

LAWN MOWER SAFETY

Most of us are familiar with using a lawn mower. We use these machines at home and even on the job. But lawn mowers and other landscaping equipment, such as trimmers, are responsible for many injuries every year.

Incidents occur with improper use and lack of personal protective equipment. Using a lawn mower or landscaping equipment is a common task and most do not consider it hazardous. But these machines cause a high number of injuries when used incorrectly and safe practices need to be followed.

LAWN MOWER SAFETY TIPS:

- OPERATION MANUALS
- SURVEY THE AREA
- PAY ATTENTION
- CLEAR OBJECTS
- REGULAR EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE
- PPE



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It is easy to become complacent when operating a lawn mower or other common used landscaping equipment. It is vital to follow safety best practices every time you cut the grass at work or at home. Following basic safety measures can make all the difference in reducing the risk of a serious injury.

OPERATION MANUAL

- Read and follow the operation manual instructions before using a lawn mower. Know where the emergency stop is located and be familiar with all the safety features. Always bring the mower to a full stop and turn it off when clearing the grass trimmings chute.

SURVEY YOUR YARD OR WORK AREA

- Survey the yard or work area for obstructions and small objects that may be run over. If small rocks, toys, branches, etc., are run over, they can become projectiles causing injury or property damage.

PAY ATTENTION

- Pay attention and watch out for steep drop-offs or tight corners. Watch where you are stepping to avoid **slips, trips, and falls**.

CLEAR OBJECTS

- Remove objects from the mowing area prior to mowing to eliminate the chance of striking debris with the machine that could cause injury or equipment damage. Ensure others are not in the vicinity of your mowing area to reduce the risk of accidental projectiles or debris causing injuries to others.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

- Conduct regular maintenance on your lawn mower according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Proper maintenance can help avoid situations such as fires and other mechanic issues that can lead to an incident. If using a battery operated lawn mover, carefully read the owners manual for safe charging of the battery. Be aware that lithium batteries can explode or ignite without warning.

PPE

- Always wear proper PPE when operating a lawn mower or other landscaping equipment. Safety glasses with side shields or a face shield, long pants, hearing protection, cut resistant gloves and steel-toe boots are recommended.

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