

18 WAYS OF MIS-USING EQUIPMENT

Remember this is what takes place when you mis-use equipment.

1. Run equipment at excessive speeds.
Result - poor cutting appearance.
2. Run equipment with loose bolts and nuts.
Result - (a) bolts will become elongated due to vibration.
(b) bolts and nuts when lost usually end up between the reel and the bed knife.
3. Run equipment improperly adjusted, such as: (a) belts and chains, (b) clutches, (c) reel and bed knife.
Result - (a) Wear out prematurely and cause undue wear to pulleys, sprockets and bearings (b) wear clutch plates and linings, (c) will not cut properly and will wear bed knife and reel prematurely.
4. Operate with accumulation of grass clippings and dirt in air cooling fins on engine.
Result - will cut out flow of air causing engines to run excessively warm. May cause fires.
5. Operate equipment not properly lubricated.
Result - bearings, shafts, sprockets and all wearable parts will not stand up. This will cause poor performance of any equipment.
6. Operate engine with little or no oil in crankcase.
Result - connecting rod will seize in cylinder.
7. Operate engine with air - cleaner empty.
Result - will affect carburetion giving poor engine performance and shorten life of engine due to dirt entering engine.
8. Using improper equipment for the job. Example - using a light duty piece of equipment where a heavy duty should be used.
Result - poor finished job and equipment will not stand the gaff. Example would be - sending a boy to do a man's job.
9. Using improper fuel in engines such as white gas, etc.
Result - manufacturer's recommend standard gasoline, and substitutes will cause poor engine performance, also wear engine prematurely.
10. Operating equipment with faulty parts.
Result - one worn or missing part will possibly wear five others causing expensive maintenance costs.
11. Using heavy detergent oil in engines or number 10 weight oil.
Result - manufacturer's recommend non-detergent oils and number 10 is **too light** due to the high r.p.m. under which engines operate.
12. Operate any rotary mowing equipment with cutter bar out of balance.
Result - will cause undue vibration and wear bushings, bearings and could crack housings.
13. Use reel type mowers where there is any stones, or debris.
Result - tear up reels giving poor cutting appearance.
14. Over-grease or use wrong lubricant.
Result - excessive grease or wrong lubricant will fall on turf harming grass. Dirt will hang to unit.
15. Use air pressure grease guns when lubricating.
Result - pressure build up will cause fittings to pop out.
16. Drain engine oil when cold.
Result - Sediment in oil is not in suspension and will settle to the bottom of the sump. If drained when warm, 90% of the sediment will flow out.
17. Spray water on cylinder head and cylinder when cleaning equipment that is hot.
Result - will cause warpage and may crack head or block.
18. Mis-use of equipment such as:
(a) hitting obstructions, (b) jumping curbing, (c) transporting walking greensmowers on roller.

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