before carrying out adjustments or cleaning the mower. The Flymo cutting blade is like an aircraft propeller - one touch could start the engine.

CLEAN YOUR MOWER after every use particularly around the carburettor controls. A clean machine will always work better and last longer than a dirty one.

CLEAN AND OIL THE CARBURETTOR FILTER every 5 hours or once a month.

A dirty filter means dirt in the engine and service problems. Regular cleaning will considerably lengthen the life of your engine.

DO NOT LAUGH AT THE MAN IN THESE PICTURES. MAKE SURE YOU ARE NOT DOING THE SAME THING.

Hang this card in your mower shed for easy reference.



P.T.O.

Flymo 38 mower

Specification

Engine

83.7 cc., air cooled, 2-stroke, provided with a fixed jet diaphragm carburettor, and primer.
Pull-up starter. Large Silencer. Suppressed for radio and T.V.

Cutting blade

15" (38 cm) tempered steel.

Height of Cut

$\frac{1}{2}$ " - $1\frac{3}{4}$ " (1 cm to 4 cm) obtained by fitting different numbers of distance washers.

Weight

25 lbs (11.3 kgs).

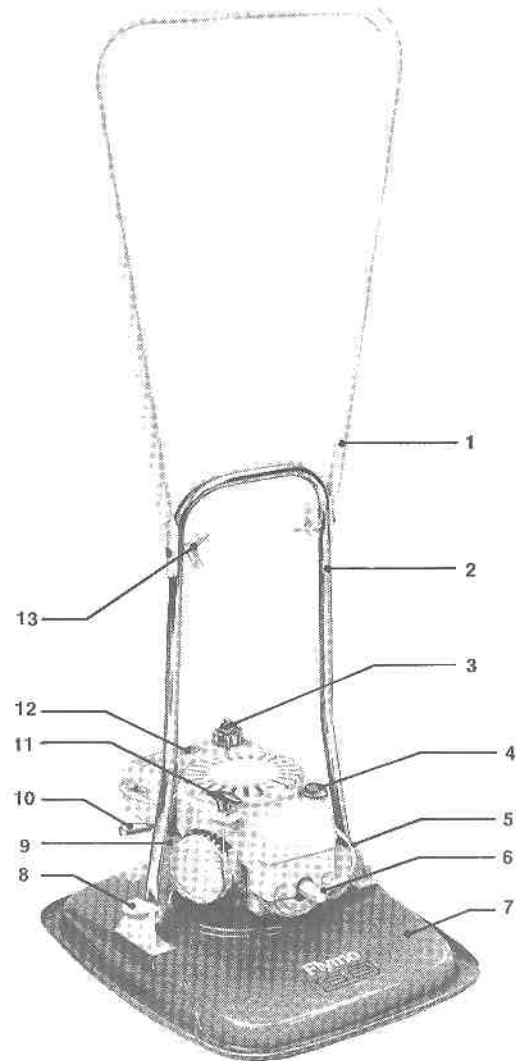
The method of using the mower is the same as for the 19" Domestic and Professional except when starting and stopping.

Starting

A Press down on pedal for adjusting position of handle and move handle to up-right position.
Now follow instructions B, C, D, E and F as featured on page 3 of the Instruction Book.

Stopping

Move Stop/Start lever to stop position
Remember to tilt the mower before the engine stops.
Failure to do this will cause the blade to cut a ring on the lawn.



1. Upper Handle
2. Lower Handle
3. Air vent screw
4. Primer
5. H.T. Lead
6. Spark Plug
7. Hood
8. Pedal for adjusting position of handle
9. Pre-Cleaner
10. Stop/Start lever
11. Starting handle
12. Fuel Tank
13. Releasing knob for folding handle