



Wright's Outdoor Equipment Centre

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Making your outdoors easy since 1969

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LINE TRIMMER LINE?

One of the most frequent enquiries we get, and I mean FREQUENT, is problems with line trimmer nylon cutting line. We have a constant stream of people bemoaning why their line trimmer won't do what they expected. We, however, have an opposite thought process on it & think the typical garden line trimmer, with a simple bump feed head was the best invention since sliced bread.



So, we have compiled a list of the most common gripes, along with a list of helpful tips & solutions to make your trimming or weed-eating easy.

- My weed eater nylon keeps breaking off, or it seems to wear out too fast
- My weed eater nylon head won't feed out properly
- My weed eater doesn't seem powerful enough to cut the grass easily
- My nylon seems to melt/weld together inside the head
- Why does the nylon wear out against concrete?
- When I bump the head nothing happens

Heard these 1000 times (when I say 1000 times, I actually mean 1 million) 😊. In simple terms, most of these issues can be fixed by simply sticking to the 3 rule strategy we think is best with most machinery – **QUALITY – SIZE – TECHNIQUE** - If you use the right quality of machine & good brand of nylon, which is correctly matched in size of the nylon to the power output of the machine, and you use the machine correctly you will be fine.



Our 10 tips & recommendations –

- 1 – Our biggest & first quoted tip is always – **DON'T** use cheap quality nylon. Stick to nylon that is of a reputable brand, not a \$2 shop or Hardware store style nylon. Usually this will be of low grade materials & not cured properly. Cutting monofilament nylon is treated correctly & cured to maximise consistency & durability. Cheap nylon is prone to being brittle (therefore it breaks off in chunks) & goes a dry powdery texture. The **BEST** nylon is manufactured in the U.S.A (We recommend Oregon, Desert Extrusion, Diamond Edge, Husqvarna, Trail Blazer brands).
- 2 - Don't store your nylon in direct sunlight – it will deteriorate quicker. Yes, the old myth of sticking your nylon into some water overnight to rejuvenate it is 100% true, but water won't

magically turn your low quality nylon into good quality nylon (unless you are using Holy water maybe?)

- **3** – When you buy your trimmer nylon it comes in different thicknesses – this is related to the power output of the machine – NOT the difficulty of the job. Don't make the most common mistake of all – buying a cheaper, smaller output trimmer (frankly for no other reason than its cheaper), then try progressively thicker nylon sizes on it till you burn out the clutch & drive shaft. Match the size of nylon to the machine, but more importantly match the size of your machine to the toughness of the job. Don't expect your tiny battery powered Bunnings trimmer to mow along your lifestyle block fence lines (Yes we see that a LOT)
- **4** – Square or round nylon? – up to you – lots of thoughts on all the different options, but at the end of the day it's what you find works best for your technique. Just about every couple of months we see another range of nylon is offered with some new fandangle science – but at the end of the day good old round & diamond line still seem to be best.
- **5** – Make sure your correctly sized nylon is wound on correctly – if your cutter head is a twin line head the 2 ends of the nylon DO NOT go in opposite directions – both go the same way – try not to cross them over onto each other (creates binding & welding) & don't wind on too tight (again this will cause it to start to fuse together).
- **6** – When cutting the grass, or edges use the machine at full speed where possible – this ensures the nylon is spinning fast enough to cut easier (assuming you have the correct size of line, as if it's too thick this creates drag & will overheat the engine clutch – not good) ☹️. As a rule 1 size thicker on the nylon, above recommended size, will drop your engine rpm by around 800-1000rpm.
- **7** – Don't run the nylon TOO LONG in length – again this burns out clutches & engines or overheats your batteries if it's a cordless machine. The trimmer guard always has the little cutter to trim off the nylon so it doesn't get too long, so this gives you an idea of the MAXIMUM length of the line. DON'T remove this guard and expect to not be injured bodily &/or financially.
- **8** – Cut with the very end of the nylon if you can, to maximise durability of the line. Rev the machine right up so the nylon is spinning like a propeller & gradually move it into the work. If you poke the nylon head into the long grass first, then give it some throttle the nylon flicks around all over the place & whips about until it breaks off.
- **9** – Try not to cut with the full face of the nylon as this will be the #1 reason why the nylon curls arounds, wears through next to the nylon head & can cut through the nylon heads metal eyelets.
- **10** – Bump feed heads – make sure that you rev up the machine at the same time you bump the head – nothing will come out if you just bang away at the ground. It's a spring loaded head & needs engine rotation to work



Hope these tips help make your outdoors easy? If you think it has helped, then how about

○ 10% off your next trimmer nylon purchase
from **WRIGHTS**