The Engine Owner's Manual provides information regarding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Emission Control Regulation of emission systems, maintenance and warranty. Keep Engine Owner's Manual with your unit. Should the Engine Owner's Manual become damaged or illegible, replace immediately. Replacements may be ordered per the information found in the Product Information section of the owner's manual.

Federal law and California State law prohibit the following acts or the causing thereof:
1. The removal or rendering inoperative by any person other than for purposes of maintenance, repair, replacement, of any device or element of design incorporated into any equipment for the purposes of emissions control prior to or after its sales or delivery to the ultimate purchaser or while it is in use, or
2. The use of the equipment after such device or element of design has been removed or rendered inoperative by any person.

**WARNING**

The engine exhaust from this product contains chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

**NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT OF SPARK ARRESTER MUFFLER**

This equipment may create sparks that can start fires around dry vegetation. California Public Resources Code Section 4442.6 provides that it is unlawful to use or operate an internal combustion engine on any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land unless the engine is equipped with a spark arrester maintained in effective working order. A spark arrester is a device constructed of nonflammable materials specifically for the purpose of removing and retaining carbon and other flammable particles over 0.0232 of an inch in size from the exhaust flow of an internal combustion engine that uses hydrocarbon fuels or which is qualified and rated by the United States Forest Service. Other states or federal areas may have similar laws. The Operator Should Contact Local Fire Agencies For Laws or Regulations Relating to Fire Prevention Requirements. THIS EQUIPMENT DOES NOT HAVE A SPARK ARRESTER AND YOU SHOULD CONTACT YOUR AUTHORIZED DEALER FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SPARK ARRESTER.

Inspect spark arrester daily; replace every 500 hours or as needed.
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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**BigDog® Mower Service Program**

This manual is part of a service package for the BigDog® Stout mowers. Use of this manual in conjunction with other Big-Dog® Stout mower and component manuals will provide the information necessary to service and maintain BigDog® Stout mowers.

This General Service Manual is a service guide for use by Service Technicians. It provides the necessary information needed to perform normal maintenance requirements on these units.

The Parts Manual provides a complete parts listing for the unit. Use this manual when ordering parts.

The Operator's Manual provides fundamental operational information and operational safety that is needed when operating the mower.

The component manuals are furnished by the various manufacturers to be used for the troubleshooting and servicing of their components.

**Maintenance Introduction**

Regular maintenance is the best prevention for downtime or premature failure. The following pages contain suggested maintenance information and schedules which the operator/mechanic should follow on a routine basis.

Remain alert for unusual noises, they could be signaling a problem. Visually inspect the machine for any abnormal wear or damage. A good time to detect potential problems is while performing scheduled maintenance service. Correcting the problem as quickly as possible is the best insurance.

Clear away heavy build-up of grease, oil and dirt, especially in the engine compartment and under the seat platform areas; minute dust particles are abrasive to close-tolerance engine and hydraulic assemblies.

**Daily inspect** mower for grass clippings and wire and string tangles. The underside of the mower deck will collect a build-up of grass clippings and dirt, especially when grass is wet or has high moisture content. This build-up will harden, restricting blade and air movement and will probably show a lesser quality of cut. Therefore it should be removed routinely.

To do this it will be necessary to raise and block the deck, using jack stands or blocks, in the full up position and scrape the build-up from underneath.

Some repairs require the assistance of a trained service mechanic and should not be attempted by unskilled personnel. Consult your BigDog® Mowers service center when assistance is needed.

Information included in this manual was current at the time of printing, but subsequent production changes may cause your machine to vary slightly in detail. BigDog® Mowers reserves the right to redesign and change the machine as deemed necessary, without notification. If a change has been made to your machine which is not reflected in this service manual contact the Customer Service Department at BigDog® Mowers for additional information.

**Warranty**

Warranty repair must be performed by a BigDog® Mowers Authorized Dealer before warranty credit can be allowed. Work performed by anyone other than an Authorized Dealer will invalidate the warranty claim and warranty credit will not be approved.
SAFETY

This safety alert symbol is used to call attention to a message intended to provide a reasonable degree of PERSONAL SAFETY for operators and other persons during the normal operation and servicing of this equipment.

- **DANGER**
  - denotes immediate hazards which WILL result in severe personal injury or death.

- **WARNING**
  - denotes a hazard or unsafe practice which COULD result in severe personal injury or death.

Safe Servicing Practices

This product is capable of amputating hands and feet and throwing objects. Always follow all safety instructions to avoid serious injury or death.

Understand Correct Service

▲ Be sure you understand a service procedure before you work on the machine.
▲ Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.
▲ If it is necessary to make checks with the engine running, always use two people - with the operator at the controls, able to see the person doing the checking.

Pre-Operation Precautions

Fuel Handling

▲ To avoid personal injury or property damage, use extreme care in handling fuel. Fuel is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive.
▲ Observe usual fuel handling precautions:
  - Do not smoke while refueling. Extinguish all cigarettes, cigars, pipes and other sources of ignition.
  - **Do not remove fuel cap or fill tank with engine running or while engine is hot. Clean up any fuel spills.**
  - Allow engine to cool before storing machine inside a building.
  - Keep fuel away from open flame or spark and store machine away from open flame or spark or pilot light such as on a water heater or appliances.
  - Use extreme care when handling gasoline and other fuels. They are extremely flammable and vapors are explosive. A fire or explosion from fuel can burn you and others and can damage property.
  - Refuel outdoors. Never refuel or drain the fuel from the machine indoors.
  - Never attempt to start engine when there is a strong odor of gasoline or diesel fuel fumes present. Locate and correct cause.
  - Store fuel in an approved container and keep it out of the reach of children. Never buy more than a 30 day supply of fuel.
  - Do not fill fuel containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer bed with interior carpets or plastic truck bed liners. Always place fuel containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
  - When practical, remove gas or diesel fuel powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel the equipment with its wheels on the ground. If this is not possible, then refuel such equipment on the truck or trailer using a portable container and not a fuel dispenser nozzle. If a fuel dispenser nozzle must be used, keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until fueling is complete. Do not use a nozzle lock-open device.
  - Never use gasoline or diesel fuel for cleaning parts.
  - Read and observe safety precautions elsewhere in this manual.

▲ Gasoline and diesel fuel is harmful or fatal if swallowed.
  - Long-term exposure to vapors can cause serious injury and illness.
  - Avoid prolonged breathing of vapors.
  - Keep face away from nozzle and gas tank or fuel container opening.
  - Keep fuel away from eyes and skin.
  - If fuel is spilled on clothing, change clothing immediately.

Understand Machine Operation

▲ Only qualified and trained personnel should operate the equipment.
▲ Carefully read the operator’s manual and all manuals furnished with the attachments. Learn the location and purpose of all controls, instruments, indicators and labels.

Wear Protective Clothing

▲ Do not operate or service the equipment while wearing sandals, tennis shoes, sneakers, shorts or any type of loose fitting clothing. Long hair, loose clothing or jewelry may get tangled in moving parts. Always wear long pants, safety glasses, ear protection and safety shoes when operating or servicing this machine.
▲ Always wear adequate eye protection when servicing the hydraulic system and battery, or when grinding mower blades and removing accumulated debris.
▲ Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.
  - Always wear adequate ear protection, such as earplugs, when operating this equipment as prolonged exposure to uncomfortable or loud noises can cause impairment or loss of hearing.
• Do not wear radios or music headphones while operating the machinery. Safe operation requires your full attention.

**Operation Precautions**

**Avoid Fire Hazards**

▲ Clean flammable material from machine. Prevent fires by keeping engine compartment, top of deck, exhaust area, battery, hydraulic lines, fuel line, fuel tank and operator's station clean of accumulated trash, grass clippings, and other debris. Always clean up spilled fuel and oil.

**Start Engine Safely**

▲ Avoid possible injury or death from machine runaway.
▲ Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals.
▲ Before you start the engine:
  • Sit on the operator’s seat.
  • Move control levers to the neutral/brake position.

**Operate Machine Safely**

▲ Refer to the unit’s operator’s manual for complete safety information on safe machine operation.
▲ Always maintain a safe distance from people and pets when mowing.
▲ Always be aware of what is behind the machine before backing up.
▲ Never leave machine unattended with ignition key in switch, especially with children present.
▲ Follow daily and weekly checklists, making sure hoses are tightly secured and bolts are tightened.
▲ Always keep engine and machine clean, removing accumulated dirt, trash and other material from machine.
▲ Never put hands or feet under any part of the machine while it is running.
▲ Never attempt to start engine when there is a strong odor of gasoline fumes present. Locate and correct cause.
▲ Keep all safety shields and covers in place, except for servicing.
▲ Do not touch hot parts of machine.

**General Maintenance Precautions**

▲ Repairs or maintenance requiring engine power should be performed by trained maintenance personnel only.
▲ Never run the engine in an enclosed area unless exhaust is vented to the outside. Exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide which is an odorless and deadly poison.
▲ Unless specifically required, DO NOT have engine running when servicing or making adjustments to mower. Park the machine on level ground. Place steering control levers in the park brake position, disengage deck clutch, lower deck, remove ignition switch key and disconnect negative battery cable before doing any maintenance. Wait for all movement to stop before adjusting, cleaning or repairing. To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, be sure proper ventilation is available when engine must be operated in an enclosed area.
▲ Before working on or under the deck, make certain engine cannot be accidentally started. Shut engine off, remove ignition switch key and disconnect negative battery cable for maximum safety.
▲ Except when changing or checking belt, always keep belt covers on mower deck for safety as well as cleanliness.
▲ Use a stick or similar instrument to clean under the mower making sure that no part of the body, especially arms and hands are under mower.
▲ Keep your machine clean and remove any deposits of trash and clippings, which can cause engine fires and hydraulic overheating as well as excessive belt wear. Clean up oil or fuel spillage. Allow machine to cool before storing.
▲ Always wear adequate eye protection when servicing the hydraulic system and battery, or when grinding mower blades and removing accumulated debris.
▲ Never attempt to make any adjustments or repairs to the mower drive system, mower deck or any attachment while the engine is running or deck clutch is engaged.
▲ Exercise caution when releasing spring tension from any of the belt idlers or when working with any of the deck lift components.
▲ Never work under the machine or attachment unless it is safely supported with jack stands. Make certain machine is secure when it is raised and placed on the jack stands. The jack stands should not allow the machine to move when the engine is running and the drive wheels are rotating. **Use only certified jack stands.** Use only appropriate jack stands, with a minimum weight rating of 2000 pounds to block the unit up. Use in pairs only. Follow the instructions supplied with the vehicle stands.
▲ Keep nuts and bolts tight, especially the blade attachment bolts. Keep equipment in good working condition.
▲ Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.
▲ Exercise caution when working under the deck as the mower blades are extremely sharp. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves and use extra caution when servicing them.
▲ Use only genuine BigDog® Mower replacement parts to ensure that original standards are maintained.

**Maintenance Precautions**

**Avoid Fire Hazards**

▲ Be prepared if an accident or fire should occur. Know where the first aid kit and the fire extinguishers are located and how to use them.
▲ Provide adequate ventilation when charging batteries.
▲ Do not smoke near battery.
▲ Never check fuel level with an open flame.
▲ Never use an open flame to look for leaks anywhere on the equipment.
▲ Never use an open flame as light anywhere on or around the equipment.
▲ When preparing engine for storage, remember that fuel stabilizer is volatile and therefore dangerous. Seal and tape openings after adding the inhibitor. Keep container tightly closed when not in use.
Inspect electrical wiring for worn or frayed insulation. Install new wiring if wires are damaged.

**Prepare For Emergencies**
- Be prepared if a fire starts.
- Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguishers available.
- Keep emergency numbers for doctor, ambulance service, hospital, and fire department near the telephone.

**Prevent Battery Explosions**
- Battery posts, terminals, and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.
- Charge batteries in an open well-ventilated area, away from sparks and flames. Unplug charger before connecting or disconnecting from battery. Wear protective clothing and insulated tools.
- Avoid skin and clothing contact with battery acid.
  - Always wear eye protection when checking the battery, acid can cause serious injury to skin and eyes. If contact occurs, flush area with clean water and call physician immediately. Acid will also damage clothing.
  - Do not drink the battery electrolyte.
  - Do not allow open flame near the battery when charging.
  - Hydrogen gas forms inside the battery. This gas is both toxic and flammable and may cause an explosion if exposed to flame. Always disconnect the negative (black) battery cable(s) before disconnecting the positive (red) cable(s). Always connect the positive (red) battery cable(s) before connecting the negative (black) cable(s).
- Do not overfill battery.
- Electrolyte may overflow and damage paint, wiring or structure. When cleaning the battery, use soap and water. Be careful not to get soap and water into the battery. Clean the battery terminals with a solution of four parts water and one part baking soda when they become corroded.
- Shorts caused by battery terminals or metal tools touching metal mower components can cause sparks. Sparks can cause a battery gas explosion which will result in personal injury.
  - Prevent the battery terminals from touching any metal mower parts when removing or installing the battery.
  - Do not allow metal tools to short between the battery terminals and metal mower parts.
- Incorrect battery cable routing could cause damage to the mower and battery cables. This can cause sparks which can cause a battery gas explosion which will result in personal injury. Always disconnect the negative (black) battery cable(s) before disconnecting the positive (red) cable(s). Always connect the positive (red) battery cable(s) before connecting the negative (black) cable(s).

**Avoid Acid Burns**
- Sulfuric acid in battery electrolyte is poisonous. It is strong enough to burn skin, eat holes in clothing and cause blindness if splashed in eyes.
- Avoid the hazard by:
  - Filling batteries in a well-ventilated area.
  - Wearing eye protection and rubber gloves.
  - Avoiding breathing fumes when electrolyte is added.
  - Avoiding spilling or dripped electrolyte.

If you spill acid on yourself:
- Flush your skin with water.
- Apply baking soda or lime to help neutralize the acid.
- Flush your eyes with water for 10-15 minutes. Get medical attention immediately.

If acid is swallowed:
- Drink large amounts of water or milk.
- Then drink milk of magnesia, beaten eggs or vegetable oil.
- Get medical attention immediately.
TORQUE

Standard Torques

The following chart lists the standard torque values for the threaded fasteners found in this manual. Torque all cap screws, nuts and set screws to these values unless a different torque is shown in the Special Torques section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>FT-LBS</th>
<th>N-M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>32.4 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.250</td>
<td>98.4 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.312</td>
<td>104 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.375</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.438</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.500</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.562</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.625</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.750</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.875</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>FT-LBS</th>
<th>N-M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M3</td>
<td>12 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M4</td>
<td>26.4 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M5</td>
<td>54 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M6</td>
<td>92.4 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M8</td>
<td>222 IN.-LBS.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M10</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M12</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M14</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M16</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M20</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>435</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Special Torques

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>FT-LBS</th>
<th>N-M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheel (lug) nuts ¹</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blade spindle bolt top</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blade spindle bolt bottom</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Clutch mounting bolt ³</td>
<td>45 – 48</td>
<td>61 – 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front wheel axle bolt</td>
<td>Tighten the nut, then back it off until the wheel spins freely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transaxle hub nut ⁴</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transaxle pump pulley nut</td>
<td>45 – 55</td>
<td>61 – 74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE:
1. Lug nuts only – It is recommended that these be checked after the first 2 hours of operation and every 50 hours and following removal for repair or replacement.
2. Engine torque values – Refer to the respective engine owner’s manual.
3. If clutch mounting bolt is loosened or removed, do not re-use. Replace with a new bolt. Use only hand tools to install this fastener.
4. If using pin locknut, 250 ft.-lbs.

WARNING

Particular attention must be given to tightening the drive wheel lug nuts and blade spindle bolts. Failure to correctly torque these items may result in the loss of a wheel or blade, which can cause serious damage or personal injury.
Steering Adjustments

Steering control lever neutral adjustment
The mower’s steering has been factory adjusted to eliminate creeping when the steering control levers are in the neutral position. However, should the mower begin to creep, the steering control lever linkage can be adjusted.

Before considering any adjustment, check the tire air pressure. Unequal tire pressure will cause the mower to drift to one side. Refer to tire pressure information in the Tires section for detailed information.

NOTE: Proper park brake adjustment must be completed before the steering control lever neutral adjustment can be done. Refer to the Park Brake Spring Adjustment section for detailed information.

Fine adjustment to the unit’s steering is made with the transmission’s control rod.

Neutral is properly adjusted when the steering control levers are in the park brake position and the transmissions do not “whine”.

If this occurs, the steering control linkage may be adjusted as follows:

1. Raise the rear of the mower and block with certified jack stands. The rear wheels need to be able to rotate freely and clear of all obstructions.
2. Chock the front tires.
3. Raise the seat platform and disconnect the mower harness from the seat switch. Bypass the seat switch by connecting the two mower harness female spades together. Figure 4-1
4. Loosen the jam nuts on each end of the steering control rod assemblies. Figure 4-5
5. Set both steering control levers in the park brake position. Figure 4-2

NOTE: Both steering control levers need to be in the park brake position when starting the engine but need to be moved rapidly out of the park brake position once engine is started so that the brakes do not fight the transmissions since they have not yet been adjusted.
6. Loosen the nuts on the rear steering damper ball studs. The dampers must be allowed to slide in the slots in the

![Figure 4-1](image1)

![Figure 4-2](image2)
Start the engine. Move the steering control lever to barely engage the brake (neutral) slot and hold it in that position (Do not engage the steering control lever far enough to engage the brakes in the brake slot) (Figure 4-3).

Beginning with the right side of the mower, adjust the steering control rod so that the right side wheel starts rotating forward while holding the steering control lever in the neutral position. Now, adjust the steering rod back the opposite direction to the point when the wheel stops rotating. From that point, turn the steering rod back again ½ turn. This ensures that the steering rod is adjusted so that the transmission control arm is centered in the neutral band of the transmission. Figure 4-5

Move the steering control lever forward and backward making sure that the wheel rotates forward and backward correctly. Return the steering control lever to neutral and re-check to make sure the wheel has stopped in the neutral position. Place the steering control lever in the park brake position.

NOTE: If neutral is set properly, you should not hear the transmission whine.

Turn the engine off.

With the engine off, move the right side steering control lever into the neutral position and pull the lever to the full reverse position. Now, slowly bring the steering control lever back to the neutral position and then place it in the park brake position. This sets the steering damper in the correct neutral position. Tighten the nut on the damper’s rear ball stud. Once this nut is tightened, when the steering control lever is in the reverse position and then released, the steering control lever should return to the neutral position. Figure 4-5

Check to make sure you have all fasteners tightened to the correct torque specifications.

Repeat steps 4 thru 12 for the left side.

Once both sides are properly adjusted, check them together to make sure everything is working properly.

IMPORTANT: With the engine off, disconnect the two female spade connectors from each other (from step #3) and reconnect them to the seat switch. This must be completed so that the safety circuit is functioning properly. Figure 4-1

Do not operate the mower without plugging the mower’s wiring harness into the seat switch. This switch is an important part of the safety start interlock system. Serious injury can result if the seat switch is not plugged into the mower’s wiring harness.

Never operate the mower with a non-functioning seat switch. Always reconnect the seat switch to the mower harness.

The steering control levers should be adjusted so that they align vertically with each other when in the neutral position (Figure 4-3). Space between ends of steering control handles to be .50” ±.25”. Figure 4-4

Check to make sure all tools or obstructions are removed from under the mower.

Raise the rear of the mower and remove the jack stands. Lower the mower.

Steering damper

The steering damper is spring loaded to return the steering control levers to the neutral position from the reverse position. This gives the operator a sense of neutral during operation.
If the mower does not return to neutral from reverse then adjust as follows:

To set the steering dampers in the correct operating position follow these steps:

1. Shut engine off, place steering control levers in the park brake position, disengage deck clutch, and remove ignition switch key.
2. Raise seat platform and disconnect negative battery cable before doing any adjustments.
3. Place the steering control lever in the neutral position. Figure 4-3
4. Loosen the steering damper’s rear ball stud. Figure 4-5 & Figure 4-6
5. Pull the damper spring housing, to the rear, past the point that the internal spring is engaged.
6. Release the damper spring housing and allow the internal spring to bring the housing back to the neutral position.
7. Tighten the nut on the steering damper’s rear ball stud. Figure 4-5
8. Reconnect the negative battery cable.
9. Lower the seat platform making sure that it is secured properly with the latch.
10. To check, move the steering control lever to the reverse position and release. The steering control lever should return to the neutral position. If not, repeat steps 1 through 7.

**Park Brake Spring Adjustment**

Occasionally check the park brake spring adjustment using the following method:

1. Shut engine off, place steering control levers in the park
brake position, disengage deck clutch, remove ignition switch key and disconnect negative battery cable before doing any adjustments.

2. On one side measure the park brake spring. It should be compressed to 1.437”. If it is not, adjust the nylock nut until the proper spring compression is achieved. Figure 4-7

3. Repeat for other side.
4. Reconnect the negative battery cable.

Belts

Inspect belts frequently for wear and serviceability. Replace a belt that shows signs of severe cuts, tears, separation, weather checking and cracking, or burns caused by slipping. Slight raveling of belt covering does not indicate failure; trim ravelings with a sharp knife.

Inspect the belt pulley grooves and flanges for wear. A new belt, or one in good condition, should never run against the bottom of the groove. Replace the pulley when this is the case, otherwise, the belt will lose power and slip excessively.

Never pry a belt to get it on a pulley as this will cut or damage the fibers of the belt covering.

Keep oil and grease away from belts, and never use belt dressings. Any of these will destroy the belt composition in a very short time.

Hydraulic Pump Belt Adjustment

The transmission drive belt tension remains constant by means of a tension idler and spring. There is no tension adjustment of this belt. Figure 4-8

NOTE: Inspect the belt every 100 hours and replace as needed. Replace the belt every 200 hours or every two (2) years whichever comes first.

Hydraulic System

The BigDog® Stout mowers are equipped with two transaxles. Figure 4-9

WARNING

If the transmission belt fails, loss of control will occur especially when operating on a slope. If you lose steering control while operating the machine, place the steering control levers in the park brake position immediately. Inspect the machine and involve your dealer to resolve the problem.

WARNING

When washing the mower, direct the spray away (especially if using a power washer) from the transaxle’s seals to prevent water intrusion and to ensure component performance.
Fluid changing procedure

1. Park the unit on a level surface. Place control levers in the park brake position, disengage deck clutch, remove ignition switch key and disconnect negative battery cable.

2. Remove the three 1/4” filter guard screws and filter guard. Clean any loose debris from around the filter base surface.

3. Place an oil drain pan beneath the oil filter and remove the oil filter from the transaxle.

4. After the oil has been drained, wipe the filter base surface off and apply a film of new oil to the gasket of the new replacement filter.

5. Install the new filter by hand, turn 3/4 to one full turn after the filter gasket contacts the filter base surface.

6. Re-install the filter guard with three 1/4” screws. Torque the screws to 65 in.-lbs. each. Figure 4-11

7. Repeat steps 2 - 6 for the opposite side transaxle.

8. Drain oil filters of all free flowing oil prior to disposal. Place used oil in appropriate containers.

9. IMPORTANT: Remove the top port plug from both transaxles prior to filling with oil. This will allow the transaxles to vent during oil fill. Figure 4-12

10. Remove the cap from the transaxle's expansion tank.

11. Fill with 20W50 motor oil until oil just appears at the bottom of each transaxles top port (approximately 2 qts. per transaxle). Install the top port plug into each transaxle as the oil level reaches this port. Torque plugs to 180 in. lbs. Clean up any oil that leaked from the ports. Figure 4-12

12. Continue to fill the transaxles through the expansion tank until the “Full Cold” line is reached on the expansion tank.

13. Re-install the expansion tank cap by hand. Be careful not to overtighten.

14. Proceed to the purge procedure.

Purging procedure

Due to the affects air has on efficiency in hydrostatic drive applications, it is critical that it is purged from the system.

Air creates inefficiency because its compression and expansion rate is higher than that of the oil approved for use in hydrostatic drive systems.

These purge procedures should be implemented any time a hydrostatic system has been opened to facilitate maintenance or
the oil has been changed.

The resulting symptoms in hydrostatic systems may be:

1. Noisy operation.
2. Lack of power or drive after short term operation.
3. High operation temperature and excessive expansion of oil.

Before starting, make sure the transaxle is at the proper oil level. If it is not, fill to the specifications outlined in this manual.

The following procedures are best performed with the vehicle drive wheels off the ground. Then repeated under normal operating conditions. If this is not possible, then the procedure should be performed in an open area free of any objects or bystanders.

1. Raise and block the mower up so the drive wheels are off the floor.

2. Position the control lever in the neutral position. Disengage the deck clutch switch. Figure 4-13

3. With the bypass valve open and the engine running, slowly move the directional control in both forward and reverse directions (5 or 6 times). Figure 4-14

4. With the bypass valve closed and the engine running, slowly move the control lever in both forward and reverse directions (5 or 6 times). Check the oil level, and add oil as required after stopping the engine.

5. It may be necessary to repeat Steps 3 and 4 until all the air is completely purged from the system. When the transaxle operates at normal noise levels and moves smoothly forward and reverse at normal speeds, then the transaxle is considered purged.

### Tires

It is important for level mowing that the tires have the same amount of air pressure. The recommended pressures are:

- Drive wheels . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8-12 psi (55-83 KPa)
- Front wheels . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8-12 psi (55-83 KPa)

If you wish to use non-pneumatic tires on your BigDog® mower the tires must be an approved tire purchased from BigDog® Mowers. Warranty claims will be denied on any mower equipped with unapproved non-pneumatic tires.
General Engine Maintenance

Detailed instructions and recommendations for break-in and regular maintenance are specified in the Engine Owner’s Manual. Please refer to this manual for engine servicing, lubricating oil levels with quality and viscosity recommendations, bolt torques, etc. The engine warranty is backed by the manufacturer. Special attention should be paid to applicable data which will not be duplicated here.

Engine Oil and Filter

**WARNING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the engine has been running and is up to operating temperature, allow the engine to cool before changing the oil. Engine and engine oil will be very hot, so be very careful when changing oil and wear the appropriate protective gear to avoid being burned or exposed to engine oil.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Check engine oil daily and after every 4 hours of operation. Machine must be setting level when checking oil. Refer to engine manual and maintenance schedule for oil recommendation and capacities.

Change the engine oil and filter after the first 5 hours of operation and per the engine manufacturer’s recommendations after that. If mower is being operated in extremely dirty conditions, then it is recommended oil be changed more frequently. **IMPORTANT:** When removing the oil filter, take precautions to minimize oil spillage on the exhaust system.

**Draining the engine oil:**

1. Locate the oil drain valve on the engine. Figure 5-1
2. Position a suitable oil drain container under the machine below the oil drain valve.
3. Twist the valve counterclockwise to open the valve. Allow 10 minutes for engine oil to adequately drain.
4. After oil is drained, close the valve by twisting it clockwise.
5. Once the valve is closed, clean up any spilled oil.

**IMPORTANT:** All oil drips or spills must be cleaned off of the exhaust system before operating the machine.

Engine Air Filter

Perform engine air filter maintenance per the Maintenance Schedule shown elsewhere in this manual.

Fuel Evaporation System Filter

All BigDog® Stout mowers have a fuel evaporation system filter. This filter must be checked and replaced every 300 hours or annually whichever comes first. Figure 5-2

**Fuel & Evaporative System Line Routings**

On mowers that have a fuel evaporative system installed there are two rubber hoses that are connected to each fuel tank. One is the fuel hose that is part of the fuel system. The other is the vapor line that is part of the fuel evaporative system.

The fuel hose is connected to the port on the side wall of the fuel tank. It connects the fuel tank to the fuel shutoff valve. Figure 5-3

**NOTE:** The vapor line is connected to the port in the top of the fuel tank. It connects the fuel tank to the engine’s vapor port. Figure 5-4
Engine RPM Settings

The engine rpm’s are set at the factory for maximum mowing efficiency. Occasionally it may be necessary to check and adjust the settings. The idle speeds should be set as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model No. ending with:</th>
<th>high idle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MODEL NO. WITHOUT EXTENSION</td>
<td>3600 ± 50 RPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL NO. WITH EX EXTENSION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL NO. WITH AU EXTENSION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Model numbers may or may not end with an extension after the number. There are several different extensions that may be shown; i.e. EX or AU.

**Example:**
- 922222 (no extension)
- 922222 EX
- 922222 AU
DECK ADJUSTMENTS

Deck Leveling

Leveling the deck must be done in the following manner and order:

1. Check tire pressures to make certain they are properly inflated before starting to level deck. The recommended pressures are as follows:
   - Drive wheels tire pressure . . . . . . . . . 8 - 12 psi
   - Front wheels tire pressure . . . . . . . . . 8 - 12 psi

2. Park the unit on a flat surface.

3. Place 3” high deck support blocks (two stacked 2” x 4” blocks can be used to create a 3” high support) at the four corners of the deck as shown. **NOTE:** Back of deck will automatically be set 1/4” higher. Figure 6-1

4. Place the height stop in the “D” hole, with the flat side of the height adjusting stop against the stop handle.

5. Clamp the height adjusting stop against the stop handle. This will assure that the height will not move during the setting process. Otherwise, spring pressure from the deck lift springs will tend to pull the stop away from the handle. Figure 6-2

6. Loosen all nuts on the deck lift threaded rods, and the hardware on the height indicator bar (on the right front), until **all** the deck lift chains are loose, **and** the deck is sitting tightly on all four blocks. Figure 6-2, Figure 6-3 & Figure 6-4

7. Loosen the two nuts on the front of height indicator so that the foot pedal is free. Figure 6-2

8. Set the amount of threads protruding on the deck lift rod from the lift block at approximately 1” (left & right side). Figure 6-3

9. Jam both nuts against the block.

**WARNING**

Stop engine. Make sure deck clutch switch is in the down (OFF) position. Place control levers in the brake position before leaving machine.

10. Start the leveling process on the **left front** of the deck.

11. Push or pull on the deck lift foot pedal until the chain on the left front just becomes tight, making sure that the deck stays tight against the block.

12. While keeping the chain tight, tighten the nuts against the deck lift block on the height indicator rod, just enough to carry most of the deck weight on that side — the block should be able to move with only a slight drag. Figure 6-2

13. Jam nuts tightly together against the deck lift block.

14. Go to the **right front** of the deck.

15. Loosen the hardware that clamps the adjuster to the deck lift arm. Figure 6-4

16. Loosen the 5/16” jam nut on the adjuster lift chain, and back the adjuster bolt out to allow the adjuster to move up and down freely. Figure 6-4

17. Tighten the adjuster bolt until the chain just becomes tight. Then tighten just enough to carry the weight of the front of the deck on that side—to check, move the blocks back and forth; they should move with a slight drag. Figure 6-1
18. Tighten the adjuster bolt jam nut to prevent the adjuster bolt from moving. Figure 6-4
19. Tighten the hardware holding the chain and adjuster onto the deck lift arm. Figure 6-4

20. Go to the right rear of the deck.
21. Make sure that there is still slack in the chain. If not, loosen the two nuts on the block holding the threaded rod until there is slack in the deck lift chain. Figure 6-5
22. Tighten the appropriate nut until the chain just becomes tight, and carries most of the deck weight. Check by moving the block—it should move with a slight drag. Figure 6-1
23. Tighten the other nut on the opposite side of the block, and jam them tightly together against the block.

24. Go to the left rear of the deck.
25. Make sure that there is still slack in the chain. If not, loosen the two nuts on the block holding the threaded rod until there is slack in the deck lift chain. Figure 6-5
26. Tighten the appropriate nut until the chain just becomes tight, and carries most of the deck weight. Check by moving the block—it should move with a slight drag. Figure 6-1

27. Tighten the other nut on the opposite side of the block, and jam them tightly together against the block.
28. Compress the deck lift assist springs so that there is 1/2” of space between the front nut on the spring and the rear nut on the deck lift block. Typical both sides. Figure 6-6
29. When completed, all chains will be tight, and deck cutting height will be set to the deck height indicator.

Blades

Mower blade maintenance
Check the mower blades daily, they are the key to power efficiency and well groomed turf. Keep the blades sharp. A dull blade will tear rather than cut the grass, leaving a brown ragged top on the grass within a few hours. A dull blade also requires more power from the engine.
Replace any blade which is bent, cracked or broken.

WARNING
Never attempt to straighten a bent blade by heating, or weld a cracked or broken blade as the blade may break and cause serious injury. Replace worn or damaged blades.

WARNING
Never work with blades while engine is running or deck clutch switch is engaged (on). Always place deck clutch switch in the disengaged position, place steering control levers in the park brake position and turn engine off and disconnect negative battery cable. Block up mower when you must work under it. Wear gloves when handling blades. Always check for blade damage if mower strikes a rock, branch or other foreign object during mowing!
Mower blade removal

Use a 15/16” wrench to remove the 5/8” cap screw holding the blade to the spindle shaft from underneath. **NOTE:** A blade holding tool (part number 381442) is available from BigDog® Mowers. It is designed to prevent the blades from rotating when they are being removed or installed on the spindle. Contact your BigDog® Mowers dealer for more information.

Sharpen the blades on a grinder following pattern as shown (Figure 6-7). Touch-up sharpening can be done with a file

Check the blades for balance following grinding. A commercial balancing tool is available through most hardware supply stores, or balancing can be done by placing the blade on an inverted line punch or 5/8” bolt. Blade should not lean or tilt. Spin the blade slowly, blade should not wobble. If blade is out of balance, true it up before reinstalling.

Lay the blade on a flat surface and check for distortion (Figure 6-8 & Figure 6-9). Replace any distorted blade.

Do not re-use spindle bolts which have stripped, worn or undercut threads. Torque bolts on spindles to 118 foot-pounds (160.0 N·m) when reinstalling blades.

Properly compressed cup washers maintain the correct compression load on the blades. Replace the cup washers if they are cracked or flattened.

**IMPORTANT:** The blade sail (curved part) must be pointing upward toward the inside of the deck to ensure proper cutting.

**IMPORTANT:** When mounting blades, rotate them after installation to ensure blade tips do not touch each other or sides of the mower.

---

**WARNING**

Always wear adequate eye protection when grinding mower blades.

**WARNING**

Failure to correctly torque the bolt may result in the loss of the blade which can cause serious injury.

**WARNING**

Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves and use extra caution when servicing them.

---

Belts

Inspect belts frequently for wear and serviceability. Replace a belt that shows signs of severe cuts, tears, separation, weather checking and cracking, or burns caused by slipping. Slight
raveling of belt covering does not indicate failure; trim ravelings with a sharp knife.

Inspect the belt pulley grooves and flanges for wear. A new belt, or one in good condition, should never run against the bottom of the groove. Replace the pulley when this is the case, otherwise, the belt will lose power and slip excessively.

Never pry a belt to get it on a pulley as this will cut or damage the fibers of the belt covering.

Keep oil and grease away from belts, and never use belt dressings. Any of these will destroy the belt composition in a very short time.

**Deck Belt Adjustment**

The spindle belt tension remains constant by means of a tension idler and spring. The spring tension should be such that the belt does not slip under normal operating load conditions, assuming the belt is not excessively worn or damaged. As the belt stretches and wears in, adjustment may become necessary. To increase belt tension, move the spring chain one (or more) link(s) at the anchor point on the deck frame. Figure 6-10, Figure 6-11, & Figure 6-12

**IMPORTANT:** Do not over tension the spring to compensate for a badly worn belt or pulley.
NOTE: The following notes are the same for the different decks shown.
1. Spring length after tensioning new belt. Measured from outside of hook to outside of hook with deck set at 3¼" cut height.
2. Route belt as shown.

48" Deck Belt Routing & Tensioning

![Figure 6-11](8.3" – 9.3")

54" Deck Belt Routing & Tensioning

![Figure 6-12](8.25" – 9.25")
## MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

### BigDog® Mowers Stout

**Maintenance Schedule**

Refer to Figure 8-1, Figure 8-2, Figure 8-3, & Figure 8-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE AT INTERVALS INDICATED</th>
<th>WEEKLY OR 40 HOURS</th>
<th>MONTHLY OR 100 HOURS</th>
<th>ANNUALLY OR 300 HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verify safety start interlock system</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visually inspect unit for loose hardware and/or damaged parts</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visually inspect tires</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check oil level, engine (1)</td>
<td>Prior to each use or every 4 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean air intake screen (4)</td>
<td>Prior to each use or every 4 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check fuel level</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blades - sharpen &amp; securely fastened</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge chute - securely in place &amp; in lowest position</td>
<td>Prior to each use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace air cleaner paper element (if equipped)</td>
<td>As needed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean engine and transaxle compartment</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change transaxle oil and filter (7)</td>
<td>Every 200 hours or 2 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grease deck height pivots</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grease front wheel bearings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change engine oil and filter (1) (3)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check battery connections</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check tire pressure with a gauge</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check hydraulic oil level</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean engine exterior (a)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check pump and deck belt tension and condition (5)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check fuel and hydraulic lines (6)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check fuel valve and grommet (6)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tighten lug nuts on wheels (2)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change fuel filter (6)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check ROPS mounting hardware (9)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace fuel evaporation system filter (8)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES:

1. Initial oil change is after 5 hours of operation. Thereafter, change oil after every 40 hours operation. Change more often under dusty or dirty conditions and during hot weather periods.
2. Torque initially and after first 2 hours of operation.
3. Change engine oil filter per the engine manufacturer’s recommendations. Refer to Engine Owner’s Manual for recommendations and other maintenance items.
4. Service more often under dusty or dirty conditions.
5. **Pump drive belt only - Inspect every 6 months or 100 hours** and replace if worn or if cracking is noticed. Otherwise, replace every 200 hours or 2 years whichever comes first.
6. Check fuel system for any cracks or leaks including, but not limited to, fuel line hoses, fuel valve, vent line hoses, vent valve, vapor valve, carbon canister, and grommets. Repair as needed.
7. Initial system oil and filter change must be after the first 75 hours of use or 1 year whichever comes first. Thereafter, replace filter and oil in each transaxle every 2 years or 200 hours, whichever comes first.
8. More often under dusty or dirty conditions and during hot weather.
9. Inspect ROPS after the first 20 hours of operation and then after every 500 hours of operation or yearly whichever comes first.

### REFERENCES:

A. Refer to Engine Owner’s Manual

NOTE: After completing maintenance cycle (300 hours), repeat cycle.
1. Engine Oil Fill & Dipstick
2. Fuel Filter
3. Engine Air Cleaner
4. Engine Oil Drain Valve
5. Battery
6. Fuel Tank
7. Engine Oil Filter
8. Deck Lift Pivot Zerks (4)
9. Park Brake Switch (2)
10. Drive Tire
11. Pump Belt
12. Engine Air Intake Screen
13. Front Wheel Tires
14. Front Wheel Zerks (2)
15. Deck Belt
16. Blades
17. Hydraulic Oil Expansion Tank
18. Hydraulic Oil Filter
19. Fuel Evaporation System Filter
1. Engine Oil Fill & Dipstick
2. Fuel Filter
3. Engine Air Cleaner
4. Engine Oil Drain Valve
5. Battery
6. Fuel Tank
7. Engine Oil Filter
8. Deck Lift Pivot Zerks (4)
9. Park Brake Switch (2)
10. Drive Tire
11. Pump Belt
12. Engine Air Intake Screen
13. Front Wheel Tires
14. Front Wheel Zerks (2)
15. Deck Belt
16. Blades
17. Hydraulic Oil Expansion Tank
18. Hydraulic Oil Filter
19. Fuel Evaporation System Filter
# Troubleshooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Probable Causes</th>
<th>Suggested Remedies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting motor does not crank</td>
<td>Steering control levers not in park brake position or switch not adjusted</td>
<td>Place steering control levers in park brake position or re-adjust switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deck clutch switch engaged</td>
<td>Disengage clutch switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weak or dead battery</td>
<td>Recharge or replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical connections are corroded or loose</td>
<td>Check the electrical connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25 amp fuse is blown</td>
<td>Replace the 25 amp fuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For additional causes</td>
<td>See engine manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The engine will not start, starts hard or fails to keep running</td>
<td>No fuel or line plugged</td>
<td>Fill tank or replace line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel valve is turned off</td>
<td>Open the fuel valve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is incorrect fuel in the fuel system</td>
<td>Drain the tank and replace the fuel with the proper type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is dirt in the fuel filter</td>
<td>Replace the fuel filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dirt, water or stale fuel in the fuel system</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The choke is not on</td>
<td>Move the choke lever to ON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Numerous</td>
<td>See engine manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine: Runs with continuous misfiring or engine runs unevenly or erratically</td>
<td>Numerous</td>
<td>See engine manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restrictions in air cleaner</td>
<td>Service air cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor compression</td>
<td>See your dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steering linkage needs adjustment</td>
<td>Adjust linkage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tow valve open</td>
<td>Close tow valve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The traction drive belt is worn, loose or broken</td>
<td>Install a new traction drive belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For additional causes</td>
<td>See engine manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overheating</td>
<td>Air intake screen or cooling fins clogged</td>
<td>Clean screen and fins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For additional causes</td>
<td>See engine manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low engine oil pressure</td>
<td>Low oil level</td>
<td>Add oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oil diluted or too light</td>
<td>Change oil and check for source of contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High oil consumption</td>
<td>Numerous</td>
<td>See your dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mower jerky when starting or operates in one direction only</td>
<td>Steering control linkage needs adjustment</td>
<td>Adjust linkage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose steering linkage</td>
<td>Tighten linkage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transmission linkage faulty</td>
<td>See your dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is abnormal vibration</td>
<td>The engine mounting bolts are loose</td>
<td>Tighten the engine mounting bolts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The engine pulley, idler pulley or blade pulley is loose</td>
<td>Tighten the appropriate pulley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The engine pulley is damaged</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The cutting blade(s) is/are bent or unbalanced</td>
<td>Install new cutting blade(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spindle bearing is worn or loose</td>
<td>Replace or tighten spindle bearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A blade spindle is bent</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uneven cutting height</td>
<td>The blade(s) are not sharp</td>
<td>Sharpen the blades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A cutting blade(s) is/are bent</td>
<td>Install new cutting blade(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The deck is not level</td>
<td>Level the deck per the Deck leveling and height adjustment section of the parts manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An anti-scalp wheel is not set correctly</td>
<td>Adjust the height of the anti-scalp wheel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The underside of the deck is dirty</td>
<td>Clean the underside of the deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tires improperly inflated</td>
<td>Adjust air pressure to 8 - 12 psi (55 - 83 KPa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A blade spindle is bent</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blades do not rotate</td>
<td>The deck drive belt is worn, loose or broken</td>
<td>Install a new deck drive belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The deck drive belt is off the pulley</td>
<td>Install the deck drive belt and check for a reason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electric clutch is not engaging</td>
<td>Check and/or replace 15 amp fuse. Contact your BigDog® Mowers dealer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Symptoms

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<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Probable Causes</th>
<th>Suggested Remedies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mower creeps when steering control levers are in neutral</td>
<td>Steering linkage needs adjustment</td>
<td>Adjust linkage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mower circles or veers in one direction</td>
<td>Steering linkage needs adjustment</td>
<td>Adjust linkage</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose steering linkage</td>
<td>Tighten linkage</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tires improperly inflated</td>
<td>Adjust air pressure to 8 - 12 psi (55 - 83 KPa)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transmission component faulty</td>
<td>See your dealer</td>
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<tr>
<td>There is abnormal vibration</td>
<td>The engine mounting bolts are loose</td>
<td>Tighten the engine mounting bolts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The engine pulley, idler pulley or blade pulley is loose</td>
<td>Tighten the appropriate pulley</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The engine pulley is damaged</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The cutting blade(s) is/are bent or unbalanced</td>
<td>Install new cutting blade(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spindle bearing is worn or loose</td>
<td>Replace or tighten spindle bearing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A blade mounting bolt is loose</td>
<td>Tighten the blade mounting bolt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A blade is bent</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uneven cutting height</td>
<td>The blade(s) are not sharp</td>
<td>Sharpen the blades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A cutting blade(s) is/are bent</td>
<td>Install new cutting blade(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The deck is not level</td>
<td>Level the deck per the Deck leveling and height adjustment section of the parts manual</td>
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<td></td>
<td>An anti-scalp wheel is not set correctly</td>
<td>Adjust the height of the anti-scalp wheel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The underside of the deck is dirty</td>
<td>Clean the underside of the deck</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tires improperly inflated</td>
<td>Adjust air pressure to 8 - 12 psi (55 - 83 KPa)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A blade spindle is bent</td>
<td>Contact your BigDog® Mowers Dealer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blades do not rotate</td>
<td>The deck drive belt is worn, loose or broken</td>
<td>Install a new deck drive belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The deck drive belt is off the pulley</td>
<td>Install the deck drive belt and check for a reason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electric clutch is not engaging</td>
<td>Check and/or replace 15 amp fuse. Contact your BigDog® Mowers dealer</td>
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