



Easy Lawn Mowing

Bosch Rotak 32R Electric Rotary Lawn Mower Review



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Bosch Rotak 32R Electric Rotary Lawn Mower Review

The **Bosch Rotak 32R** is a nifty and reliable lawnmower that is great value for money. If you are looking for an easy to operate mower for a small to medium garden, this makes an excellent choice.

The Bosch name is known for well priced, hardworking and reliable garden tools. The German-based company has been since 1886. Their products are easy to use and they are a trusted popular brand.

So just how well does this Bosch Rotak 32R perform? Well let's find out!

Summary

The Bosch Rotak 32R is a corded mower and needs its 10-metre power cable to be connected to a mains socket that provides a very respectable 1200-watt motor. The build quality is what you would expect from Bosch and being built in the UK making getting parts easier and cheaper should they be required. A metal blade is used on the 360c as opposed to plastic proving a good cut and allowing for the blade to be sharpened if needed. The 32cm cutting width make it ideal for smaller lawns and for taking up less storage. There are 5 different cutting heights is pretty standard for mower of this size and ranges from 20 to 60mm which is perfectly adequate to adjust to the changing length and conditions of your lawn.

OK, lets take a look at this Bosch Rotak 32R in more detail and see what's good and what's not so good with this mower.

Main Features:

Rating: 9/10

Lawn size recommendations: Small to medium (ok for larger lawns but the box will need to be emptied more often)

Power: 1200-watt Power-drive Electric Motor (Corded)

Cut Width: 32cm

Cut Height: 5 adjustments – 20 to 60mm
Capacity of grass box: 31 L
Weight: 6.8 Kg
Grass comb for easy edge cutting
Roller for a professional strip lawn look
Foldable handles for compact and easy storage

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Difference between the Bosch Rotak 32 and Rotak 32R

Before we dig into this review, I am often asked what the difference is between the 32 and the 32R, well its quite simple. The Bosch Rotak 32 has no rear roller and Bosch Rotak 32R (R=Roller) does have a roller at the back of the lawnmower. This allows you to make professional looking stripes on the lawn if you so wish.

The Rotak 32 and 32R have been around for some time but the new models have side fins and Bosch have made the grass box a little bit larger. The Rotak 32 range replaced the Rotak 320.

Power System

The Bosch Rotak 32R features a powerful 1200-watt Power-drive electric motor. That is plenty of power and will give you professional results with minimal effort. It is a decent sized motor so even if you have let the grass get a bit on the long side, you will not have any difficulty.

While it by no means the biggest and most powerful lawnmower around, unless you have a jungle to contend with it will do a perfectly good job with ease.

The cable that comes with the Rotak 32R is 10 meters long so ensure you have enough extension cord to cover the required area.

Also the power system is completely electric so it produces zero emissions and works extremely quietly.

Power cable

The lawnmower comes with a 10-meter power cable. If more range is required an extension cord will be needed. This length of power cable is relatively standard for mowers in this class.

Blades

The Bosch Rotak 32R has strong 32 cm steel blades. While these will need to be sharpened occasionally, they will give a clean, neat cut and they are extremely durable. If you ever do need to need to replace them, parts are easily available and reasonably priced.

The 32 cm size is ideal for the small to medium gardens this mower is designed for as it gives a good combination of speed and efficiency while still being easy to maneuver.

The Bosch Rotak 32R is equipped with one blade that gives them two very effective benefits...

Metal blades generally wear less quickly than plastic blades which results in you needing to replace the lawnmower blades more often than a lawnmower that uses a metal blade. Metal blades are generally sharper and provide a cleaner cut to the grass blade, resulting in a neater, tidier and superior finish to your lawn and garden. And as stated above, the metal blades can be sharpened when needed unlike plastic blades.

So are the blades on the Bosch any better than its nearest competitors? Well, no not really. The blades on the Bosch are good but are no better across other mower brands in this size and class of mower.

As well as being able to sharpen the blades, it is also possible to purchase a [replacement blade for the Bosch 32R](#) for around £16 for a genuine replacement. Replacing the blade is relatively easy for anyone with basic DIY skills and tools.

Height Adjustment

It is essential that your lawn mower is highly adjustable to accommodate different lawn types as well as to accommodate for the different seasons. The Rotak 32R gives you a choice of 5 settings ranging from 20mm to 60mm on the rear wheels. No matter what type of lawn you have or what your seasonal requirements are, this mower will be perfectly adjustable for your needs.

If you have left your lawn to grow for a while, don't rush in and cut it on a very low setting. Rather start on a higher setting and progressively cut it lower. This will avoid leaving an untidy patchy appearance.

Is 5 separate cutting lengths better than the competition, well yes and no. Some mowers at this price point only have 3 height adjustments, however, most will have 5 so it's pretty much standard.

There is no top height adjustment lever with this mower. You will need to turn the mower upside down (PLEASE MAKE SURE THE POWER IS OFF AND DISCONNECTED) and adjust the back wheels in any one of the 5 slots. The front wheels can also be adjusted into 3 separate slots. This does make height adjustment a little more difficult than some of its competitors such as the [Flymo Speedi-Mo 360C](#) that does have a rear height adjustment lever. Having said that you are not continuously adjust the height of the mower so this is not such a big issue, but one worth noting.

Cutting Diameter

If you are cutting a sports field, the bigger the cutting diameter the better. With gardens, however, this is not the case.

The 32 cm cutting diameter of the Rotak 32R is ideal. It will allow you to zip around the garden in no time but still give the precision and ease of movement for curves and edges.

Remember 32cm is one of the smaller deck sizes so if you have a large lawn, say over 300m², you may want to consider a larger deck size.

Grass box capacity

Having a large grass box is a bit of a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it means that all the trimmings are collected and you need to make a few trips to empty it out. A smaller grass box or no grass box will make the lawnmower much lighter and easier to navigate.

Once again, Bosch has found a great compromise between the two. As this mower is designed for small to medium gardens the 31-liter capacity of the grass box is ideal. It will let you zip around the garden easily without dragging you down while still keeping the trimmings neat and easy to dump. Cutting a larger garden is no hassle, it just means more trips to empty the grass bin, not the end of the world.

The 31-liter size is a good balance of convenience and mobility. It is well designed to be effective at catching much of the grass trimmings, leaving very little, if any raking to be done afterwards. The design is also efficient and compacts the trimmings for maximum space use. While you mow, it will not slow you down or hinder your movements.

The grass box on the Bosch Rotak 32R is very easy to remove and the grass clippings empty from the box with no obstructions.

Practicalities

One thing you can expect Bosch to deliver is practical equipment and the Rotak 32R is no exception. Bosch has a great reputation for convenient, easy to use lawnmowers. Many of their lawnmowers have the 'Ergo flex' handles which are great and extremely comfortable and easy to work with. The 32R does not have this but it is very unlikely you will notice the difference.

It is well designed and extremely nimble so it is easy for anyone to use. If you wish, you could purchase the 'Ergo flex' handles as an extra but it highly unlikely this will be necessary.

As with all corded lawn mowers, being tethered by the cord does mean you may require an extension cable for larger lawns and care needs to be taken not to accidentally cut the cable whilst mowing.

We do prefer the height adjustment to be located central to the mower for ease of use, however there is no height adjustment lever on top of the mower. As detailed above the mower needs to be turned up-side-down to make the height adjustment. Does this make it difficult to adjust the height? well no, just a little more awkward than mowers with central or rear lever adjustment.

Does this make it more practical than its closest competition? well, yes I think it does for people with smaller lawns and limited space for storage and at only 9 kg. There is also a well positioned central handle that makes carrying the mower to the garage or shed very easy.

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Safety Features

Another thing Bosch products are known for is a great safety record. Obviously, if not used correctly, any lawnmower can be dangerous but Bosch has done everything they can to make the Rotak 32R as safe as possible without reducing its effectiveness.

The lawnmower comes with a detailed and clear safety guide and provided you follow these instructions you will not have any problems.

They have also kept vibrations and noise at extremely good levels for a mower of this power.

It conforms to all the main local and international quality and safety standards.

Another safety feature they have built in is double insulation to prevent any risk of electrical shock under normal conditions and use. It also has a protector to prevent the motor from overheating. When it reaches a certain temperature, the motor will shut off. Only once it has cooled down to acceptable levels can it be used again.

To get the most from your Bosch Rotak 32R, ensure it is kept clean and well maintained. Use only Bosch approved replacement parts for best results and safety.

As with all corded lawnmowers, there is a safety button that needs to be held in in order for the starter grip to be activated. There is no additional removable safety key with the Bosch 32R as with all the [Bosch cordless lawn mowers](#) .

Mulching

The Rotak 32R does not have mulching facilities. This is normal for lawnmowers in the price range and class.

What's Included in the box?

Included in the box is the following:

- 1 x Bosch Rotak 32R Lawnmower
- 1 x 21-liter Grassbox
- 1 x Instruction manual

Bosch Rotak 32R User Manual Download

[Click here to download the Bosch Rotak 32R User Manual](#)

Downsides

No height adjustment lever on the top of the mower.

There is no grass box level indicator as with some of the other models.

While the positives far outweigh any negatives, as with any products, there is some downside. While we believe the price and easy manoeuvrability of the Rotak 32R make up for the minor negatives, it is important to be aware of them.

Although ideally designed and suited for use in small gardens, some people might find the power cable, at 10 meters, to be a bit short. This can obviously easily be sorted out with an extension cord.

Another issue people with slightly larger gardens might have is that the 31-liter grass box will fill up rather quickly. All this means is that it will need to be emptied more often.

The blade size will mean it takes longer to cut large areas of lawn but the advantage is that it makes the mower more precise and easier to move.

Although the blade can be sharpened or replaced with ease, some customers might want a harder steel that lasts longer between sharpening or replacement.

Now the above may sound trivial and are common to most mowers but should be taken into consideration anyway. They are part of the package and it's better being aware of them before a purchase than after.

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Conclusion

If you want a reliable and dependable lawnmower for a small to medium garden the Bosch Rotak 32R is a very good choice. Bosch has a good reputation and they make quality products. Best of all, it is really good value for money.

While the blade and grass box are not the biggest available, they make the Rotak 32R extremely light and easy to use. Another advantage this model has is that the ergonomic handles make it very comfortable to use. It will glide around the lawn effortlessly and is particularly good at corners and edges. The inset front heels also helpful to get close to walls and edges or tight areas.

The grass combs, sharp blade and powerful motor will give a nice clean cut. The rollers are a nice option and will give the lawn a very professional striped look.

It has all the other standard features one would expect from a quality lawnmower such as a good range of cut height options and a decent steel blade.

It comes standard with a 2-year guarantee which you can extend to 3 years. After-sales service is good and replacement parts are easy to get and well priced.

Feedback from customers that have purchased this model is extremely positive. There are very few negative comments and most people are very happy with their choice.

Overall I think this is a fantastic mower and I encourage anyone looking for a simple mower that gets the job done quickly and efficiently to seriously consider this mower. In fact I think it's the best value wheeled corded small mower you can get right now!

Should You Buy This Model?

Before making this decision, you have to look at your garden and consider the amount of lawn space. A large garden will probably mean you should look at a mower with a slightly larger blade and grass box. If you do not have a vast lawn then this is an excellent option.

The main reasons are:

Great value for money

Reliable

Easy to operate

Sufficient power for most lawns, even longer grass

Very agile and easy to move

The option of rear rollers to make stripes in the lawn

Good after-sales service

There is very little you will not like about this lawnmower.

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Where should I purchase this model?

Amazon have the best prices that are difficult to match and probably the most reliable delivery system on the web. Considering how valuable this piece of equipment is you want the most for your money and the best service possible making Amazon the best place to go.

Specifications

Additional Specifications

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Working Area | Small to Medium lawns |
| Cutting width | 32 cm |
| Cutting height steps | 5 |
| Cutting height max | 60 mm |
| Cutting height min | 20 mm |
| Cutting height adjustment | Manually – No Lever |
| Collector volume | 32 l |
| Battery Type | N/A |
| Cable Length | 10m |
| Motor power | 1200W |
| Vision Window | No |
| Right or left start switch | Right |
| Foldable handles | Yes |
| Battery power indicator | N/A |

Additional Specifications

Grass bag filling indicator No

Roller No

Height

Product size, folded handle height

Length

Product size, folded handle length

Width

Product Size LxWxH

Weight 7kg