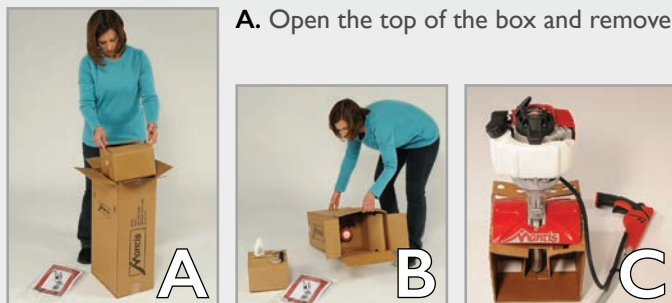


**TIP: UNPACK CAREFULLY AND KEEP ENGINE IN IT'S CARDBOARD CRADLE. IT WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO ASSEMBLE!**

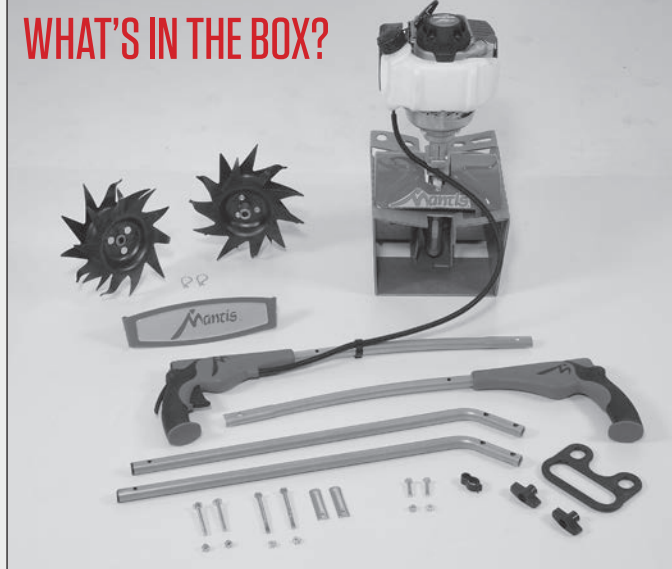


**A.** Open the top of the box and remove the tine box from the top of the box.

**B.** Lay the box on one side and open the bottom flaps.

**C.** Return the box to an upright position and pull the box straight up and over the enclosed tiller. The engine and throttle handle will be sitting upright in the cradle to assist in assembly, as shown. Locate the hardware bag. (It may be in the cardboard cradle)

**NOTE: Keep cardboard cradle on for assembly.**

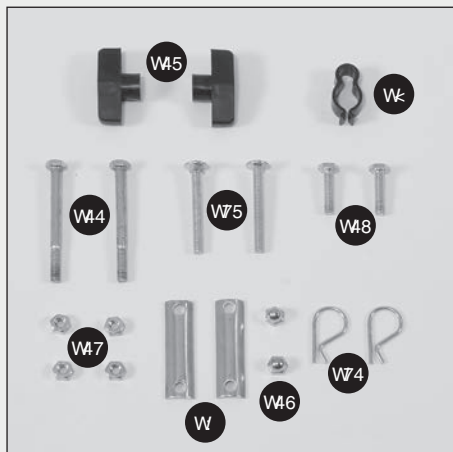


**WHAT'S IN THE BOX?**

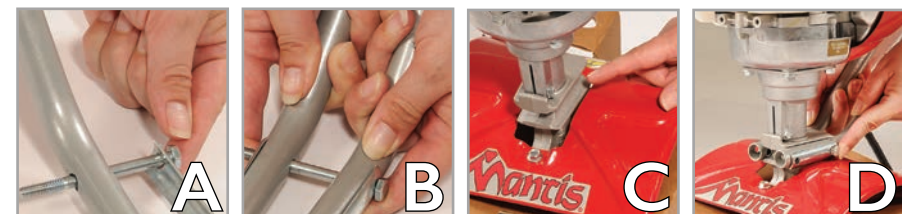
Key	Qty.	Part No.	Description
T7	2		Handle Clamps
T9	1		Throttle Clip
T11	2		Bolts (3" long)
T12	2		Knobs
T13	2		Acorn Nuts
T14	4		Lock Nuts
T15	2		Cap Screws
T41	2		Tine Retaining Pins
T42	2		Carriage Bolts
T49	1		Kickstand
T50	1		Kickstand Bracket and Screws

**TOOLS NEEDED TO ASSEMBLE THE TILLER:**

- Two (2) 7/16" wrenches
- One (1) 3/8" wrench for kickstand assembly



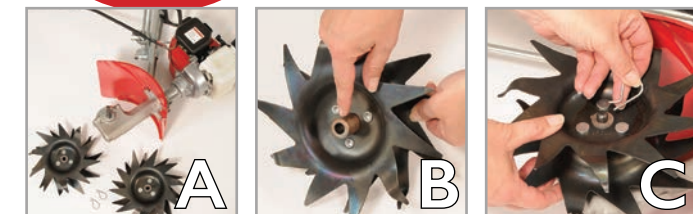
**STEP 1: ATTACH LOWER HANDLES**



- A.** Fit a handle clamp (T7) along the outside of the short leg of one handle, lining up the holes on the clamp and the leg
- B.** Take one of the two 3-inch bolts (T11) and slide it through the first set of holes – near the elbow where the lower handle curves. Then slide the other clamp onto the other handles short leg. Add a lock nut (T14) and tighten by hand.
- C.** Locate the recessed channels below the engine, and slide the handles you've just put together into them as shown.
- D.** Insert them from the rear so that they come from behind the Mantis logo as shown (or you'll be tilling backwards!).
- E.** Slide the second 3-inch bolt through the second set of holes in the short legs, add a lock nut and tighten finger tight.

**NEED HELP?**  
Call 800-366-6268 or go to [www.mantis.com](http://www.mantis.com)

**STEP 3: INSTALL TINES**



- A.** NOW remove your tiller from the cardboard cradle and lay it on its side. Open tine box. Remove tines and retaining pins (T41). Pins are in the hardware bag. **Note: one side of the tine has an O shaped hole while the other has a D shaped hole.**
- B.** Attach tine so that O hole slides onto axle first. When axle protrudes from top side, it will line up with D shaped hole.
- C.** Slide retaining pin through hole in axle to secure tine. Repeat on the other side.

**FOR TILLING,** attach the tines so the points of the blades face forward — away from the operator. The tines' points will contact the ground first.

**FOR CULTIVATING,** reverse the tines so that the points of the tines face backward — toward the operator. Now the long flat part of the tine's blade will contact the ground first.

**STEP 2: ATTACH UPPER HANDLES**



- A.** Lightly squeeze lower handle towards one another so that they line up with two smaller holes on carrying handle – then slide carrying handle over and down lower handle. It will rest 4-6" above fender.
- B.** Take upper handle with trigger and line it up with the lower handle. Insert the carriage bolt (T42) from the outside in.

Screw on knob and tighten (T12). Cap the exposed bolt with an acorn nut (T13) and hand tighten until snug. Do not over tighten.

**C.** Repeat step B to install other handle.

**D.** Use the clip (T9) to secure the black cable and wire in place on the lower handle.

**E.** Install the handle brace. Line it up with the holes on the upper handles. Then insert a cap screw (T15) and lock nut (T14) on either side. Use a wrench to tighten cap screws and lock nuts, and then tighten all nuts and bolts throughout the assembly firmly and securely.

**STEP 4: ATTACH KICKSTAND**



- A.** Lean the Tiller Handles against a sturdy surface, so the tiller is supported in the upright position. Place the Top Bracket over the Lower Handles and below the Carry Handle.
- B.** Place the Bottom Bracket of the Kickstand Stand Assembly (T49) under the Lower Handles and line up the holes in both brackets.
- C.** Insert two screws through the holes in the Top Bracket and into the threaded inserts of the Lower Bracket. Tighten with the 3/8" wrench.

**KICKSTAND POSITION: Place kickstand in the folded (up) position. Kickstand should be centered between Lower Handles. If not, loosen screws slightly, adjust as necessary and re-tighten the screws.**

**WARNING**  
Do not operate the engine in a confined space where dangerous carbon monoxide fumes can collect.

**WARNING**  
Fuel is extremely flammable. Handle it with care. Keep away from ignition sources. Do not smoke while fueling your equipment.

**WARNING**  
Avoid accidental blade engagement. Do not squeeze the throttle trigger when starting. Maintain proper idle speed adjustment (2500-3100 rpm).

**4-CYCLE TILLER FUELING AND OIL**

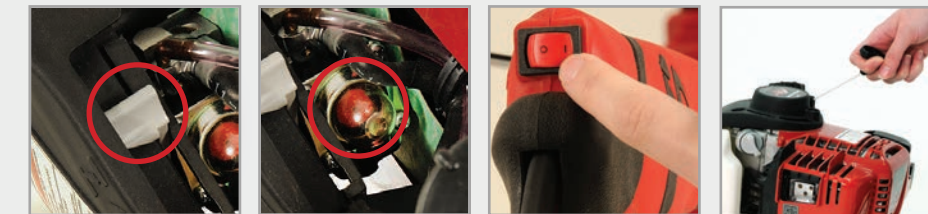
- Rock the tiller forward so that it rests on the fuel tank. It is important to position the 4-Cycle Tiller as shown so the oil will properly fill the crankcase
- Failure to do so will cause engine damage.
- Remove the oil plug.
- Pour in 2.7 fl. oz. of approved, 4-cycle engine oil.
- Always check the oil level before each use. The oil level should reach the inner first thread of the reservoir. Do not overfill.
- Replace the oil plug.
- Then return the unit to the upright position and put the kickstand down.

Fueling your Mantis 4-Cycle Tiller/Cultivator is easy. Unscrew the gas cap and fill the tank about four-fifths of the way up with 89 octane unleaded gasoline. And remember, always drain the gas when transporting the unit from one location to another.

**WARNING**  
ALTERNATIVE FUELS, SUCH AS E-15 (20% ETHANOL), E-85 (85% ETHANOL) OR ANY FUELS NOT MEETING HONDA REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT APPROVED FOR USE IN GASOLINE ENGINES. USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUELS MAY CAUSE PERFORMANCE PROBLEMS, LOSS OF POWER, OVERHEATING, FUEL VAPOR LOCK AND UNINTENDED MACHINE OPERATION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPROPER CLUTCH ENGAGEMENT. ALTERNATIVE FUELS MAY ALSO CAUSE PREMATURE DETERIORATION OF FUEL LINES, GASKETS, CARBURETORS AND OTHER ENGINE COMPONENTS.

**IMPORTANT**  
IT IS NORMAL FOR YOUR 4 STROKE ENGINE TO SMOKE FOR THE FIRST MINUTE OR TWO OF OPERATION, HOWEVER IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THIS TO OCCUR EVERY TIME. THIS IS A RESULT OF THE OIL BEING PULLED THROUGH THE ENGINE FOR LUBRICATION.

**4-CYCLE TILLER STARTING**



- First, make sure the start/stop switch, located on the throttle handle, is in the start position, which is indicated by the "I" symbol.
- Close the choke by moving the choke lever to the up position.
- Press the primer bulb approximately 6 times until the bulb is filled with gas. Once it is filled, press it two more times.
- Pull the starter cord lightly until you feel resistance and then give it a short, brisk pull. Your tiller should start immediately. Do not pull the cord all the way out and do not let it snap back into the starter housing.
- Once it is running, open the choke. Ensure the lever is fully down
- To stop the engine, simply push the start/stop switch to the stop position "O."
- To start a warm engine, follow the same procedure. Except now you can leave the choke lever in the down position and there is no need to pump the primer bulb.
- Before using the tiller, let the engine run for a minute to warm up. And before shutting it down, let the engine idle briefly to cool down.



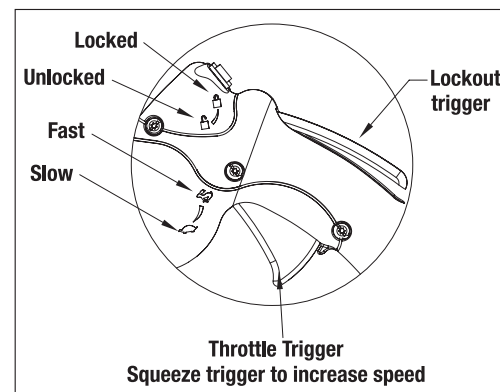
# QUICK START GUIDE

Mantis 4-Cycle Plus (Gas Only) Tiller Model 7940



NEED HELP? Call 800-366-6268 or go to [www.mantis.com](http://www.mantis.com)

## THROTTLE OPERATION



The tines won't turn unless you squeeze the throttle trigger on the handlebars. When you release the throttle trigger, the tines will stop.

With engine running, and both hands on the handles, hold down the throttle lockout trigger (see inset), then squeeze the throttle trigger gradually to increase the engine speed and engage the tines.

NOTE: This step must be repeated each time your tiller trigger is released.



## NOW YOU ARE READY TO USE YOUR MANTIS

If you've seen other tillers, your MANTIS Tiller may surprise you. It tills best when you pull it backward! You see, when you pull your MANTIS Tiller backward, you give extra resistance to the tines, so they dig deeper. In addition, when you go backward, you erase your footprints. So your soil stays light and fluffy. With other tillers, by contrast, you walk right over the soil you've just tilled, packing it down, so it's less plantable.

## RUN YOUR MANTIS LIKE A VACUUM CLEANER

Place your Tiller at the head of the row or area you want to till. Start it up. Then use an easy rocking motion. First, pull your Tiller backward. Then use an easy rocking motion. Again, pull your Tiller backward. Then, let it move forward just a little bit. Then pull it backward again. This will help you till deeper. Keep repeating these steps until you've tilled an entire row. Start again on the next row. It's much like running a vacuum cleaner! (see image to the right)



*TIP:*  
Unpack carefully. Keep engine in it's cardboard cradle. It will make it easier to assemble!

## OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS MAKE YOUR TILLER EVEN MORE USEFUL



### PLANTER/FURROWER

- Create raised beds, till in narrow areas, dig drainage trenches with ease
- Dig deep planting beds for flower bulbs



### BORDER EDGER

- Cuts neat edges for flower beds & lawns
- Easy-on, Easy-off with quick release pins



### PLOW ATTACHMENT

- Forms straight, uniform deep or shallow furrows faster than doing it by hand
- Plow easily forward or backward



### LAWN AERATOR

- Cuts thousands of tiny slits to encourage new growth
- Reduces soil compaction



### WHEEL SET

- Easily roll your Mantis to the garden
- Height adjustable to 6 different positions



### LAWN DETHATCHER

- 60 strong, flexible spring-steel picks pull up grass along with other dead material harmful to lawns
- 15" wide for faster completion
- Use in spring or fall before seeding or fertilizing



### CREVICE CLEANER

- Removes weeds and dirt from cracks in patios or sidewalks
- 38 tough steel bristle brushes
- Comes with balancing wheel and fender



### HEDGE TRIMMER BAR

- Trimmer bars attach easily to any Mantis 2-Cycle Tiller/Cultivator
- Available in 24" double edge or 30" single edge
- Trim hedges & shrubs, promotes new growth
- Cuts branches up to 1" thick

Learn more at [www.mantis.com](http://www.mantis.com)

Thank you for purchasing this Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. product. You have purchased a world class product, one of the best designed and built anywhere.

In addition to this Quick Start Guide, this tiller comes with an Operator's Manual that includes operation and safety instructions, parts and service instructions and engine instructions. This guide is not a replacement for the Operator's Manual and the useful life and good service you receive from your tiller depends to a large extent on how well you read and understand the manual and guide.

# WELCOME

Turn your outdoor

space into the garden of your dreams!