38-Inch Snowthrower

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

John Deere Horicon Works
OM-M89683 Issue H5
Litho in U.S.A.
Thank You for purchasing a John Deere Snowthrower.

Read This Manual carefully to learn how to operate and service your snowthrower correctly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

This manual should be considered a permanent part of your snowthrower and should remain with the snowthrower when you sell it.

Measurements in this manual are U.S. units and their metric equivalents.

Right-Hand and Left-Hand sides of the snowthrower are determined by facing in the direction the snowthrower will travel when going forward.

Write Serial Number of your snowthrower in the Specifications section. Your dealer needs this number when you order parts.

If a Problem Should Arise or if you have any questions about your snowthrower, see your John Deere dealer.

Warranty is provided as part of John Deere's support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. The warranty does not cover:

A—Products which have been altered or modified in ways not approved by John Deere, including setting fuel delivery above specifications or otherwise overpowering of products.

B—Depreciation or damage caused by normal wear, accident, lack of reasonable and necessary maintenance as specified in this manual, improper maintenance, improper protection in storage, or improper use or abuse.

C—Normal maintenance and replacement of service items such as filters, spark plugs, belts, brake linings, cutting blades and hoses unless such items are defective.

D—Transportation, mailing and service call charges for warranty service.

All information, illustrations, and specifications in this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.
Dealer Checklists

DEALER’S RECORD

Owner’s Name ____________________________
Address __________________ City __________
State ________ Zip Code ________________
Date Sold ________________________________
Snowthrower Serial Number __________________________

PREDELIVERY CHECKLIST

Check the following before you deliver the snowthrower to the customer:

☐ 1. Guards and shields fastened in place  ☐ 4. Tighten loose hardware
☐ 2. Decals fastened and legible  ☐ 5. Touch up scratches in paint
☐ 3. Chain tension  ☐ 6. Clean and polish snowthrower

_________________________________________
Date Set Up

_________________________________________
Signature

M23:DCAM A 051184

M23:DCAM B 051184
DELIVERY CHECKLIST

Review the operator’s manual with the customer. Explain the following:

☐ 1. John Deere warranty
☐ 2. Safe operation and service
☐ 3. Installing and removing snowthrower
☐ 4. How to use controls
☐ 5. Operating the snowthrower correctly
☐ 6. Troubleshooting the snowthrower
☐ 7. Daily and periodic inspections
☐ 8. Servicing the snowthrower regularly and correctly

☐ 9. John Deere parts and service
☐ 10. Have the customer write the snowthrower serial number in the Specifications section.
☐ 11. Remove and file this page.
☐ 12. Tell the customer about helpful John Deere publications. Show customer the order form in back of this manual.
☐ 13. Give the customer the operator’s manual. Encourage the customer to read the manual.

Date Delivered

Signature
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CERTIFICATION

This OPEI label shows that your model snowthrower has been certified by an independent laboratory for compliance with American National Standard B71.3-1984 "Safety Specifications for Snowthrowers."

READ SPECIAL MESSAGES

A "CAUTION" means that you may be injured if you do not follow instructions. When you see the caution symbol at the right, obey the safety message to avoid personal injury.

An "IMPORTANT" message means that your machine may be damaged if you do not do what the message tells you.

A "NOTE" gives you helpful information.
READ SAFETY SIGNS

Carefully read and follow all DANGER and CAUTION safety signs.

Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace any damaged or missing safety signs.

On Top of Auger Housing, One on Each End

DANGER
AVOID INJURY FROM ROTATING AUGER
• Keep hands, feet and clothing away

On Top of Discharge Chute Spout

ROTATING BLOWER
• SHUT OFF ENGINE BEFORE UNCLOGGING DISCHARGE CHUTE

On Top of Right-Hand Side of Auger Housing

CAUTION
AVOID INJURY FROM LOSS OF BRAKING OR STEERING
• Install ballast per Operator's Manual

LEARN SNOWTHROWER SAFETY

Carefully read this manual and your tractor manual. Learn how to operate your snowthrower correctly.

Unauthorized modifications to the snowthrower may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life. Use only approved accessories on the snowthrower.

Do not let anyone operate the snowthrower without proper instruction.
PROTECT PEOPLE AND PETS

Keep children and pets out of snowthrowing area.

DO NOT allow children to ride on tractor or snowthrower.

DO NOT allow children to operate tractor or snowthrower.

DO NOT throw snow toward bystanders, buildings, or automobiles.

CLEAR THE WORK AREA

Keep the work area clear of objects that may be picked up and thrown by the snowthrower.

AVOID INJURY FROM MOVING PARTS

Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from snowthrower and discharge chute when auger is turning.

Stop auger when you are driving between jobs or when you are not throwing snow.

PRACTICE PERSONAL SAFETY

Wear fairly tight and belted clothing when you operate snowthrower. Loose clothing can catch in moving parts.

Be alert. DO NOT operate snowthrowing equipment when you are tired or ill.

Work area should be well-lighted by natural light, good artificial light, or tractor headlights.
SAFETY

AVOID TIPPING

Slow down and be very careful on slopes and in sharp turns to prevent tipping or losing control.

Use chains and approved rear weights on your tractor for operation on slopes and in difficult conditions.

DO NOT operate near edge of a ditch or bank.

Keep away from drop-offs, holes, rocks, and roots. Be alert for hidden hazards.

BACK SNOWTHROWER SAFELY

Look carefully behind the tractor before you back up.

SERVICE SNOWTHROWER SAFELY

Wait until auger has stopped before you service snowthrower.

DO NOT work on snowthrower while it is being operated.

Keep snowthrower clean.

PRACTICE SAFE MAINTENANCE

If you hit an object, stop the snowthrower. Fix damage before you operate again.

Keep all parts in good condition and fastened in place. Fix damage immediately. Replace worn or broken parts.
INSPECT TRACTOR AND SNOWTHROWER CAREFULLY BEFORE OPERATION

Follow the Prestarting Checks in your tractor operator’s manual.

Follow the Before Using Snowthrower checks in the Operating the Snowthrower section.

PARK SNOWTHROWER SAFELY

1. Stop tractor.
2. Put PTO switch (shown) in OFF position.
3. Lower snowthrower to ground.
4. Stop engine.
5. Lock park brake. Remove key.

PROTECT AGAINST NOISE

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs (A) or earplugs (B) to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noise.
TRANSPORT TRACTOR AND SNOWTHROWER SAFELY

DO NOT pull tractor and snowthrower behind any other vehicle.
Use a heavy-duty trailer to transport tractor and snowthrower. Lower snowthrower to trailer deck. Lock park brake.
Be sure trailer has all the necessary lights and signs required by local, state, provincial, or federal laws.
Fasten the tractor and snowthrower to the trailer with straps, chains, or cables.
SNOWTHROWER REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that rear tractor weights and tire chains be installed on the tractor. (See your John Deere dealer.)

1. Install rear weights using instructions furnished with the kit.
2. Install tire chains (A) with hook end (B) out.

REMOVE LIFT ASSIST SPRING ASSEMBLY

NOTE: The 130 Lawn Tractor does not have a lift assist spring.

1. Remove mower deck. See tractor operator's manual.
2. Pull spring attaching bracket down.
3. Remove spring locking pin and flatwasher (A).
4. Remove bracket and spring (B).
5. Keep parts with mower deck.
INSTALLING SNOWTHROWER

1. Loosen rear bracket bolts (A) on both sides of tractor.

2. Put snowthrower in front of tractor with drive belt under tractor.

3. Lift snowthrower and install support into front mounting bracket.

4. Install right and left support braces (A and B) to rear brackets, mount, and front draft bracket. Fasten braces with four spring locking pins.

5. Tighten rear bracket bolts on both sides of tractor.

6. Hook idler assembly over pin (A) on left rear bracket and slide it over pin (B) on right rear bracket.
7. Attach one end of idler link to notch in idler arm (A).

8. Attach spring to idler link and hole in rear tractor frame (manual shift tractors) and clip (B) on the transmission (hydrostatic tractors).

9. Connect lift rod to lift lever. Fasten rod with spring locking pin (A).

NOTE: Snowthrower should be in the fully raised position to install drive belt and gas spring.

10. Loop drive belt and slip it on PTO drive sheave (A). Do not cross belt strands. The V-side of belt must be seated in drive sheave.

11. Install right-hand half of belt around flat idler sheave (B) with flat side of belt on sheave.

12. Install left-hand half of belt around V-idler sheave (C) with V-side of belt seated in sheave.

13. To tighten drive belt (A), loosen lock nut and turn nut on adjusting bolt (D) until idler arm (B) is perpendicular to the ground. Loosen idler bolt (C) if necessary if idler arm is not perpendicular.

14. Tighten idler bolt (C) and lock nut on adjusting bolt (D).
15. Connect gas spring assembly to support and fasten with spring locking pin (A).

Belt from bottom pulley on blower goes to left side (V-groove) pulley.

Lift blower then place blower on 2 - 2"x4" so blower is raised high so belt will install easier.
Operating the Snowthrower

BEFORE USING SNOWTHROWER

Learn controls and how they work. Read your tractor operator’s manual.

Check the following:

- Guards and shields fastened in place.
- Belt tension.
- Parts: loose, missing, worn, damaged.
- Adjustment: spout, runners.

Before snow falls, clear the work area of objects that may be picked up and thrown by the snowthrower.

RAISING AND LOWERING SNOWTHROWER

NOTE: See your tractor operator’s manual for location and operation of controls.

1. To raise snowthrower:
   a. Move stop lever to top of slot.
   b. Push down on thumb release, pull lift lever all the way back. Let go of thumb release to lock lever in position.
Operating the Snowthrower

2. To Lower Snowthrower:
   
a. Move stop lever to bottom of slot.

b. Push down on thumb release and allow lift lever to move all the way forward.

ADJUSTING SPOUT

⚠️ CAUTION: Before you adjust spout:
   —Stop snowthrower.
   —Stop engine.
   —Lower snowthrower to ground.
   —Lock park brake. Remove key.
   —Wait for auger to stop.

1. Grasp handle and move spout to desired position.

2. If spout will not stay in position, tighten nut on each side a slight amount.
ADJUSTING CHUTE

Turn handle to adjust chute to throw snow in desired direction.

ADJUSTING RUNNERS

Before you operate snowthrower on gravel or uneven surfaces, lower runners all the way.

Raise runners before you throw snow from a smooth surface. Scraper blade should not scrape ground.

1. Raise snowthrower. Put a block under auger housing.

2. Loosen three cap screws. Move runner to desired position. Tighten cap screws.

ADJUSTING LIFT

NOTE: Gas spring mount removed from snowthrower for clarity.

The gas spring can be fastened to hole A, B, or C to control snowthrower down pressure and operator lift effort.

—Hole A: Most down pressure with least lift assist
—Hole B: Normal operation
—Hole C: Least down pressure with more lift assist effort
OPERATING THE SNOWthrowER

NOTE: See your tractor operator's manual for location and operation of controls.

1. Start engine.
2. Move throttle lever to one-fourth speed position.
3. Lower snowthrower to ground.

IMPORTANT: To prevent clutch damage, do not engage PTO with throttle in FAST position.

4. Move PTO switch A to the ON position to engage snowthrower.

5. Move throttle lever to FAST position for best engine performance and snowthrowing results.


! CAUTION: Be sure the area is clear before you begin snowthrowing.

7. Engage transmission to begin forward travel.

8. Throw snow at a safe travel speed.
Operating the Snowthrower

INSPECTING, UNPLUGGING OR PARKING SNOWTHROWER

CAUTION: Follow steps below when you leave tractor and snowthrower.

1. Stop tractor.
2. Put PTO switch in OFF position.
3. Lower snowthrower to ground.
4. Lock park brake.
5. Stop engine.
6. Remove key.
7. Wait for auger to stop.

NOTE: If engine and snowthrower are running, engine and snowthrower must stop when you get off the operator’s seat.

SNOWTHROWING TIPS

Before operation, adjust runners for the surface you plan to clear.

Operate snowthrower only at full throttle.

Operate snowthrower at a safe travel speed.

Slow down when you operate on slopes, before you make a turn, and when you operate close to buildings or trees.

For snowthrowing in drifts, the drift blade (optional) will cut through drifted snow and help break down drifts.

Use rear weights.

For snowthrowing on slopes, or in other difficult conditions, install chains on rear tractor tires.

Throw snow downwind, if possible.

If you hit an object with snowthrower, stop immediately. Repair damage before you operate again.

Before you clean or unplug snowthrower:
—Put PTO switch in OFF position.
—Stop engine.
—Lock park brake.
—Remove key.
—Wait for all parts to stop.

After you use the snowthrower, clean it.
TRANSPORTING TRACTOR AND SNOWTHROWER

1. Do not tow tractor and snowthrower. (See your tractor operator's manual for information on pushing tractor a short distance.)

2. Use a heavy-duty trailer to transport your tractor and snowthrower.

3. Lower snowthrower to trailer deck. Lock park brake.

4. Be sure trailer has all the necessary lights and signs required by local, state, provincial, or federal laws.

5. Fasten the tractor and snowthrower to the trailer with straps, chains, or cables.
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<td>Drive belt worn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drive chain loose</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drive chain damaged</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drive belt worn</td>
<td>Replace drive belt.</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drive chain loose</td>
<td>Adjust chain tension.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor rear wheels slip</td>
<td>Lack of traction</td>
<td>Install rear weights and chains on tractor.</td>
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GENERAL PURPOSE GREASE

CAUTION: Before lubricating snow thrower, disengage PTO, stop engine and remove ignition key.

Depending upon the expected air temperature range during the service interval, use grease as shown on the adjoining temperature chart.

John Deere Multipurpose Grease is recommended. If other greases are used, use:

- SAE Multipurpose Grease
- SAE Multipurpose Grease containing 3 to 5 per cent molybdenum disulfide.

At temperatures below -30° (-22°F), use arctic greases such as those meeting Military Specification MIL-G-10924C.

ALTERNATIVE LUBRICANTS

Conditions in certain geographical areas may require special lubricants and lubrication practices which do not appear in this operator’s manual. If you have any questions, consult your John Deere dealer to obtain the latest information and recommendations.

COLD WEATHER OPERATION

Additional information on cold weather operation is available from your John Deere dealer.
LUBRICATING SNOWTHROWER

1. Lubricate the countershaft with two or three shots of John Deere Multi-Purpose Grease or equivalent.

2. Apply multi-purpose grease on worm gear.

LUBRICATING IDLER ARM

IMPORTANT: The idler arm must move freely to maintain proper drive belt tension. Be careful not to get oil on belt.

1. Apply several drops of oil on idler arm bearing and all pivot points.

ADJUSTING DRIVE CHAIN

1. Remove cap screws and nuts (A) to remove shield.
2. Check for 1/8 to 1/4 in. (3 to 6 mm) chain sag at midpoint of chain.

3. To adjust chain tension, loosen nuts (A) and nut (B).

4. Tighten or loosen adjusting bolt (C) until chain tension is correct.

5. Tighten nut (B) and nuts (A) after adjusting.

6. Install shield.
Service/as Necessary

REPLACING SHEAR BOLT

If auger hits a solid object, shear bolt (A) will shear. Auger will then stop. Disengage PTO immediately, stop tractor, and shut off engine.

Replace shear bolt (A) with one of the extra shear bolts (B). Replace extra shear bolts as they are used. (Shear bolts are available from your John Deere dealer.)

REVERSING OR REPLACING SCRAPER BLADE

Reverse scraper blade when edge is rough or worn. Replace scraper blade if it is bent.

1. Remove eight bolts (A) to reverse or replace scraper blade (B).

REPLACING DRIVE BELT

1. Remove spring locking pin (B) and washer.
2. Remove idler rod (C).
3. Loosen nut (E) to remove belt (A).
4. Install new belt around sheaves. Be sure belt is between belt guide (D) and sheave.
5. Tighten nut (E) making sure belt guide (D) is perpendicular to idler sheave.
6. Install idler rod (C).
7. Install washer and spring pin (B).

A—Belt  D—Belt Guide
B—Spring Locking Pin  E—Nut
C—Idler Rod
ADJUSTING CHUTE WORM GEAR

1. Loosen bolt (A). Move worm gear so teeth in discharge chute mesh with worm.

2. Tighten bolt to keep worm gear in place.
REMIXING SNOWTHROWER

1. Park snowthrower on a level surface.
2. Lock park brake.
3. Stop engine.
4. Remove ignition key.
5. Remove spring locking pin (A) to disconnect gas spring assembly.
6. Loosen idler bolt (C). 7/16”
7. Loosen lock nut. Turn hex nut on adjusting bolt (D) until idler arm (B) is loose. 1/2”
8. Remove belt (A) from sheaves.
9. Lower snowthrower to surface.
10. Disconnect spring (B) and link from idler arm (A).
11. Remove spring locking pin (A) to disconnect lift rod from lift lever.
12. Remove idler assembly from bracket pins (A and B).

13. Remove four spring locking pins fastening left and right braces (A and B). Disconnect braces from snowthrower mount and front draft brackets.

14. Remove snowthrower and braces.

15. Install lift assist spring (B) and fasten with washer and spring locking pin (A).

   
   Raise Lift Control

   On Right Side

16. Pull bracket up to lock tension spring in place.
STORAGE

STORING SNOWTHROWER

CAUTION: DO NOT work under a raised snowthrower unless it is blocked correctly.

1. Clean the snowthrower with water pressure from a hose.
2. Check snowthrower parts. Repair or replace worn, bent, or damaged parts.
3. Apply paint to areas that need it to prevent rust.
4. Lubricate pivot points with engine oil.
5. Store snowthrower on hard, level surface.
6. Put a waterproof cover over snowthrower if you store it outdoors.
1. Remove snowthrower and parts from box. Use a safe lifting device to remove snowthrower.

Identify all parts and report any shortages.

A—Snowthrower
B—Discharge Chute
C—Mount Assembly
D—Braces
E—Belt
F—Idler Assembly
G—Lift Rod and Chute Control
H—Idler Link
J—Gas Spring
(Loaded to Lift Rod)
I—Bag of Parts

*Bag of Parts Contains:

Reflective Tape (2 used)
Lock Nut, 1/2 in. (2 used)
Spring Locking Pin (5 used)
Pivot Bearing (2 used)
Lock Nut, 5/16 in. (2 used)
Idler Link
Spring
Large Chute Clip (3 used)
Small Chute Clip (3 used)
Screw, No. 10 x 0.50 in. (6 used)
Headed Pin (2 used)
Cap Screw, 1/2 x 1-1/2 in. (2 used)

Wrought Washer, 0.531 x 1.062 x 0.090 in. (2 used)
Flat Washer, 0.406 x 0.812 x 0.060 in.
Flat Washer, 0.344 x 0.750 x 0.075 in.
Carriage Bolt, 5/16 x 3/4 in.
Ball Joint Stud
Cotter Pin, 0.094 x 0.75 in. (2 used)
Flat Washer 0.060 x 13/32 x 11/16 in.
Gas Spring Boot
INSTALL GAS SPRING

1. Remove gas spring from lift rod.

2. Install boot (A) over cylinder rod end.

3. Install ball joint stud in rod end.

4. Fasten gas spring to center hole in mount support. (See Adjusting Lift in Operating the Snowthrower section for operating adjustment.)
INSTALL BELT, MOUNT, AND GAS SPRING

1. Remove spring locking pin (A), flat washer and idler rod.
2. Loosen nut (B).

3. Fasten mount (A) and gas spring (B) with pivot bearings, wrought washers, 1/2 x 1-1/2-in. cap screws, and lock nuts (C).
4. Install belt (D) around sheave. Belt must be between sheave and belt guide.

5. Hold belt guide (D) perpendicular to idler sheave and tighten nut (E).
6. Fasten idler rod (C) in hole in mount and assemble over idler bolt.
7. Install flat washer and spring locking pin (E).

A—Belt    B—Belt Guide
C—Locking Pin    D—Idler Rod
E—Nut
INSTALL DISCHARGE CHUTE

1. Apply multi-purpose grease or equivalent on chute base.

2. Put discharge chute (A) on base.

3. Put small chute clips (A) and large chute clips (B) in alignment with two holes (3 locations) in chute rim.

4. Install two No. 10 screws through chute rim and clips. Tighten screws.
INSTALL CHUTE CONTROL WORM GEAR

1. Fasten worm gear to support with a 5/16 x 3/4 in. carriage bolt (A) and lock nut. Engage gear teeth with chute teeth. Tighten nut.

2. Apply multi-purpose grease on worm gear.

INSTALL CHUTE CONTROL AND LIFT ROD

1. Install chute control rod (A) through lift-rod hold (B).

2. Connect discharge chute control rod (A) and lift rod (B). Fasten rods with washers and cotter pins.
INSTALL REFLECTIVE TAPE

1. Peel backing off two pieces of reflective tape.
2. Install tapes on rear of tractor fender deck.

INSTALL IDLER ASSEMBLY, BRACES, LINK AND SPRING

See installation section for installing the idler assembly, braces, link, spring, and miscellaneous hardware.
## Specifications

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<tr>
<td>Clearing Width</td>
<td>38 in. (96.5 cm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Height to Top of Spout</td>
<td>33 in. (83.8 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>28 in. (71.1 cm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auger Bearings</td>
<td>Sealed ball bearings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge Chute Turning Radius</td>
<td>190 degrees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Height of Lift</td>
<td>4-1/2 in. (11.4 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auger Speed (Engine rpm at 3400)</td>
<td>1000 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrower Drive</td>
<td>V-belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auger Drive</td>
<td>Roller chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auger Diameter</td>
<td>12 in. (30.5 cm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Weight</td>
<td>170 lb (77 kg)</td>
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*(Specifications and design subject to change without notice.)*

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## Recording Serial Number

Write your snowthrower serial number below. Your dealer needs this number when you order parts.

Serial Number: **M00246X537036**
JOHN DEERE SERVICE LITERATURE AVAILABLE...

To order these publications, fill out the form below and mail it with payment to the address given. Make checks payable to Deere & Co. Service Publications. Please allow three weeks for delivery. Prices include handling and postage to anywhere in the U.S.A. and Canada.

John Deere Distribution Service Center
Department S/P
1400 3rd Ave.
Moline, Ill. 61265

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Order No.</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parts Catalog</td>
<td>PC-1009</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>33-Inch Snowthrower</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operator's Manual</td>
<td>OM-M89833</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>33-Inch Snowthrower</td>
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NOTE: If you want manuals or catalogs for equipment not shown on this list, list the model number, serial number and name of the equipment below.

FOS COMPACT EQUIPMENT MANUALS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Manual No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>FCP-50101B</td>
<td>Engines</td>
<td>$11.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>FCP-83101B</td>
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<td>FCP-82101B</td>
<td>Hydraulics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>FCP-81101B</td>
<td>Power Trans</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

FOS MANUALS ON COMPACT EQUIPMENT

John Deere has made these new books available so you can read and learn the basics of how to service and repair most types of compact tractors and small engine-powered equipment. The fundamentals of how these systems work are shown clearly with hundreds of color illustrations. You can learn about operating principles of engines, electrical systems, power trains, or hydraulic systems. No brands or model numbers are mentioned; only generic principles are covered.

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If for some reason you are unable to locate a dealer in your area, our sales branches are available to provide you with such information. The location and listing of such sales branches are shown below. Check the listing for the location of the area in which you reside.

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