



# Masport®

Home Gardener / Jardinero doméstico / Motoculteur



## IMPORTANT / IMPORTANTE

### OWNER'S MANUAL.

GBR

Please read these instructions carefully before assembly.

Keep these and the engine instructions in a safe place for future use.

### MODE D'EMPLOI.

FRA

Lire soigneusement ces instructions avant d'assembler le motoculteur.

Garder ces instructions en lieu sûr à titre de référence future.

### MANUAL DEL PROPIETARIO.

ESP

Lea estas instrucciones detenidamente antes del montaje.

Guarde estas instrucciones en un sitio seguro para uso en el futuro.



**Do not operate this machine before it has been assembled correctly and you have read and understood these instructions.**



**These instructions are intended as a general guide and do not supersede national or local codes in any way. Contact local Authorities for clarity of laws relating to operation of this appliance.**

**Keep the instructions in a safe place for future use.**

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## Symbols in this Owner's Manual



**Threatened hazard or hazardous situation.**  
Not observing this instruction can lead to injuries or cause damage to property.



**Important information on proper handling.**  
Not observing this instruction can lead to faults in the machine.



**User information.** This information helps you to use all the functions correctly.

## Symbols used on the Machine



Read and understand this Owner's Manual before operating the machine.



Keep bystanders clear. Danger of flying objects.



Keep hands and feet clear.



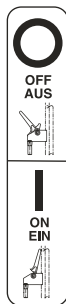
Max 15° slope when using machine.



Noise level.



Warning! Keep hands and feet clear of rotating blades.



Operator Presence Control Lever (OPC).



Keep hands and feet clear of rotating blade.

## Proper Use

For safety reasons, the Home Gardener is not to be used by children, young people, or any other persons who are not acquainted with these directions for use.



Specific safety information Please read this safety information and the directions for use carefully and be sure to follow the instructions to the letter.



### Warning!

Even though this machine has been designed to be safe in use, it is essential to follow the Safe Working instructions carefully to avoid accidents to persons or property.

## Safety Precautions

### UNDERSTAND YOUR HOME GARDENER

Read and understand the owner's manual and labels affixed to the Home Gardener. Learn its application and limitations as well as the specific potential hazards peculiar to it.

### DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND MEDICATION

Do not operate the Home Gardener while under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or any medication that could affect your ability to use it properly.

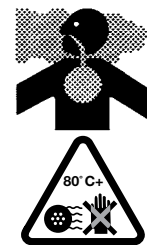
1. Your Home Gardener is a piece of power equipment, not a toy, and should be operated with extreme caution at all times.
2. Children should never be allowed to operate the Home Gardener. Only persons acquainted with the rules of safe operation set forth in this manual should be allowed to operate the machine.
3. Read the complete manual to fully understand the function of all the accessories and controls.
4. Keep other people, children and pets well away from the area of operation as there is a risk of objects being thrown out during operation.
5. Do not stand in front of the machine when starting the engine or when the machine is running.
6. Wear hearing and eye protection.
7. Do not operate the machine barefoot or with open sandals. Quality footwear is recommended.
8. Do not wear loose fitting clothing that could become caught in the moving parts of the machine.
9. Do not start the engine without the machine stand locked in the down position.
10. Do not place feet or hands on or near the working head or attachments while the engine is running.
11. Do not attempt to adjust the working head or attachments when the engine is running.
12. Do not leave the machine unattended when the engine is running.
13. Check the fuel supply before starting the engine. Do not fill the fuel tank with the machine indoors, while the engine is running or while the engine is hot. Replace the gasoline cap securely, and wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine.



### Warning!

Gasoline is extremely flammable; spilled fuel can cause a fire or explosion.

14. Do not run the machine indoors. Engine exhaust gases are deadly poisonous.
15. Do not touch the engine muffler during or after operation of the machine. It is extremely hot and can cause severe burns.
16. Do not change the engine governor speed setting. Over-revving of engine can damage the machine and endanger the operator.
17. Before changing attachments or doing maintenance on the machine, remove the spark plug wire and ground it to the engine block for added safety.
18. Use caution when using the machine near buildings or fences as damage or injury can result.
19. Do not attempt to remove debris from the attachments without stopping the engine and removing the spark plug wire for added safety. Make sure the working head has stopped completely before attempting to clear the debris.
20. Keep all bolts and fasteners on the machine tight and check them at regular intervals.
21. Do not store the machine inside a building with gasoline in the tank where fumes can reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool completely before storing inside any enclosure.



### Important!

The engine is shipped WITHOUT GASOLINE or OIL. After assembly, service engine with gasoline and oil as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your unit.

### NOTE

Reference to right or left side of your Home Gardener is viewed from the operating position.

## Contents of the Shipping Container

Prior to assembly check to see that the following parts are included with your Home Gardener.

1. Sub Frame Assembly and Engine
2. Upper and Lower Handle Assembly
3. Home Gardener Owner's Manual (this publication) and an Engine Owner's Manual.
4. Tine Cover:- MkII European only.

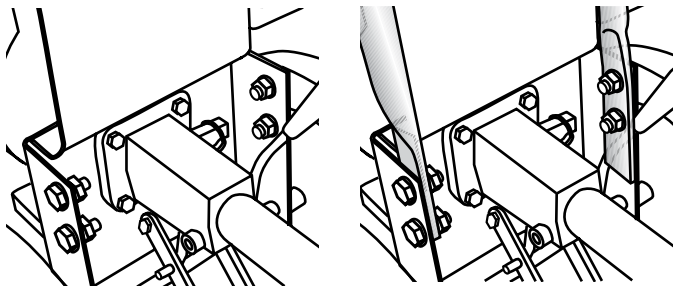
## Assembly Instructions

### TOOLS REQUIRED FOR ASSEMBLY

Two 17 mm AF spanners, a screwdriver—Pozi drive, adjustable wrench.

### HANDLE ASSEMBLY

1. Attach the Handle Assembly to the Sub Frame using the four bolts and nuts provided. Tighten using two 17mm AF spanners.



A. Handle fasteners as shipped

B. Handle when assembled.

### THROTTLE CONTROL

Uncoil the throttle control from around the engine. Remove the M6 nut and bolt from the right hand side of the upper handle and fit the Throttle Control to the handle and secure with the nut and bolt

### OPERATOR PRESENCE CONTROL (OPC) LEVER

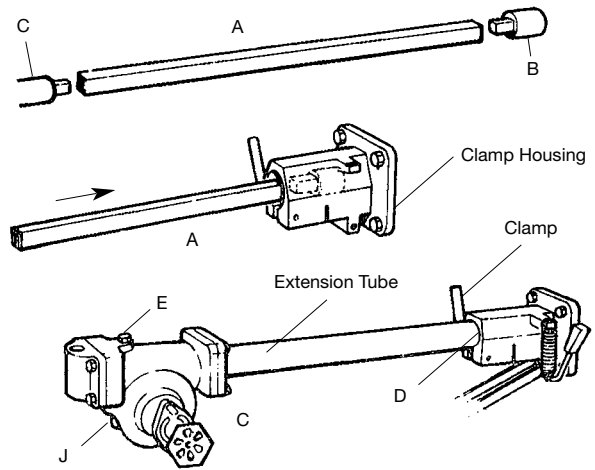
—European Models Only.

Uncoil the OPC control cable from around the engine. Remove the M6 nut and bolt from the left hand side of the upper handle and fit the OPC Lever to the handle and secure with the nut and bolt

Some models of Home Gardener are fitted with an OPC system that shuts down the engine if the operator moves from behind the handle. A small lever on the left handle must be held up towards the handle before the engine can be started. Releasing this lever will instantly switch off the ignition and bring the engine to a halt. This ignition switching is performed by a micro-switch mounted in a box just behind the chassis of the cultivator. A flexible cable connects the switchbox to the handle lever.

### DRIVE SHAFT. Delivered pre assembled.

1. The drive shaft (A) is designed to fit snugly over the square pegs (B) and (C).
2. Care must be taken when installing the drive shaft as the square drive peg on the working head cannot be seen with the extension tube installed. Turn the shaft by hand until it fits over the peg.



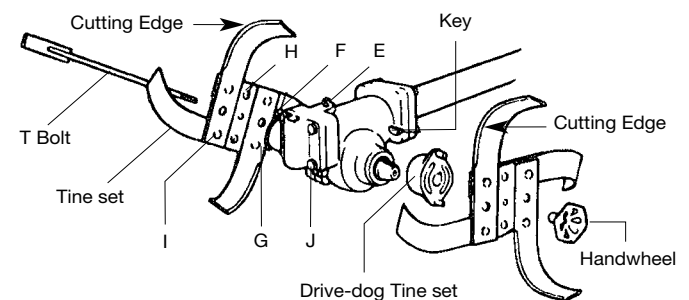
### GEARBOX and EXTENSION TUBE. Delivered pre assembled.

1. Insert the drive shaft into the clamp housing and onto the square drive peg on the engine shaft.
2. Slide the working head and extension tube over the drive shaft toward the clamp housing.

**Important!** When the extension tube is nearly all the way into the clamp housing the working head and extension tube will need to be rotated slowly until the drive shaft lines up with the square drive peg on the working head.

3. Once the drive shaft is on both drive pegs, the extension tube should be inserted into the clamp housing up to the step cut groove on the extension tube.
4. Tighten the clamp lever on the clamp housing **BY HAND ONLY**. The working head is intended to rotate slightly if the tines hit a rock or other solid objects. (Two washers are fitted between the shoulder of the clamp bolt and the housing.) The final angle of the clamp handle can be adjusted by removal of one or both of the washers.
5. Set the machine stand to the “down” position by moving the spring loaded lever fully to the rear (toward the engine).

### NARROW TINE SET ASSEMBLY—Optional Accessory.



A reduction T-Bolt is provided to decrease the cultivation width to 30cm.

1. Undo the hand wheel from the working head and withdraw the T-Bolt. Be careful not to lose either of the keys which could be misplaced if the drive-dog tine sets are accidentally removed.

**Important!** The tine sets are interchangeable but be careful to fit them with the cutting edges positioned as illustrated.

2. Mount one tine set on the right-hand mounting with the studs (F) and (G) through the holes (H) and (I).
3. Insert the 19cm T-Bolt through the centre hole engaging the

"T Section" and push it through and out the left-hand tine set mounting.

4. Mount the second tine set and secure by screwing on the hand-wheel.

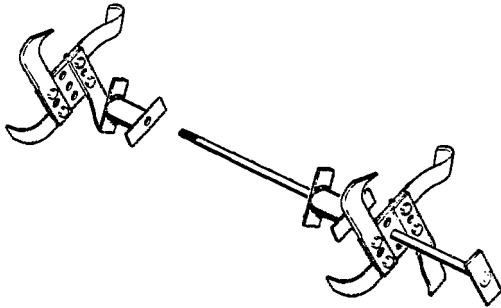
**i Important!**

Tighten the hand-wheel as firmly as you can by hand (Do not use tools to force it).

EXTENSION TINE SET ASSEMBLY- Optional Accessory.  
Extension tine sets will increase the cultivation width to 60cm.

**i Important!**

The T ends of the spacer must be positioned in the recessed section of the tine set.



1. Slide the T-Bolt through the centre hole ensuring the inner tine set engages with the spacer.
2. Repeat this operation on the other side and secure by screwing on the hand-wheel.

**i Important!**

Ensure that the cutting edges of all tine sets are facing in the correct direction.

THE STABILISER WEIGHT.

The addition of the stabiliser weight will assist in deeper cultivation and the breaking up of hard compacted soils. To attach the weight, insert the peg into the hole at the front of the gearbox. Place the hairpin clip through the hole in the peg. On European models only—the Stabiliser Weight may be removed/fitted to the machine by pulling the securing clip from under the Tine Shield.

FITTING THE TINE SHIELD.

The Tine Shield is a standard fitting on the European Model and available as an optional extra on other models. To fit the Tine Shield place the spigot into the support on the Gearbox head and secure with the pin provided.



**Warning!**

Regulations require that the European Model be used with the Tine Shield in place. Never operate the machine with the Tine Shield removed.

**Before You Start**

**i Important!**

The engine on this machine must not be operated until it is filled to the correct level with oil. Check the oil in the working head - refer to General Maintenance, point 2 on the next page.

Support your Masport Home Gardener in a level position and remove the plug marked 'OIL FILL'. Use a funnel to fill the crank case to the point of overflowing with SAE 10W-30 oil (600ml), then replace and tighten the plug. When filling the crank case, it is necessary to pour the oil slowly to avoid air locks.

Check the oil level each time you use your machine, and when necessary refill to overflowing. Replacement oil is available from your Masport Dealer. Fill the fuel tank with clean, fresh, preferably premium grade gasoline.

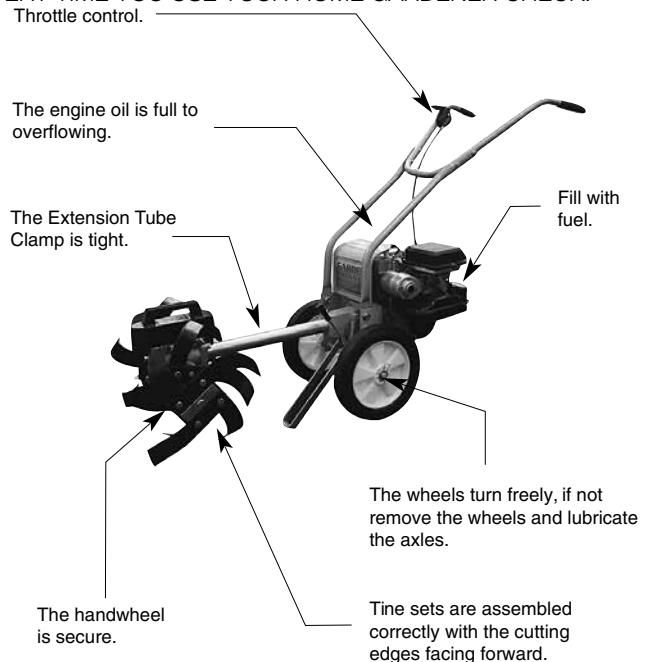
The engine on your Home Gardener will benefit considerably from being used under only moderate loads for the first five hours use. Avoid using your machine with the engine at full throttle during this period.

STARTING THE ENGINE

For a more detailed description refer to the Engine Owner's Manual provided.

Ensure that the tines are not resting on the ground. Check that the support stand is down and locked in position.

EVERY TIME YOU USE YOUR HOME GARDENER CHECK:



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## General Maintenance

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Lightly oil or grease the working parts.

The working head has been filled with a special gear oil, before delivery. For replacement oil, order Part Number 503335 from your Masport Dealer.



### Important!

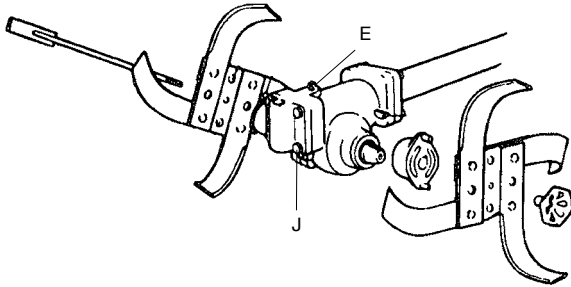
Failure to use this special purpose gear oil may cause damage to the gear and void your warranty. When you are washing your machine, take care not to wet the engine. This could damage it.

#### AFTER THE FIRST FIVE HOURS WORK

Change the engine oil. Refer to the Engine Manual provided for details.

#### AFTER EVERY 20-25 HOURS OF USE

1. Change the engine oil. Refer to the Engine Manual provided for details.
2. Check the oil in the working head. If necessary fill with oil (use Masport Part Number 503335). With the head in a level position, unscrew the oil plugs 'E' and 'J' and pour oil slowly in the top hole until the oil runs out of the lower hole. Replace and tighten both plugs.



3. Clean and re-oil the air filter (every few hours under dusty conditions). For a more detailed description refer to the Engine Manual provided.

#### AFTER EVERY 100 HOURS OF USE – More often under dusty conditions.

1. Service the air filter, refer to the Engine Manual.
2. Keep the fins of the engine block and cylinder head clean, refer to the Engine Manual.
3. Check that all nuts and bolts are tight.

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## Using Your Home Gardener

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Once you have established an area of land which you visualise as your vegetable garden, you will want to clear it of weeds, grass, etc, before you start tilling. To carry out this task you should use the tilling tines, supplied as standard with your Home Gardener.

First place the Home Gardener on its supporting stand and make sure the tines will revolve in a forward direction with the cutting edges leading. Start the engine and advance the throttle setting to 'Fast'. Retract the stand by pushing the lever forward. Allow the tines to claw into the ground. This clawing action pulls the machine forward while it chips out the weeds and stubble. Swing the handles from side to side in an arc of approximately 50cm and move in a direct line towards the end of your garden area. Always exert a little upwards pressure on the handles except when you want to stop the forward movement. Guide the machine, don't push it. Let the Home Gardener work for you.

If some of the weed growth is really stubborn, draw the machine backwards down the row to dislodge any roots. When you finish the first row, push down on the handles to clear the tines from the soil and manoeuvre the machine on its wheels to begin digging the next row. Repeat this process until the area is cleared. Rake the loose weeds clear and you are ready to start cultivating.

#### THE FIRST DIG

This job is really a progression from the previous weeding operation. As before, set the throttle to the 'Fast' position and move the machine into position to dig the first row. This time, put a little more upward pressure on the handles and allow the tines to slice into the ground to a depth of approximately 15cm, as when weeding, swing the handles from side to side. Continue until the whole area has been cultivated. It may be wise to let the ground settle and dig it over once again before planting.

#### BREAKING IN HARD GROUND

If the ground is very hard and compacted, use the following "trenching" method of operation. The addition of the stabiliser weight can also be of assistance. With the Home Gardener throttle set to the 'Fast' position, swing the handles of the machine from side to side applying upward pressure on the handles. Dig a trench 15cm deep and slightly wider than the width of the tines. Then allow the machine to draw forward and let the wheels drop into the trench you have just dug. This will anchor the wheels in the trench. Repeat the procedure digging another trench. Then draw the machine backwards and demolish the mound between the two trenches. When this is completed allow the Home Gardener to propel itself forward until the wheels anchor themselves against the wall of the front trench, and repeat the process. Using this technique you will be able to handle the hardest of ground with relative ease.

#### PLANTING

Remember, plan to make the maximum use of your Masport Home Gardener for weeding and shallow cultivation. Leave enough room between the rows for the Home Gardener to be able to carry out inter-row work while the plants are growing, a minimum of 30cm will be required to allow use of your Home Gardener with single tine sets. Refer to 'Optional Extras'.

#### WEEDING

Your Home Gardener may be set up to cope with all types of weeding operations. If the area to be weeded is between widely spaced rows the standard double tine sets may conveniently be used. For more confined inter-row weeding the two outside tine sets may be removed and cultivation width reduced to 30cm. As your plants and seeds begin to mature, so do the weeds. If not attended to regularly, weeds will stifle and choke young plants. To weed between rows, set the working head on the Home



Gardener so that the curved tines are revolving in a forward direction. Start the machine and set the throttle to half speed. Lift slightly on the handles and work down between two rows swinging the handle from side to side allowing the tines to chip out the weeds. Use the machine in this manner between rows and between individual plants. The long reach neck of the Home Gardener lets you see where you're going when you work close to the plants. With practice, this exercise can be carried out at near normal walking pace.

**HOW TO AERATE THE SOIL**

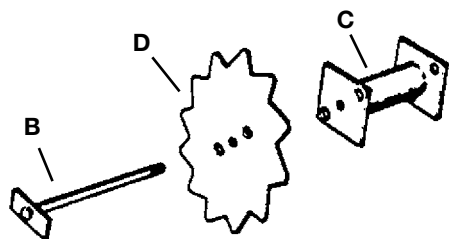
Aeration is necessary to allow even moisture distribution and oxygen intake to take place in the soil. For this exercise you should use the Cultivating Tool.

**To fit:** Slide the 11 inch (280mm) 'T' Bolt (B) through the Cultivating Tool (E) and Spacer Drive (C) then through the Gear Head. Tighten the Hand-nut to secure the assembly. Loosen the clamp that holds the extension shaft and twist the Gear Head 90 degrees, tighten clamp.

After the Cultivating Tool is fitted it should rotate in an anticlockwise direction. Once you have started the machine, lift the handles to let the Cultivating Tool break the soil surface, set the throttle to half speed and work backwards down the row, using the swing arc technique as previously described.

**TRIMMING LAWN EDGES - Optional Extra**

Fit the Edger Disc (D) to one side of the working head. To mount the Disc, you will need the mounting extension (C) and the 28cm T-Bolt (B) and the washer. Assemble as shown, making sure that the shallow pegs fit into the holes on the weeder. Remember the disc must revolve forward and the short side of each tooth should be in a leading position. Tighten the Hand-nut onto the T-Bolt (B) to secure the assembly.



Position the Home Gardener on a path to give a firm and constant bearing surface. Start the machine and set the throttle to quarter speed. Gently feed the disc between the lawn edge and the concrete. Keep the Home Gardener's speed controlled to let the teeth slice off overhanging grass. When you've finished the job, brush the trimmed grass clear. If you like a bevelled edge set the Trimmer at the required angle.

**ROTARY BRUSH - Optional Extra**

A useful scrubbing brush to assist in the revival of your drive, paths, patios, etc. Used in conjunction with concrete cleaners and water.

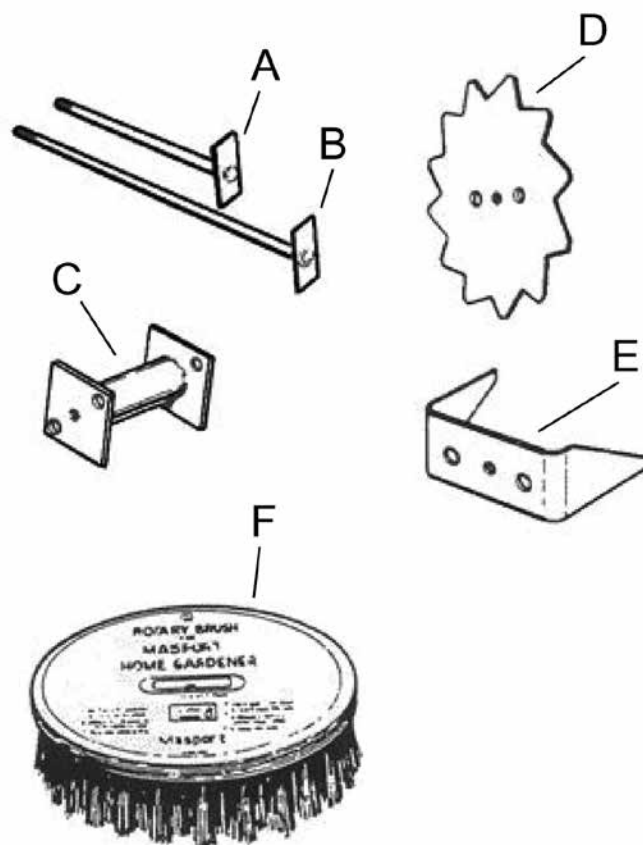
**To fit:** Slide the 11 inch (280mm) 'T' Bolt (B) through the Brush (F) and a Tine Spacer, then through the Gear Head. Tighten the Hand-nut to secure the assembly. Loosen the clamp that holds the extension shaft and twist the Gear Head 90 degrees, tighten clamp.

**Optional Extras and Consumables**

The following accessories can be purchased through your Masport Dealer.

- 755068 Tine Reduction Kit. This reduces the cutting head down to two tines, 30cm.
- 555069 Edger Kit. This is for trimming the edge of the lawn.
- 555790 Tine Shield.
- 503335 Gear Head oil.
- 550019 Accessory Kit which includes: Rotary Brush, Edge Trimmer, Cultivating Tool and associated parts.

- A. 1 x 7.5 inch (190mm) 'T' Bolt, used to convert your set of fitted tines down to two.
- B. 1 x 11 inch (280mm) 'T' Bolt, used to secure the Edger Disc, Cultivating Tool or Brush.
- D. 1 x Edger Disc
- C. 1 x Spacer Drive
- E. 1 x Cultivating/Aeration Tool
- F. 1 x Brush



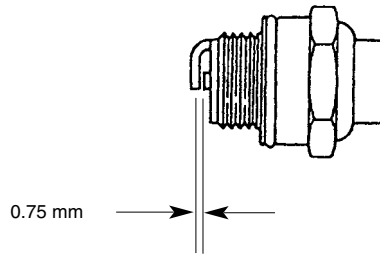
## Troubleshooting

What to Check	Possible Cause	Remedy
Does the engine crank?  YES ▼	NO ▶ Faulty recoil starter Internal damage.	Return unit to dealer.
Good compression?  YES ▼	NO ▶ Loose spark plug. Excess wear on cylinder, piston, rings.	Tighten and re-test. Return unit to dealer.
Does the tank have fresh fuel?  YES ▼	NO ▶ Fuel/mixture incorrect, stale, contaminated. Fuel of the proper grade?	Re-fill with fresh premium fuel. Use gasoline as specified.
Is fuel visible and moving in the return line when priming?  YES ▼	NO ▶ Check for clogged fuel filter and/or vent.	Clear as required. Re-start.
Check the spark plug	If the plug is wet, excess fuel may be in the cylinder.	Crank the engine with plug removed, re- place the plug and restart.
	The plug may be fouled or improperly gapped.	Clean and regap the plug to 0.75mm. Restart.
	The plug may be damaged internally or of the wrong heat range.	Replace the plug with the specified plug. Restart.

### TROUBLE CHECK LIST

Do not immediately assume you have mechanical trouble - first check the following possibilities:

1. Insufficient fuel in the tank. We recommend the use of unleaded fuels, for its clean burning and low alcohol content qualities.
2. Stale fuel.
3. Obstruction in the fuel cap vent.
4. Water or dirt in the fuel.
5. Incorrect carburettor adjustment.
6. Loose spark plug and/or lead.
7. Burned or carboned plug.
8. Incorrect gap in spark plug. The correct gap for a Champion RJ 19LM spark plug is 0.75mm (0.030").



## Specifications

Model	MKII	MKII European
Unit Weight	37.5kg	41.5kg
Engine: All Models	Refer to the Engine Owner's Manual for details.	
Trenching Width (four tines)	46cm	46cm