

Your Yard

Choosing The Right Walk-Behind Mower

(NAPSA)—If you're considering getting a walk-behind mower, you may want to start by taking a walk around your yard.

Lawn mowers come in a variety of sizes, types and prices, so surveying the area you are mowing can help you decide on the most efficient mower. Here are some questions to consider from the experts at Murray Inc., a lawn mower provider for more than 50 years.

Q: Does yard size and terrain matter when choosing a mower?

A: Yes. All walk-behind mowers can be pushed around a yard but many mowers have the added benefit of self-propulsion, providing added power to turn or drive the front or back wheels.

For larger lawns (at least $\frac{1}{4}$ acre), having this extra propulsion can help reduce the time and effort to get the job done. This will also minimize effort when cutting lawns with hilly terrain.

Some self-propelled mowers offer a single speed, while others come with a variable speed system allowing the user to adjust the pace of the mower.

Multi-speed drive-multiple gears allow users to change mowing speeds for increased efficiency.

Front wheel drive enhances maneuverability, as well as traction. Rear-wheel drive provides the best traction on all terrains and thick grass. Mowers with higher rear wheels offer additional maneuverability which is helpful on hilly or uneven yards.

Q: How will I dispose of my grass clippings?

A: Many walk-behind mowers feature a convertible cutting deck system equipped to disperse grass clippings in at least two ways.

Mowers with 2-in-1 capability



The size of your lawn will help determine which type of lawn mower you buy.

can handle lawn clippings by either discharging them or mulching them (or in some cases by either mulching them or bagging them). Mowers are also available with 3-in-1 versatility which means the mower performs three different functions. It can discharge grass, mulch it or bag it for disposal. When the grass is mulched, it is chopped into small bits, then falls to the ground where it becomes a natural fertilizer.

Q: Do I need a convertible mower?

A: Choose a mower that best fits the way you usually mow your lawn and has the flexibility to adapt to changing mowing conditions. A convertible mower lets you change back and forth easily without tools.

Q: How important is horsepower in a lawn mower?

A: The more you can get the better. In order to improve mulching performance, higher horsepower engines are desired. Or if you let your grass become tall before cutting, additional horsepower can help get the job done.

For more tips on walk-behind mowers, visit www.murray.com.