



Push Mower Maintenance Checklist

Use these tips as a general guide only. See the full **Lawn Mower Maintenance for Push Mowers** article and follow the manufacturer's maintenance and safety instructions. Never run a mower in a garage or enclosed space.

Before You Begin Any Work

- Set up in a well-ventilated area, not a garage.
- Wear safety glasses and work gloves, or for fluids, nitrile gloves.
- Use a siphon pump to remove the fuel from a gas mower.
- Disconnect the spark plug wire on a gas mower.
- Disconnect the battery or unplug the power cord on an electric mower.
- Let the mower cool.

1. Inspect and Clean the Mower

- Deal with any loose parts or damage.
- Brush off debris and clean around the fuel and oil fills.
- Clean the underside of the mower deck.

3. Replace the Spark Plug (Gas Mower)

- Remove the spark plug with a ratchet and spark plug socket.
- Gap the new spark plug and install it.

5. Change the Oil (Gas Mower)

- Reconnect the spark plug wire and run the mower outside for a minute to warm the oil.
- Disconnect the spark plug wire.
- Tilt the mower with the air filter up and drain the oil into a container.
- Set the mower down and slowly add oil, checking the level periodically.
- Let the oil settle and make a final level check.

2. Clean or Replace the Air Filter (Gas Mower)

- Wash a foam filter, rinse, dry, saturate with oil and squeeze out the excess before reinstalling.
- Replace a paper filter.

4. Sharpen or Replace the Blade

- For the simplest fix, or if the blade is damaged, install a new blade.
- To sharpen the blade, remove it, file the cutting edges, balance it and reinstall.

6. Get Ready to Mow

- Add fresh gasoline and reconnect the spark plug wire on a gas mower.
- Connect the battery or plug in the power cord on an electric mower.