

Standard vs. High-Cut

In general, we recommend the “Standard” models for heights of 1.25” and below, and the “High-Cut” models for 1.25” and above – which is most often for northern / cool season grasses Kentucky blue, Rye, Fescue and the various blends. However, some people have Zoysia and like to maintain it at around 1.5” so the 7-blade / High-Cut models are good for that.

Here’s an image showing basic recommendations...

Grass Type	Mowing Height
Bahia grass	2" - 3"
Bentgrass	¼" - ¾"
Bermuda	½" - 1½"
Buffalograss	2" - 3"
Centipede	1½" - 2½"
Fine fescue	1½" - 2½"
Kentucky Bluegrass	1½" - 2½"
Ryegrass	1½" - 2½"
St. Augustine	2" - 4"
Tall fescue	2" - 3"
Zoysia	½" - 1½"

5 vs. 7-Blade

- A 5-blade reel is effective for tall cool season (northern) grasses that are maintained at 1-1/2" to 2", while a 7-blade reel is effective for warm season (southern) grasses that are maintained below 1-1/2".
- Also, the 5-blade reel - since it has 2 less cutting edges and wider spacing than a 7 - handles taller grass better so it can provide a bit less frequent mowing. The 7 blade is more effective for denser grass. Cutting the grass shorter will increase the density, so a 7-blade can be used even on the northern / cool season types... although the frequency will need to be more often.

Grass experts recommend not cutting more than 1/3 of the total (leaf portion) off at one time, so here's a quick reference chart that provides the corresponding mowing frequency...

MOWING HEIGHT & FREQUENCY		
<i>Based on the recommendations of most grass experts to not cut more than 1/3 of the total length of grass at any one time.</i>		
Height of Cut Setting	Mow When at this Height	Amount to Cut
0.750 (3/4")	1.125 (1-1/8")	0.375 (3/8")
1.000 (1")	1.500 (1-1/2")	0.500 (1/2")
1.250 (1-1/4")	1.875 (1-7/8")	0.625 (5/8")
1.500 (1-1/2")	2.250 (2-1/4")	0.750 (3/4")
1.750 (1-3/4")	2.625 (2-5/8")	0.875 (7/8")
2.000 (2")	3.000 (3")	1.000 (1")
2.250 (2-1/4")	3.375 (3-3/8")	1.125 (1-1/4")