

## Contents of Crate

- One Lawn Mower
- One Oil Drain Tube
- One Deck Wash Hose Coupler
- One Lawn Mower Operator's Manual
- One Engine Operator's Manual

## Mower Set-Up

### Shipping Brace Removal



**WARNING!** Make sure the lawn mower's engine is off. Remove the ignition key (if so equipped) before removing the shipping brace.

1. Locate the shipping brace, if present, found on the right side of the cutting deck. See Figure 3-1.

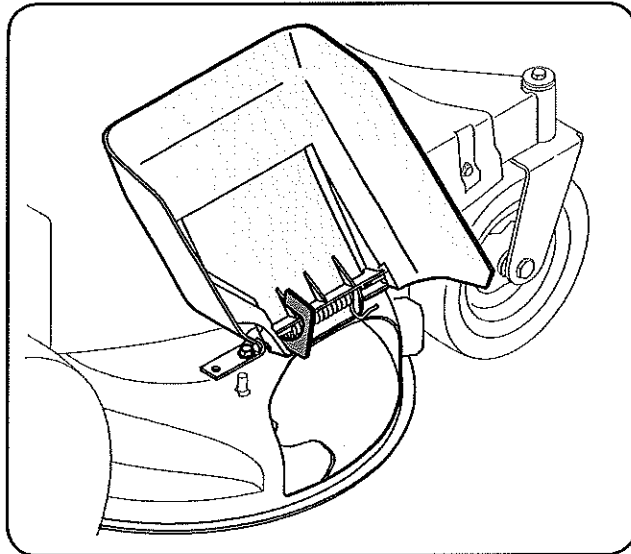


Figure 3-1

2. While holding the discharge chute with your left hand, remove the shipping brace with your right hand by grasping it between your thumb and index finger and rotating it clockwise.



**WARNING!** The shipping brace is used for packaging purposes only. Remove and discard the shipping brace before operating your lawn mower.



**WARNING!** The mowing deck is capable of throwing objects. Failure to operate the mower without the discharge cover in the proper operating position could result in serious personal injury and/or property damage.

### Attaching the Battery Cables (for Electric Start Models)

**NOTE:** The positive battery terminal is marked Pos. (+). The negative battery terminal is marked Neg. (-).

1. Attach the red cable to the positive(+) battery terminal and the black cable to the negative(-) battery terminal with the bolts and hex nuts provided. See Figure 3-2.

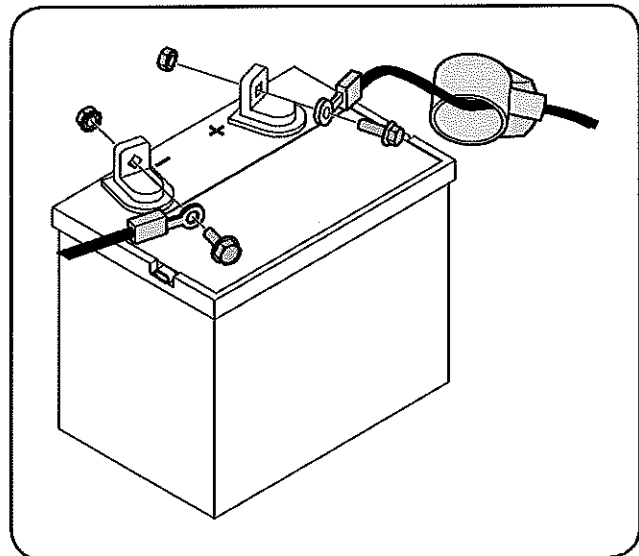


Figure 3-2

2. Make certain the hold-down rod is in position over the battery, securing it in place and make certain that the red rubber boot covers the positive battery terminal to help protect it from corrosion.

**NOTE:** If the battery is put into service after the date shown on top/side of battery, charge the battery as instructed in the Maintenance section of this manual prior to operating the mower.

### Unfolding the Handle

1. Remove the star knobs and carriage screws from the lower handle. See Figure 3-3.

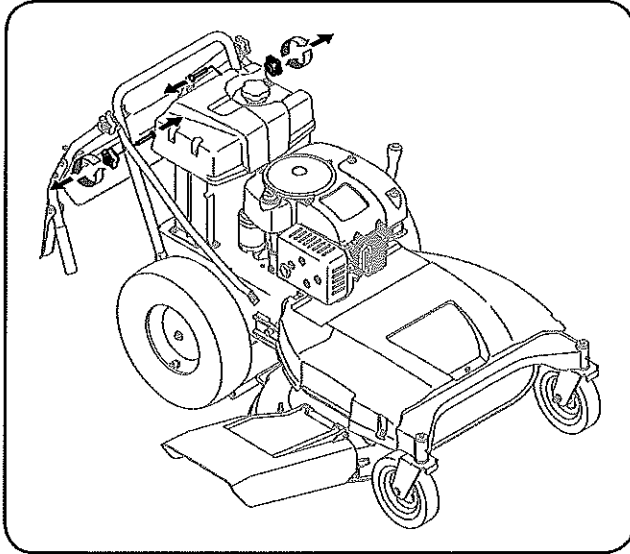


Figure 3-3

2. Pivot the upper handle into operating position. Be careful not to crimp cables. See Figure 3-4.

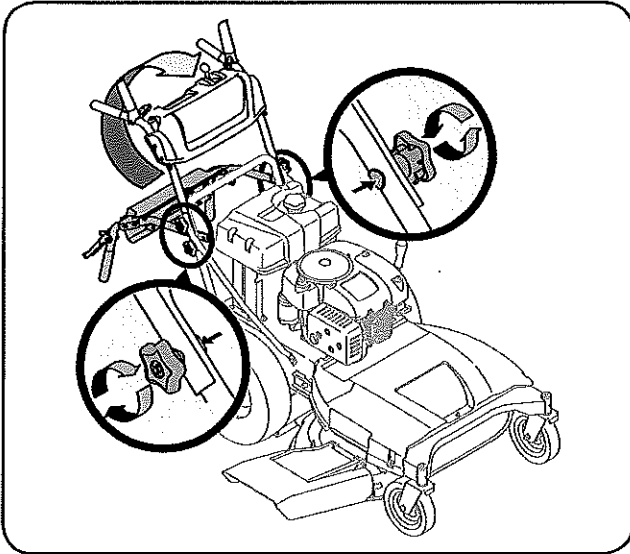


Figure 3-4

3. Reinstall the carriage screws and knobs removed earlier.
4. Tighten the upper and lower star knobs and carriage screws to secure the upper handle to the lower handle. See Figure 3-4.
5. The handle height can be adjusted to any of three positions. For instructions, refer to Handle Height in the Maintenance and Adjustments section of this manual.

### Attaching the Shift Lever

1. Remove the screw and the lock nut that secures the shift lever to the shift lever plate. See Figure 3-5.

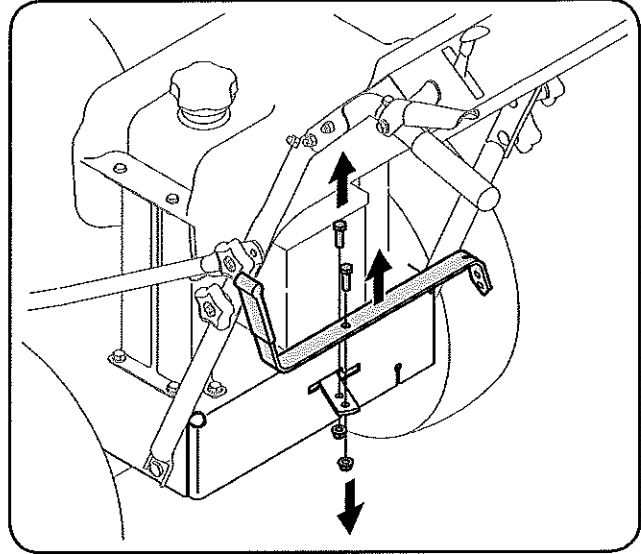


Figure 3-5

2. Remove the remaining screw and nut from the lower shift lever plate. See Figure 3-5.
3. Position the upper shift lever into a vertical position aligning the holes in the lever with the holes in the shift plate. See Figure 3-6.

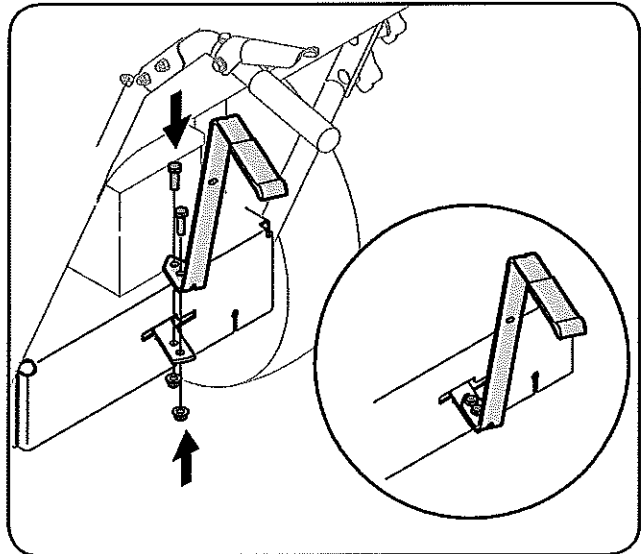


Figure 3-6

4. Secure the lever to the plate using the two screws and two nuts removed earlier. See Figure 3-6 Inset.

## Checking Tire Pressure



**WARNING!** Under any circumstance do not exceed manufacturer's recommended psi. Equal tire pressure should be maintained at all times. Refer to sidewall of tire for recommended pressure.

The rear tires on your unit may be over-inflated for shipping purposes. Reduce the tire pressure before operating the mower. Refer to the tire side wall for tire manufacturer's recommended psi and deflate (or inflate) the tires as necessary.

## Gas and Oil

The fuel tank has a capacity of two gallons. Remove the fuel cap by turning it counterclockwise. Use only clean, fresh (no more than 30 days old), unleaded gasoline. Fill the tank no higher than four inches below the top of the filler neck to allow space for fuel expansion.



**WARNING!** Use extreme care when handling gasoline. Gasoline is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive. Never fuel the machine indoors or while the engine is hot or running. Extinguish cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.

**NOTE:** Your lawn mower is shipped with oil in the engine. However, you **MUST** check the oil level before operating.



**CAUTION:** Always check the engine oil level before each use as instructed in the Engine Owner's Manual. Add oil as necessary. Failure to do so may result in serious damage to your engine.

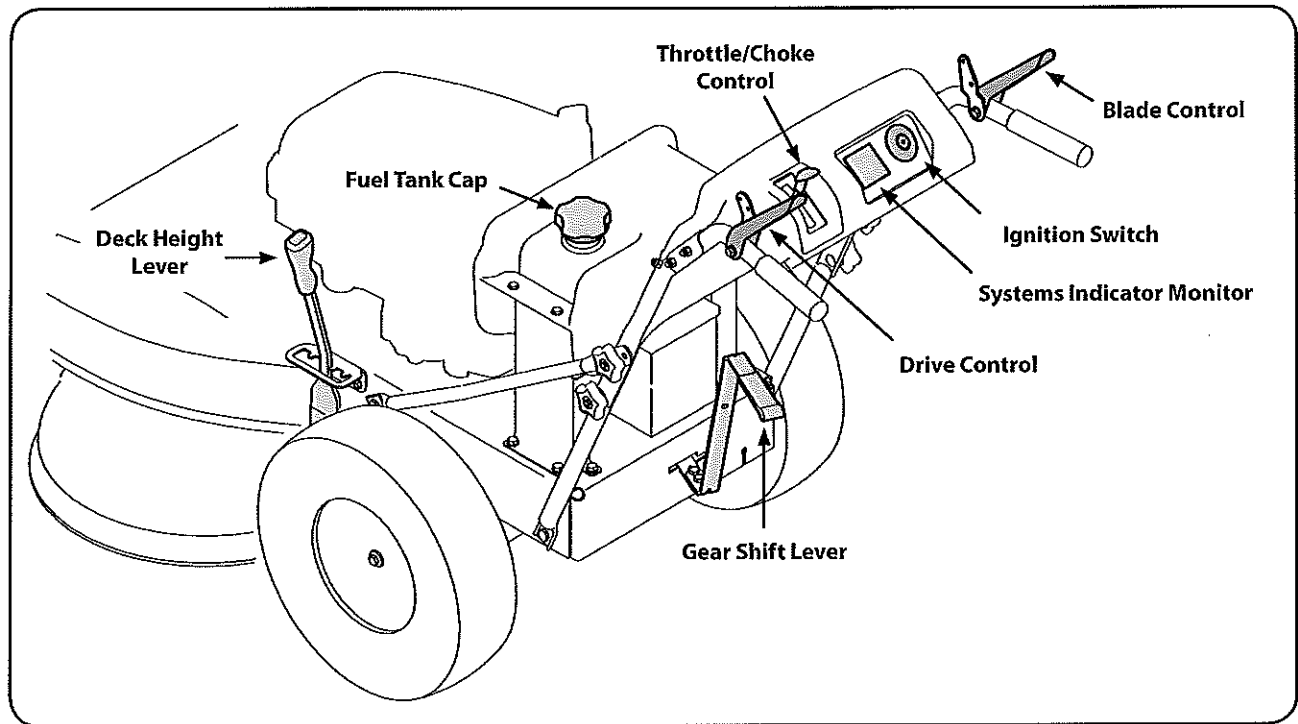


Figure 4-1

Lawn Mower controls and features are illustrated in Figure 4-1 and described on the following pages.



**WARNING!** Read and follow all safety rules and instructions in this manual, including the entire Operation section, before attempting to operate this machine. Failure to comply with all safety rules and instructions may result in personal injury.

## Throttle / Choke Control

**Note:** When operating the mower with the cutting deck engaged, be certain that the throttle/choke control is in the fast position.

The throttle / choke control is used to adjust engine speeds, to activate the engine choke and to stop the engine. Always run engine with the throttle / choke control lever in the fast position for best mower performance.

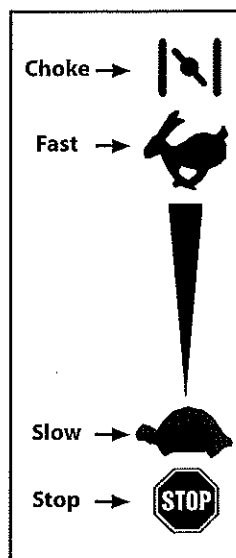
**Choke:** Use when starting a cold engine

**Fast:** Use during mower operation.

**Slow:** Use when idling engine.

**Stop:** Stops the engine. (Non-electric start units only).

Refer to Starting The Engine in the Operation section of this manual for detailed starting instructions.

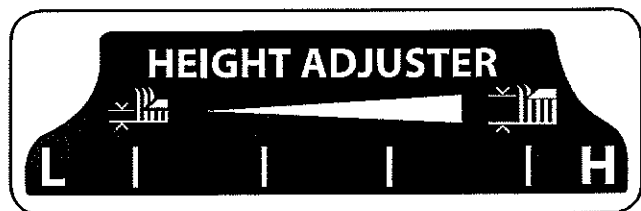


## Engine

Refer to the Engine Owner's Manual for details regarding all engine-related controls and features.

## Deck Height Lever

Use this lever to adjust the mowing deck's cutting height. To use, move the lever to the left, then place the lever in the notch best suited for your application.



## Ignition Switch (Electric Start Models Only)



**WARNING!** Never leave a running machine unattended. Always disengage blades, stop engine and remove key to prevent unintended starting.

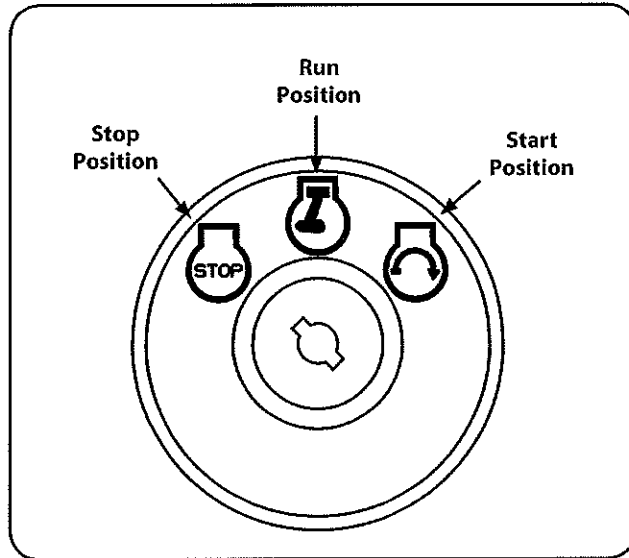


Figure 4-2

The three-position switch is used to start and stop the engine on electric-start models. See Figure 4-2. To start the engine, insert the key into the Ignition switch and turn clockwise to the **START** position. Release key into the **RUN** position once the engine has started. Turn the key to **STOP** to stop the engine.



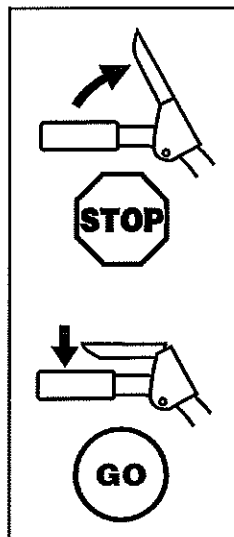
**CAUTION:** Never move the key into the Start position while the engine is running; doing so may cause damage to the engine's starter.

## Drive Control

The drive control is used to engage and disengage drive to the wheels. To engage this control, squeeze the drive control against the handlebar grip. To stop the drive, release the drive control.



**CAUTION:** Always release the drive control before changing speeds. Failure to do so may result in serious damage to your transmission.



## Blade Control

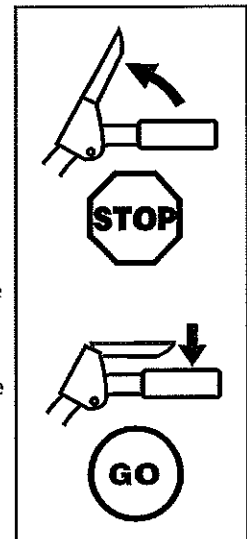
Located on the right-hand handle, the blade control is used to engage the mowing deck. To operate, press and hold the lever against the handlebar grip. To stop the blades, release the blade control.



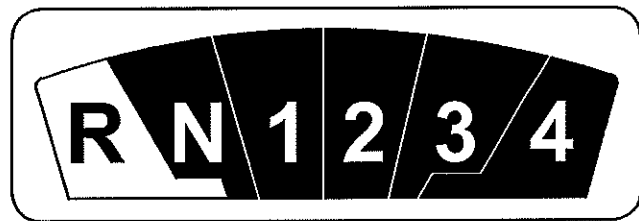
**WARNING!** Never attempt to start the engine with the blade control engaged.



**CAUTION:** Always release the blade control when starting the engine. Failure to do so may result in premature wear to your engine's electric starter.



## Gear Shift Lever



Use this lever to select any of four forward ground speeds, neutral, or reverse.

### Forward

Four forward speeds are available. Position one (1) is the slowest and position four (4) is the fastest.

### Reverse

To select reverse, put the lever in the Reverse (R) position.



**WARNING:** Look behind the mower before and during reverse operation. Stop the mower blades before operating in reverse.

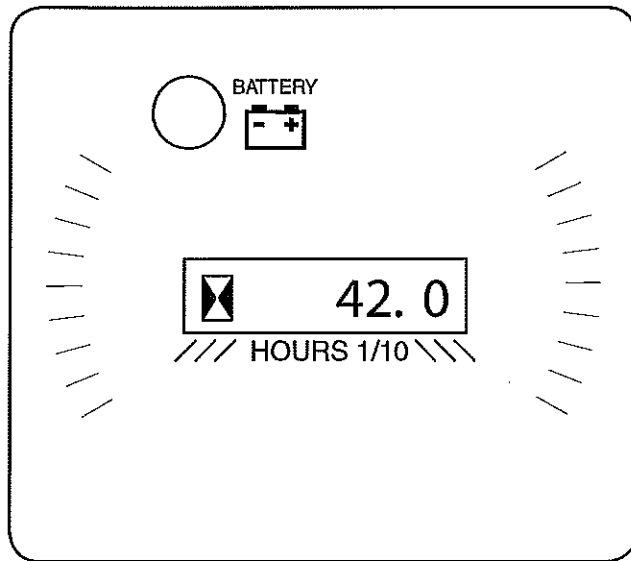
### Neutral

Place the lever in neutral (N) before starting the mower, and when the mower is not in use. In addition, the mower can be manually pushed or pulled by placing the gear shift lever into N (neutral) position and pressing the drive control against the handlebar grip.



**CAUTION:** Always release the drive control before changing speeds. Failure to do so may result in serious damage to your transmission.

## Systems Indicator Monitor / Hour Meter (Electric Start Models Only)



### LCD

When the ignition key is rotated out of the STOP position but not into the START position, the systems indicator monitor displays the battery's output, in volts, on its LCD for approximately five seconds, after which it displays an hour glass and the hours of mower operation. Once the engine is started, the monitor continually displays an hour glass and the hours of mower operation on its LCD.

**NOTE:** Hours of mower operation are recorded any time the ignition key is rotated out of the STOP position, regardless of whether the engine is started.

The Indicator Monitor will also remind the operator of maintenance intervals for changing the engine oil. The LCD will alternately flash the recorded hours, "CHG" and "OIL" for five minutes, after every 50 hours of recorded operation elapse. The maintenance interval lasts for two hours (from 50-52, 100-102, 150-152, etc.). The LCD will also flash as described above for five minutes every time the mower's engine has been started during this maintenance interval. Before the interval expires, change the engine oil as instructed in the Maintenance section of this Operator's Manual.

### Battery (Electric Start Models Only)

It is normal for the Battery light to illuminate while the engine is cranking during start-up, but if it illuminates during operation, while the engine is running, the battery is in need of a charge or the engine's charging system is not generating sufficient amperage. Charge the battery as instructed in the Service section of this manual or have the charging system checked by your Cub Cadet dealer.