

JOHN DEERE
WORLDWIDE COMMERCIAL & CONSUMER
EQUIPMENT DIVISION

Walk-Behind Mower
MowMentum™ JM26, JM36, JM46

OMGX23570 A0

OPERATOR'S MANUAL



JOHN DEERE

Original Instruction
All information, illustrations and
specifications in this manual are based on the
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INTRODUCTION

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Introduction

Thank You for Purchasing a John Deere Product

We appreciate having you as a customer and wish you many years of safe and satisfied use of your machine.

Using Your Operator's Manual

This manual is an important part of your machine and should remain with the machine when you sell it.

Reading your operator's manual will help you and others avoid personal injury or damage to the machine. Information given in this manual will provide the operator with the safest and most effective use of the machine. Knowing how to operate this machine safely and correctly will allow you to train others who may operate this machine.

If you have an attachment, use the safety and operating information in the attachment operator's manual along with the machine operator's manual to operate the attachment safely and correctly.

This manual and safety signs on your machine may also be available in other languages (see your authorized dealer to order).

Sections in your operator's manual are placed in a specific order to help you understand all the safety messages and learn the controls so you can operate this machine safely. You can also use this manual to answer any specific operating or servicing questions. A convenient index located at the end of this book will help you to find needed information quickly.

The machine shown in this manual may differ slightly from your machine, but will be similar enough to help you understand our instructions.

RIGHT-HAND and LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction the machine will travel when going forward. When you see a broken line (-----), the item referred to is hidden from view.

Before delivering this machine, your dealer performed a predelivery inspection to ensure best performance.

Machine Use

This machine is designed solely for use in customary lawn mowing and light grounds care operations. Use in any other way is considered as contrary to the intended use.

This machine is not intended for use in spraying operations where hazardous substances may be used.

The manufacturer accepts no liability for damage or injury resulting from this misuse, and these risks must be borne solely by the user. Compliance with and strict adherence to the conditions of operation, service and repair as specified by the manufacturer also constitute essential elements for the intended use.

This machine should be operated, serviced and repaired only by persons familiar with all its particular characteristics and acquainted with the relevant safety rules (accident prevention). The accident prevention regulations, all other generally recognized regulations on safety and occupational medicine and the road traffic regulations must be observed at all times.

Setting fuel delivery beyond published factory specifications or otherwise overpowering will result in loss of warranty protection for this machine.

Any arbitrary modifications carried out on this machine will relieve the manufacturer of all liability for any resulting damage or injury.

Special Messages

Your manual contains special messages to bring attention to potential safety concerns, machine damage as well as helpful operating and servicing information. Please read all the information carefully to avoid injury and machine damage.

INTRODUCTION



CAUTION: Avoid injury! This symbol and text highlight potential hazards or death to the operator or bystanders that may occur if the hazards or procedures are ignored.

IMPORTANT: Avoid damage! This text is used to tell the operator of actions or conditions that might result in damage to the machine.

***NOTE:** General information is given throughout the manual that may help the operator in the operation or service of the machine.*

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PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Product Identification

Record Identification Numbers

JM26 PIN (010001-)

JM36 PIN (010001-)

JM46 PIN (010001-)

If you need to contact an Authorized Service Center for information on servicing, always provide the product model and identification numbers.

You will need to locate the model and serial number for the machine and for the engine of your machine and record the information in the spaces provided below.

DATE OF PURCHASE:

DEALER NAME:

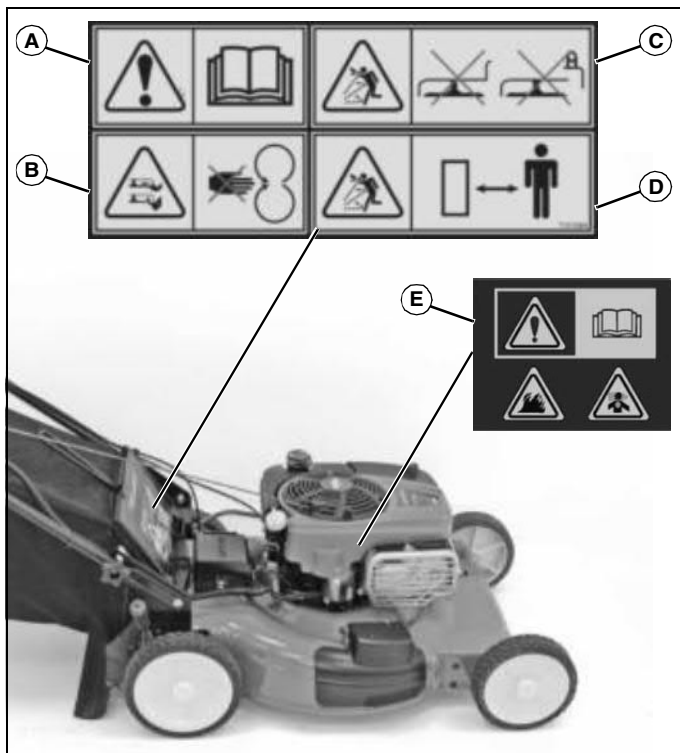
DEALER PHONE:

PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

ENGINE SERIAL NUMBER:

Safety Labels

Safety Label Location



MX27747

Picture Note: Use label number listed in table below to locate complete text of safety label message following this illustration.

A- WARNING - 7101084

B- DANGER - 7101084

C- DANGER - 7101084

D- WARNING - 7101084

E- WARNING - 279172

Safety Labels



Pictorial Safety Signs

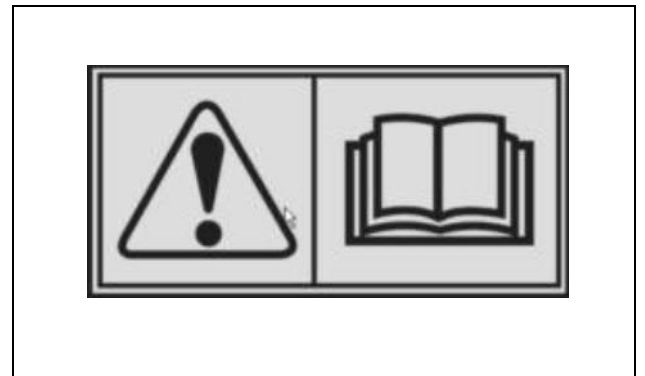
At several important places on this machine safety signs are affixed intended to signify potential danger. The hazard is identified by a pictorial in a warning triangle. An adjacent pictorial provides information how to avoid personal injury.

These safety signs, their placement on the machine and a brief explanatory text are shown in this Safety section.

There can be additional safety information contained on parts and components sourced from suppliers that is not reproduced in this operator's manual.

WARNING 7101084

AVOID SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH



7101084

- Read operator's manual.
- Keep safety devices (guards, shields, switches, etc.) in place and working.
- Go across slopes, not up or down.
- Remove objects that could be thrown by blade.
- Do not mow when children or others are around.
- Look down and behind before and while moving backwards.
- Wait at least 2 minutes before refueling.

SAFETY LABELS

DANGER 7101084

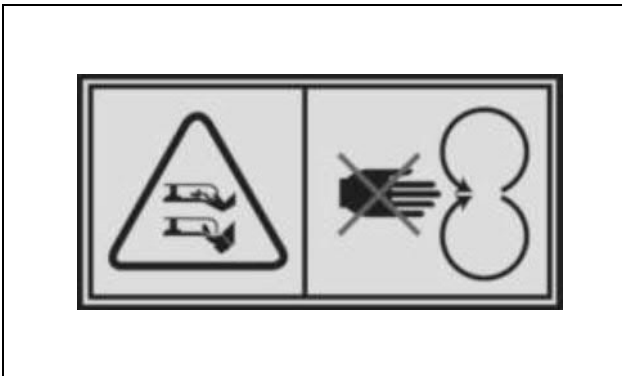
AMPUTATION AND THROWN OBJECT HAZARD



7101084

- Keep hands and feet away from deck.
- Do not operate mower unless discharge deflector or entire grass catcher is in its proper place.

DANGER 7101084



7101084

- Keep hands and feet away from deck.
- Do not operate mower unless discharge deflector or entire grass catcher is in its proper place.

WARNING 7101084

AVOID SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH



7101084

- Thrown Objects - Before mowing, clear area of objects that may be thrown by blade. Do not operate mower unless discharge deflector or

entire grass catcher is in its proper place.

- Stay a safe distance from machine.

WARNING 279172



279172

- Read and follow Operating Instructions before running engine.
- Gasoline is flammable. Allow engine to cool at least 2 minutes before refueling.
- Engines emit carbon monoxide, DO NOT run in enclosed area.

SAFETY

Safety

Training

- Read the instructions carefully. Be familiar with the controls and the proper use of the equipment.
- Never allow children or people unfamiliar with these instructions to use the lawnmower. Local regulations can restrict the age of the operator.
- Never mow while people, especially children, or pets are nearby.
- Keep in mind that the operator or user is responsible for accidents or hazards occurring to other people or their property.

Preparation

- While mowing, always wear substantial footwear and long trousers. Do not operate the equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals.
- Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used and remove all objects which can be thrown by the machine.
- **WARNING-Fuel is highly flammable.**
 - store fuel in containers specifically designed for this purpose.
 - refuel outdoors only and do not smoke while refueling.
 - add fuel before starting the engine. Never remove the cap of the fuel tank or add fuel while the engine is running or when the engine is hot.
 - if fuel is spilled, do not attempt to start the engine but move the machine away from the area of spillage and avoid creating any source of ignition until fuel vapors have dissipated.
 - replace all fuel tank and container caps securely.
- Replace faulty silencers.
- Before using, always visually inspect to see that the blades, blade bolts and cutter assembly are not worn or damaged. Replace worn or damaged blades and bolts in sets to preserve balance.
- On multi-bladed machines, take care as rotating one blade can cause other blades to rotate.

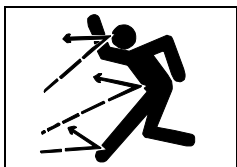
Operation

- Do not operate the engine in a confined space where dangerous carbon monoxide fumes can collect.
- Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
- Avoid operating the equipment in wet grass, where feasible.
- Always be sure of your footing on slopes.
- Walk, never run.
- For wheeled rotary machines, mow across the face of slopes, never up and down.
- Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.
- Do not mow on excessively steep slopes.
- Use extreme caution when reversing or pulling the machine towards you.
- Stop the blades if the lawnmower has to be tilted for transportation when crossing surfaces other than grass, and when transporting the lawnmower to and from the area to be mowed.
- Never operate the machine with defective guards, or without safety devices, for example deflectors and/or grasscatchers, in place.
- Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine.
- Disengage all blade and drive clutches before starting the engine.

- Start the engine or switch on the motor carefully according to instructions and with feet well away from the blade.
 - Do not tilt the lawnmower when starting the engine or switching on the motor except if the lawnmower has to be tilted to start. In this case, do not tilt it more than absolutely necessary and lift only the part which is away from the operator.
 - Do not start the engine when standing in front of the discharge chute.
 - Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times.
 - Never pick up or carry a lawnmower while the engine is running.
 - Stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire, make sure that all moving parts have come to a complete stop and, where a key is fitted, remove the key:
 - before clearing blockages or unclogging chute;
 - before checking, cleaning, or working on the machine;
 - after striking a foreign object. Inspect the machine for damage and make repairs before restarting and operating the equipment;
 - if the machine starts to vibrate abnormally (check immediately).
 - Stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire, make sure that all moving parts have come to a complete stop and, where a key is fitted, remove the key:
 - whenever you leave the lawnmower;
 - before refueling;
 - Reduce the throttle setting during engine shutdown and, if the engine is provided with a shut-off valve, turn the fuel off at the conclusion of mowing.
 - Go slow when using a trailing seat.
 - Read, understand and follow all instructions in the manual and on the machine before starting.
 - Inspect machine before you operate. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Make any necessary adjustments before you operate.
 - Do not operate mower without discharge chute or entire grass catcher in place. Never operate with the discharge deflector raised, removed, or altered, unless using a grass catcher.
 - Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
 - Use care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.
 - Use only accessories and attachments approved by the manufacturer of the machine.
 - Do not operate machine if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 - Do not wear radio or music headphones. Safe service and operation requires your full attention.
- ### Maintenance and Storage
- Keep all nuts, bolts and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
 - Never store the equipment with fuel in the tank inside a building where fumes can reach an open flame or spark.
 - Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
 - To reduce the fire hazard, keep the engine, silencer, battery compartment and fuel storage area free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.

SAFETY

- Check the grasscatcher frequently for wear and deterioration.
- Replace worn or damaged parts for safety.
- If the fuel tank has to be drained, this should be done outdoors.
- Never allow untrained personnel to service machine. Understand service procedure before doing work.
- Disengage drives, lower implement, lock parking brake, stop engine and remove key or disconnect spark plug (for gas engines). Wait for all movement to stop before adjusting, cleaning or repairing.
- Shut off fuel while storing or transporting. Do not store fuel near flames or drain indoors.
- Use care when checking blades. Wrap the blades or wear gloves, and use caution when servicing them. Only replace blades. Never straighten or weld them.
- Keep hands, feet, clothing, jewelry and long hair away from moving parts. If possible, do not make adjustments with the engine running.
- Keep all parts in good working condition and all hardware tightened. Replace all worn or damaged decals.



Checking Mowing Area

- Clear mowing area of objects that might be thrown. Keep people and pets out of mowing area.
- Low-hanging branches and similar obstacles can injure the operator or interfere with

mowing operation. Before mowing, identify potential obstacles such as low-hanging branches, and trim or remove those obstacles.

- Study mowing area. Set up a safe mowing pattern. Do not mow where traction or stability is doubtful.

Parking Safely

1. Stop mower on a level surface, not on a slope.
2. Disengage mower blades and wheel drive.
3. Stop the engine.
4. Wait for engine and all moving parts to stop.
5. Remove the spark plug wire before servicing the mower.



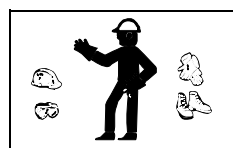
Rotating Blades are Dangerous - Protect Children and Prevent Accidents

Protect Children:

- Tragic accidents can occur if the operator is not alert to the presence of children. Children are often attracted to lawn-mowing machines and mowing activity. Stay alert to the presence of children. Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them.
- Keep children indoors, out of the mowing area, and in the watchful eye of a responsible adult, other than the operator, when a mower is being operated.
- Be alert and turn mower off if a child enters the work area. They don't understand the dangers of rotating blades or the fact that the operator is unaware of their presence.
- Never allow a child or an untrained person to operate the machine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may block your view of a child.

Operating Safely on Slopes

- Slopes are a major factor related to slip and fall accidents which can result in severe injury. Operation on all slopes requires extra caution. If you feel uneasy on a slope, do not mow it.
- Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down. Use extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.
- Watch for holes, ruts, bumps, rocks or other hidden objects. Uneven terrain could cause a slip and fall accident. Tall grass can hide obstacles.
- Do not mow on wet grass or excessively steep slopes. Poor footing could cause a slip and fall accident.
- Do not mow near drop offs, ditches, or embankments. The operator could lose footing or balance.
- Use extra care with grasscatchers. These can change the stability of the machine. Do not use grasscatcher on steep slopes.



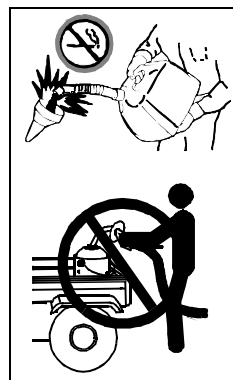
Wear Appropriate Clothing

- Always wear eye protection when operating the machine.
- Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate for the job.

- While operating this machine, always wear substantial footwear and long trousers. Do not operate the equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals.
- Wear a suitable protective device such as earplugs. Loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Prevent Fires

- Machine fires and structure fires can occur if a machine is stored before allowing it to cool, if debris is not removed from critical areas of the machine, or if machine is stored near combustible materials.
- Remove grass and debris completely from engine compartment and muffler area, and from on top of the mower deck, before and after operating machine, especially after mowing or mulching in dry conditions.
- Empty any grasscatcher bags or containers completely before storing.
- Always shut off fuel when storing or transporting machine, if the machine has a fuel shutoff.
- Do not store machine near an open flame or source of ignition, such as a water heater or furnace.
- Check fuel lines, tank, cap, and fittings frequently for cracks or leaks. Replace if necessary.



Handling Fuel Safely

To avoid personal injury or property damage, use extreme care in handling fuel. Fuel is extremely flammable and fuel vapors are explosive:

- Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and other sources of ignition.
- Use only approved non-metal, portable fuel containers. If using a funnel, make sure it is plastic and has no screen or filter.
- Never remove the fuel tank cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow engine to cool before refueling.
- Never add fuel to or drain fuel from the machine indoors. Move machine outdoors and provide adequate ventilation.

ASSEMBLY

- Clean up spilled fuel immediately. If fuel is spilled on clothing, change clothing immediately. If fuel is spilled near machine, do not attempt to start the engine but move the machine away from the area of spillage. Avoid creating any source of ignition until fuel vapors have dissipated.
- Never store the machine or fuel container where there is an open flame, spark, or pilot light such as on a water heater or other appliance.
- Prevent fire and explosion caused by static electric discharge. Static electric discharge can ignite fuel vapors in an ungrounded fuel container.
- Never fill containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer bed with a plastic liner. Always place containers on the ground away from your vehicle before fueling.
- Remove fuel-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment with a portable container, rather than from a fuel dispenser nozzle.
- Keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until the fueling is complete. Do not use a nozzle lock-open device.
- Never overfill fuel tank. Replace fuel tank cap and tighten securely.
- Replace all fuel container caps securely after use.
- For gasoline engines, do not use gas with methanol. Methanol is harmful to your health and to the environment.

Handling Waste Product and Chemicals

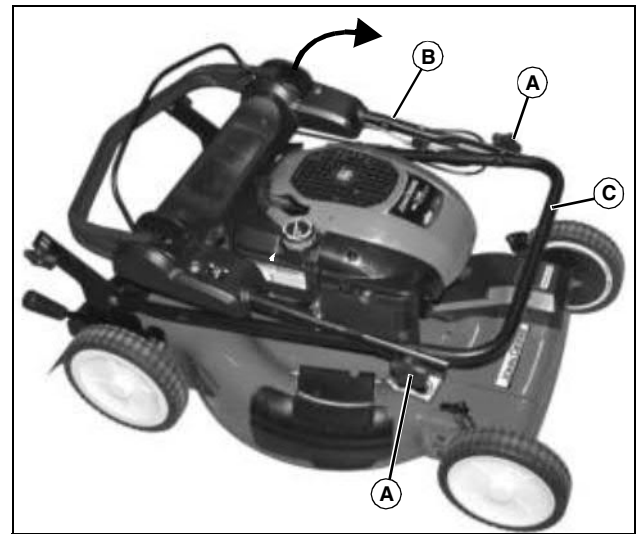
Waste products, such as, used oil, fuel, coolant, brake fluid, and batteries, can harm the environment and people:

- Do not use beverage containers for waste fluids - someone may drink from them.
- See your local Recycling Center or authorized dealer to learn how to recycle or get rid of waste products.
- See your local Recycling Center or authorized dealer to learn how to put your machine out of service at the end of the machine's service life.

Assembly

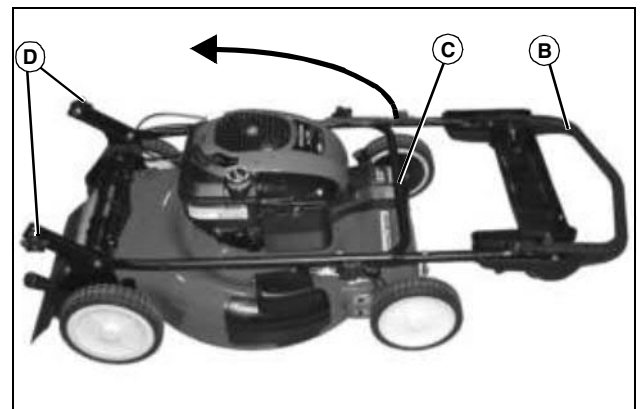
Prepare Handle Assembly

1. Remove mower from shipping carton. Mower shown as removed from shipping carton.



MX44278

2. Loosen upper handle knobs (A) on both sides and unfold upper handle (B) toward front of machine until upper handle aligns with and fits into lower handle (C). Securely tighten upper handle knobs (A) on both sides.



MX44279

3. Lift handle assembly (B)(C) up and toward back of machine.

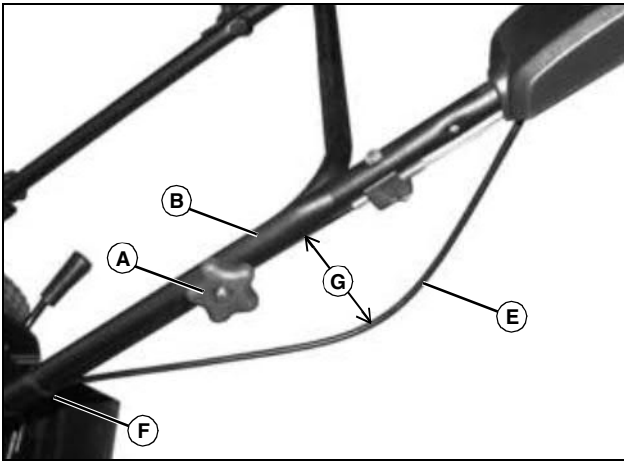
NOTE: Carriage bolts, lockwashers and knobs (D) may already be installed in brackets. Simply remove and install.

4. Align holes in lower handle with one of three height adjustment holes in mounting brackets. Insert one carriage bolt into desired hole in each bracket, out through lower handle, and secure with lockwasher and knob (D), tightening securely.

ASSEMBLY

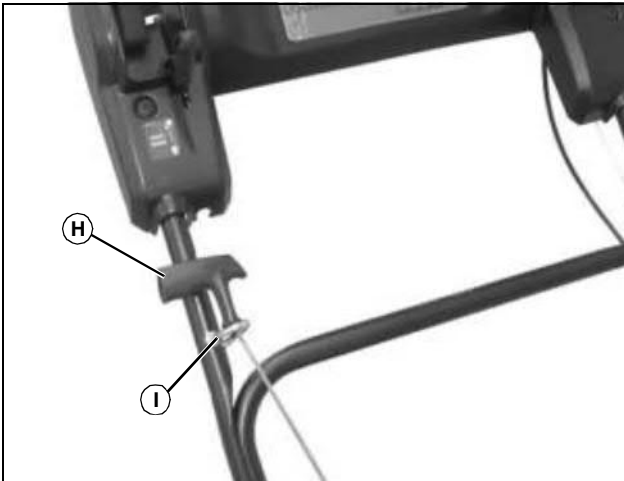
Check Machine Safety System

Perform safety system check to make sure the operator presence control is functioning properly.



MX44280

5. When unfolding handle, be certain that the loop in the operator presence cable (E) is not removed by pulling on cable. Be certain tie strap (F) is installed at position 8 cm (3 in.) from center of upper handle knob (A). Be certain that there is a minimum distance of 10 cm (4 in.) (G) of center of loop between cable (E) and upper handle (B).



MX41636

6. While squeezing the operator presence control down against the drive handle, slowly pull starter handle (H) up to rope guide (I) located on right side of upper handle as shown, and hook rope through guide.

Install Discharge Assembly

Your mower comes with a side discharge cover installed on the mower deck, and is ready to be operated as a mulching mower. See the Operating section for information to install the discharge deflector or the grass bag.

Check and Add Engine Oil

1. Remove dipstick and check engine oil level.
2. Add the supplied oil as needed up to the FULL mark on the dipstick. Do not overfill.

Fill Fuel Tank

Fill the fuel tank.

OPERATING CONTROLS

Operating Controls

Operator Station Controls and Features (JM26, JM36)

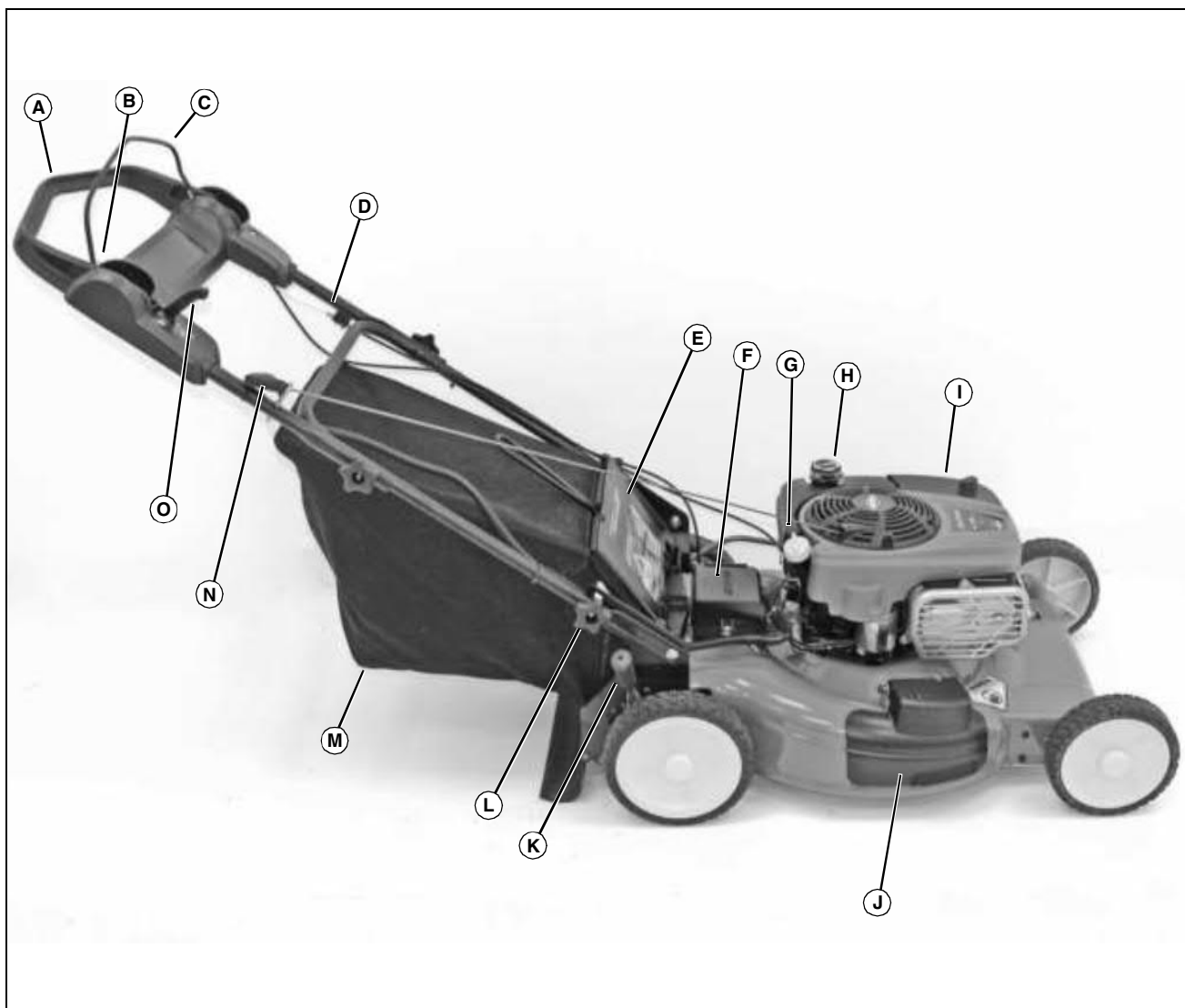


MX27667

Key	Description	Key	Description
A	MowMentum™ Drive Handle	H	Air Cleaner Cover
B	Operator Presence Control	I	Side Discharge Cover
C	Drive Cable Adjuster	J	Rear Wheel Cutting Height Adjustment Lever (JM26) All Wheel Cutting Height Adjustment Lever (JM36)
D	Rear Door, Spring-Loaded	K	Handle Height Adjustment
E	Fuel Fill Cap	L	Grass Bag
F	Oil Fill and Dipstick	M	Starter Handle
G	Front Cutting Height Adjustment Levers (JM26)	N	Neutral Lock

OPERATING CONTROLS

Operator Station Controls (JM46)



MX27676

Key	Description	Key	Description
A	MowMentum™ Drive Handle	I	Air Cleaner Cover
B	Electric Start Key Switch	J	Side Discharge Cover
C	Operator Presence Control	K	All Wheel Cutting Height Adjustment Lever
D	Drive Cable Adjuster	L	Handle Height Adjustment
E	Rear Door, Spring-Loaded	M	Grass Bag
F	Battery Box	N	Starter Handle
G	Oil Fill and Dipstick	O	Neutral Lock
H	Fuel Fill Cap		



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OPERATING

Operating

Daily Operating Checklist

- Test safety systems.
- Make sure all guards, deflectors and covers are in place and tightened.
- Check engine oil level.
- Check fuel level.
- Check that handle knobs are tight.
- Check for proper cutting height.
- Remove grass and debris from machine.
- Check area below machine for leaks.

Adjusting Cutting Height



CAUTION: Avoid injury! Rotating blades are dangerous and can cut fingers and toes. Stop engine and wait for blade to stop rotating before adjusting cutting height.

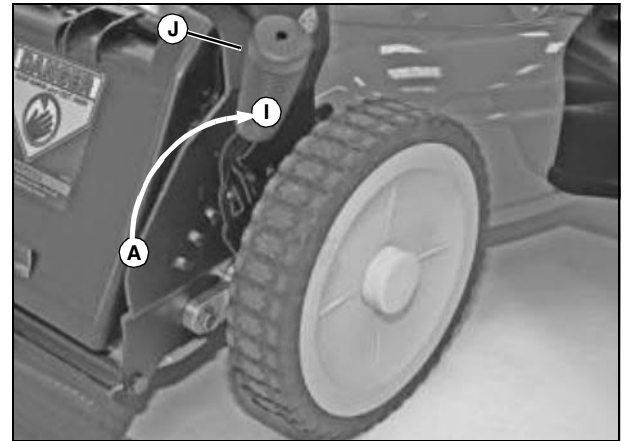
JM26 model is front wheel drive, with separate wheel adjustment levers on each front wheel, and a single adjustment lever for rear wheels.

JM36 and JM46 models are rear wheel drive with a single height adjustment lever at the right rear wheel.

Key	Cutting Height Adjustments
(A)	30 mm (1.2 in.)
(B)	38 mm (1.5 in.)
(C)	48 mm (1.9 in.)
(D)	56 mm (2.2 in.)
(E)	66 mm (2.6 in.)
(F)	76 mm (3.0 in.)
(G)	86 mm (3.4 in.)
(H)	97 mm (3.8 in.)
(I)	107 mm (4.2 in.)

JM26

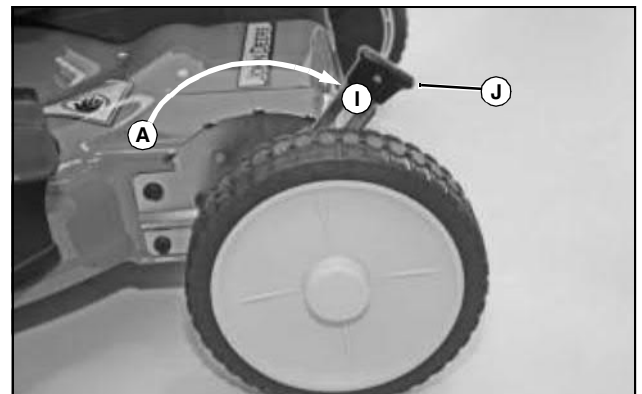
A single height adjustment lever at the right rear wheel raises or lowers the rear of the mower deck equally and simultaneously. Each front wheel has a height adjustment lever that raises and lowers the wheel individually.



Picture Note: Right side shown.

1. Pull the height adjusting lever (J) outward and move to the desired cutting height. The lowest cutting height is location (A). The highest cutting height is location (I).

NOTE: Front wheels heights are adjusted individually. The front height of cut levers can be set over the bent tabs and between them to obtain all nine positions. Both wheels should be set in the same position to ensure even grass cutting.



Picture Note: Right side shown.

2. Pull the height adjusting lever (J) on each front wheel outward and move to the desired cutting height. The lowest cutting height is location (A). The highest cutting height is location (I).

JM36, JM46

A single height adjustment lever at the right rear wheel is connected to linkage which raises or lowers the mower deck equally at all four wheels simultaneously.

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