

HOW TO OPERATE

Daily Safety Checks

Check the following items each day before operation. The time required is minimal, and habitual performance of these checks will help ensure safe, reliable operation.

If any irregularities are found during these checks, refer to the MAINTENANCE AND ADJUSTMENT chapter, see your dealer, or refer to the Service Manual for the action required to return the vehicle to a safe operating condition.

⚠ WARNING

Failure to perform these checks before operation may result in serious damage or an accident. Always perform daily safety checks before operation.

⚠ DANGER

Exhaust gas contains carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless poisonous gas. Inhaling carbon monoxide can cause serious brain injury or death. Do not run the engine in enclosed areas. Operate only in a well-ventilated area.

- Fuel Enough fuel in tank, no leaks.
- Engine oil Oil level between level holes (when engine is cold), no leaks.
- Air Cleaner Check the restriction gauge for the red band in the window.
- Tires Air pressure (when cold):

Front	97 kPa (1.0 kgf/cm ² , 14 psi)
Rear	167 kPa (1.7 kgf/cm ² , 24 psi)

- Front Final Gear Case Check for cuts, cracks, damage, or excessive wear.
Check for any imbedded stones or other foreign particles in tread.
No oil leaks.

Transmission Case Oil	Oil level between H and L lines, no leaks.
Coolant	Coolant level between level lines (when engine is cold), no leaks.
Throttle	Throttle pedal free play 5 ~ 10 mm (0.2 ~ 0.4 in.). Throttle pedal operates smoothly and returns to rest position when released.
Steering	Steering wheel free play 0 ~ 20 mm (0 ~ 0.8 in.). Action smooth without excessive play, rough spots, or strange noises.
Brakes	Check for braking effectiveness (while test running). Brake pedal free play 2 ~ 10 mm (0.1 ~ 0.4 in.). Brake fluid level between level lines, no leaks. Parking brake lever travel: 8 ~ 12 clicks.
Electrical Equipment	All lights and horn work. Check for dirt on or damage to lights.

Starting the Engine

⚠ DANGER

Exhaust gas contains carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless poisonous gas. Inhaling carbon monoxide can cause serious brain injury or death. Do not run the engine in enclosed areas. Operate only in a well-ventilated area.

- Wear the seat belts (both operator and passenger).
- Apply the parking brake.
- Shift the gear shift lever in the N (neutral) position.
- Put the main key in the main switch at the OFF position.
- Turn the main switch key to the ON position. The glow plug system is designed so that the glow plug light goes on at that time, and turns off after 5 seconds.
- After the glow plug light turns off, turn the main key to the START position to activate the electric starter leaving the throttle open part way (pressing lightly on the throttle pedal). Repeat until the engine starts.

NOTICE

Do not operate the electric starter continuously for more than 5 seconds, or the starter may overheat and the battery power will drop temporarily. Wait 15 seconds between each operation of the starter to let it cool and for the battery to recover power.

NOTE

- *The vehicle is equipped with a starter lockout switch. This switch prevents the electric starter from operating when the gear shift lever is in the H (high), L (low) or R (reverse) position.*
- *When the key is turned to the START position, the glow plug light goes on again, and after the key returns to the ON position, the glow plug light remains lit for about 20 seconds.*
- When the engine starts, release the main switch key, which will return to the ON position.
- Run the engine at slow idle until the engine idles smoothly (approximately 2 ~ 3 minutes). Avoid unnecessary idling; instead, stop the engine.

NOTICE

Do not operate the engine at full throttle or under load until engine has warmed up or engine damage could occur.

Cold Weather Starting

When parking your vehicle overnight, leaving it inside a garage, even if not heated, will make morning starting much easier. Changing to a lighter grade engine oil also makes starting easier under these conditions (consistent with recommended quality and viscosity).

If the ambient temperature is -10°C (14°F) or lower, use this special starting procedure.

- Turn the main switch to the ON position, lighting the glow plug light.
- When the glow plug light turns OFF, turn OFF the main switch, then turn it back ON again.
- Repeat this 2 or 3 times to thoroughly preheat the combustion chambers.
- Finally, crank the engine to start it.

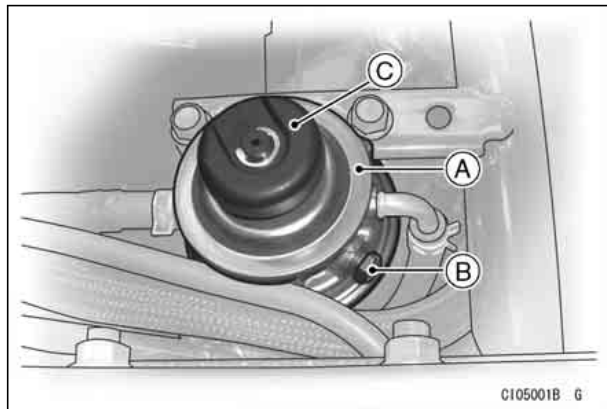
Starting After Fuel System Service

Air bleeding of the fuel system may be required before engine starting if air was introduced into the fuel system during maintenance. (Fuel filter draining/replacement, repairs, etc.)

To bleed out the air:

- Loosen the air vent plug on top of the fuel filter (It has a 10 mm wrench head. It is not necessary to remove the air vent plug).
- Repeatedly depress the priming pump button on top of the fuel filter bracket until fuel flows from loosened air vent plug.
- Tighten the air vent plug bolt using a 10 mm wrench.
- Wipe up any spilled diesel fuel.
- Follow normal starting procedures.

60 HOW TO OPERATE



- A. Fuel Filter
- B. Air Vent Plug
- C. Priming Pump

Jump Starting

If your vehicle battery is “run down,” it should be removed and charged. If this is not practical, a 12 volt booster battery and jumper cables may be used to start the engine.

⚠ DANGER

Battery acid generates hydrogen gas which is flammable and explosive under certain conditions. It is present within a battery at all times, even in a discharged condition. Keep all flames and sparks (cigarettes) away from the battery. Wear eye protection glasses when working with a battery. In the event of battery acid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing, wash the affected areas immediately with water for at least five minutes. Seek medical attention.

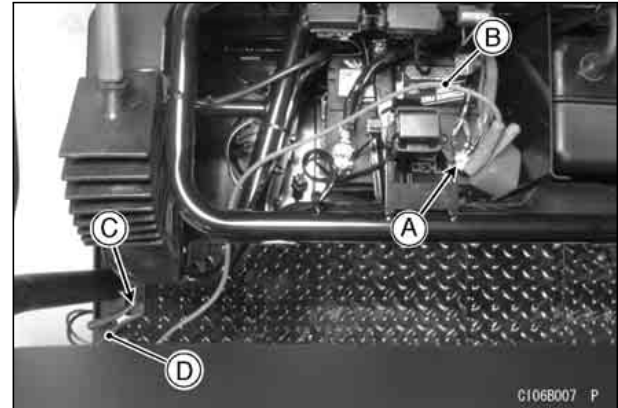
Connecting Jumper Cables

- Make sure the main switch is turned to “OFF.”
- Remove the battery cap cover.



A. Battery
B. Cap Cover

- Connect a jumper cable from the positive (+) terminal of the booster battery to the positive (+) terminal of the vehicle battery.



A. Vehicle Battery Positive (+) Terminal
B. From Booster Battery Positive (+) Terminal
C. Unpainted Metal Surface
D. From Booster Battery Negative (-) Terminal

- Connect another jumper cable from the negative (-) terminal of the booster battery to an unpainted metal surface on your vehicle. Do not use the negative (-) terminal of the battery.

62 HOW TO OPERATE

WARNING

Batteries contain sulfuric acid that can cause burns and produce hydrogen gas which is highly explosive. Do not make this last connection at the battery. Take care not to touch the positive and negative cables together, and do not lean over the battery when making this last connection. Do not connect to a frozen battery. It could explode. Do not reverse polarity by connecting positive (+) to negative (-), or a battery explosion and serious damage to the electrical system may occur.

- Follow the standard engine starting procedure.

NOTICE

Do not operate the starter continuously for more than 5 seconds, or the starter overheat and the battery power will drop temporarily. Wait 15 seconds between each operation of the starter to let it cool and for the battery to recover power.

- After the engine starts, disconnect the jumper cables. Disconnect the negative (-) cable from the vehicle first.
- Reinstall the battery cap cover.

Moving Off

- Depress the brake pedal.
- Put the gear shift lever into the “H” (High) or “L” (Low) position.
- Release the parking brake.
- Gradually increase engine speed by pressing on the throttle pedal.

NOTE

- *Practice starting and stopping (using the brakes) until you are familiar with the controls.*

Braking

NOTE

- *When the throttle pedal is released completely and the engine speed drops near an idle, the vehicle has no engine braking. This is caused by the vehicle's automatic transmission which releases the engine at very low speed to prevent it from stalling. Employ the brakes to control the vehicle's speed.*
- Release the throttle pedal completely.
- Press on the brake pedal evenly and firmly.

 WARNING
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<p>Carrying cargo or towing a trailer will increase braking distances. Failure to allow for increased braking distance may result in accident and injury. Always allow more distance to stop when carrying cargo or towing a trailer.</p>
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Stopping the Engine

- Release the throttle pedal completely.
- Put the gear shift lever into the “N” (Neutral) position.
- Apply the parking brake to help prevent the vehicle from rolling.
- Turn the main switch key to the “OFF” position.

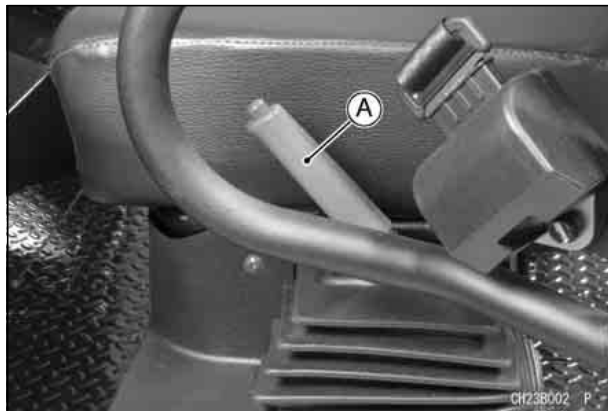
Parking the Mule

- Stop the vehicle on a level surface.

NOTICE

Avoid parking on steeply inclined surfaces.

- When the engine has stopped, apply the parking brake to help prevent the vehicle from rolling.



A. Parking Brake Lever

⚠ WARNING

If the vehicle should move after it is parked, it might be damaged or cause injury. Be sure to apply the parking brake before leaving the vehicle.

- Remove the main switch key to prevent unauthorized use.
- When parking inside a garage or other structure, be sure the structure is well ventilated and the vehicle is not close to any source of flame or sparks. This includes any appliance with a pilot light.

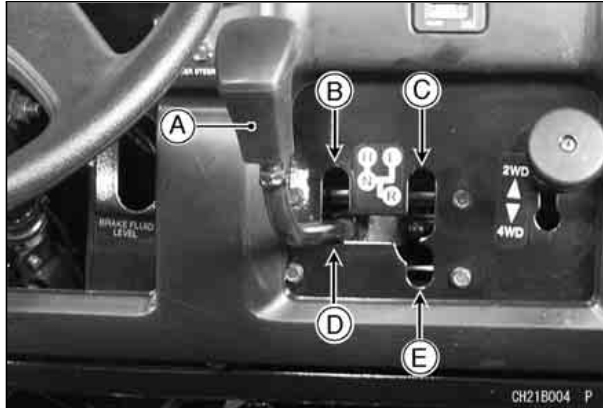
⚠ WARNING

Diesel fuel is extremely flammable and can be explosive under certain conditions, creating the potential for serious burns. Make sure the area is well ventilated and free from any source of flame or sparks, including the pilot light of any appliance.

Hi-Lo Shifting

Shifting to Low Range

- Stop the vehicle completely.
- For easy Hi-Lo shifting, put the gear shift lever in neutral.
- Move the shift lever “L” (Low) position.



- A. Gear Shift Lever
- B. “H” (High) Position
- C. “L” (Low) Position
- D. “N” (Neutral) Position
- E. “R” (Reverse) Position

Shifting to High Range

- Stop the vehicle completely.
- Put the gear shift lever in neutral.
- Move the shift lever “H” (High) position.

NOTE

- Before shifting make certain that the vehicle is completely stopped. The Hi-Lo shift lever cannot be shifted when the vehicle is in motion.

NOTICE

Exceeding maximum downhill speed can cause transmission belt slippage, and excessive belt wear, damage or failure.

DO NOT EXCEED MAXIMUM DOWNHILL SPEED:

Low range - 12 mph (19 km/h)

High range - 25 mph (40 km/h)

Reversing Gears

- Release the throttle pedal, and stop the vehicle.
- When you want to operate the vehicle in reverse, stop the vehicle completely, allowing the engine to slow to idling speed, and move the gear shift lever to the “R” (Reverse) position.

NOTICE

Do not shift from “H” (High) or “L” (Low) to “R” (Reverse) and vice versa when the vehicle is moving or with the engine running above idling speed, or the transmission could be damaged.

NOTE

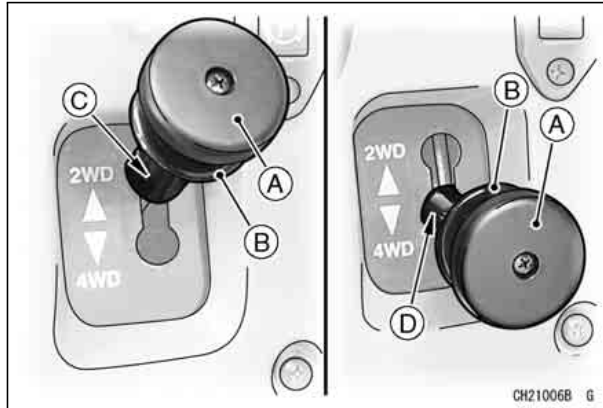
- *When the shift lever is moved into the “R” (Reverse) position, the reverse light at the rear end goes on.*

2WD-4WD Shifting

- Pull the stopper under the 2WD-4WD shift lever knob and while holding it against the knob, move the shift lever to the all way down “4WD”.
- To shift back into “2WD” position, pull and hold the stopper, then move the shift lever all the way up “2WD”.

NOTE

- *When the shift lever is moved from “2WD” to “4WD”, the transmission shifts immediately. When the shift lever is moved from “4WD” to “2WD”, the transmission may not shift all the way into “2WD” until the vehicle has rolled a short distance.*



- A. 2WD-4WD Shift Lever
- B. Stopper
- C. "2WD" Position
- D. "4WD" Position

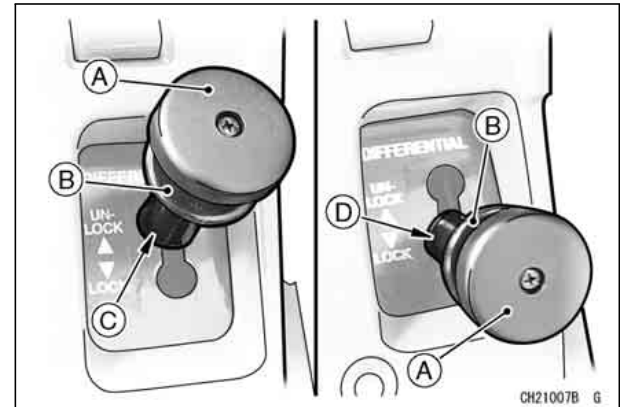
Shifting the Differential

NOTE

○ Do not operate the differential shift lever if the vehicle is moving faster than 8 km/h (5 mph).

Shifting to Locked-Axle Mode

- Pull the stopper under the differential shift lever knob and while holding it against the knob, move the shift lever all the way down (LOCK).



- A. Differential Shift Lever
- B. Stopper
- C. Differential (Unlocked-Axle) Mode Position (UN-LOCK)
- D. Locked-Axle Mode Position (LOCK)

68 HOW TO OPERATE

Shifting to Differential (Unlocked-Axle) Mode

- Pull and hold the stopper, then move the shift lever all the way up (UN-LOCK).

NOTE

- *When the shift lever is moved, the differential may not immediately lock or unlock until the vehicle has rolled a short distance.*

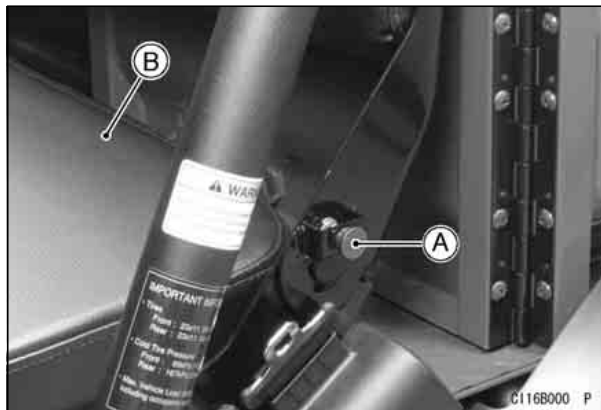
Converting Rear Seat and Cargo Bed

This vehicle can be converted to accommodate more passengers and less cargo or fewer passengers and more cargo.

The seats and the cargo bed can be converted in the following way.

From 4-person to 2-person

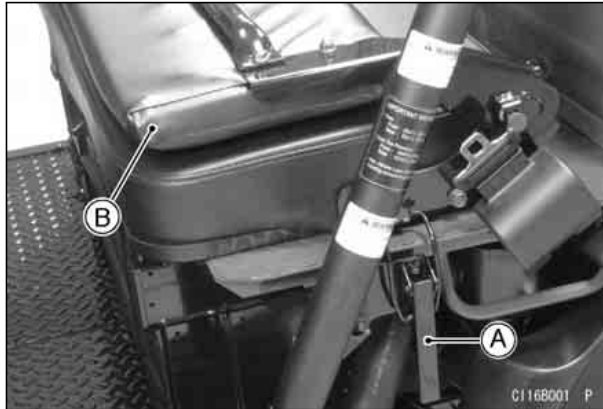
1. Pull the rear seat stopper pin on the left side.



A. Stopper pin

B. Rear Seat

2. Push the rear seat back forward.
3. Release the latches on both sides.



A. Latch
B. Rear Seat Back (lowered position)

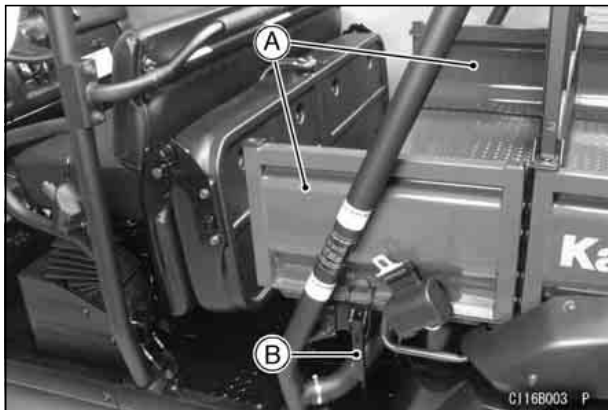
4. Push the rear seat assembly forward into the stored position.



A. Rear Seat (Stored position)
B. Front Seat Back

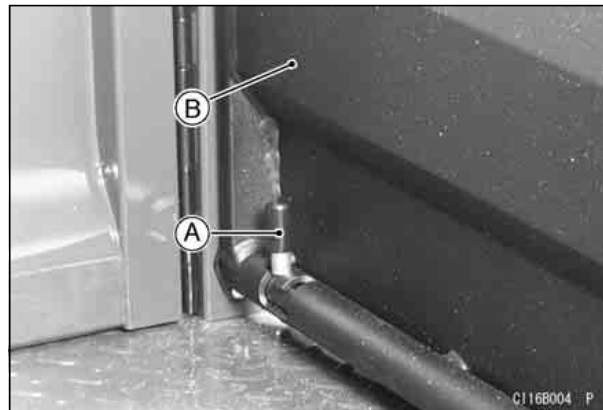
5. Swing open the cargo bed side plates and fasten the latches on the both sides.

70 HOW TO OPERATE



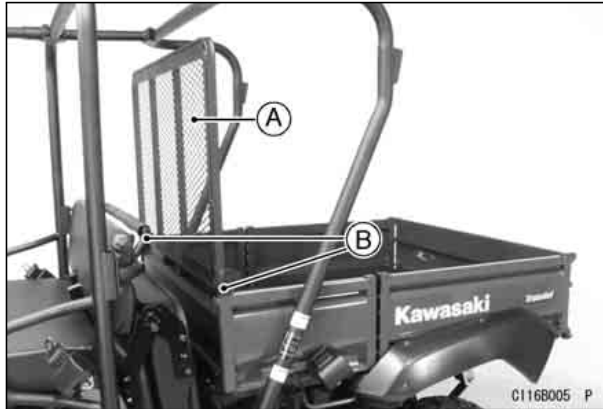
- A. Cargo Bed Side Plates**
- B. Latch**

6. Slide the stopper pins towards inside at the bottom of the removable screen.



- A. Stopper Pin**
- B. Screen**

7. Pull and remove the screen from the sockets, move forward and insert into the sockets at the end of the side plates.



A. Screen
B. Sockets

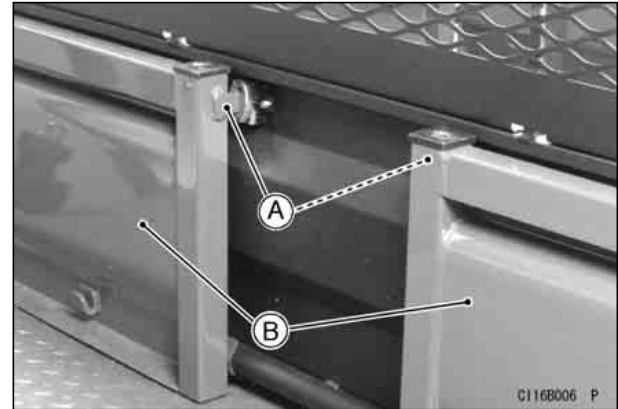
8. Latch the stopper pins at the bottom of the screen.

From 2-person to 4-person Mode

- Reverse the procedure for 4-person to 2-person mode conversion.

NOTE

- *When folding the cargo bed end side plates, be sure to insert the end projections into the counterparts on the screen.*



A. Projections
B. Cargo Bed Side Plate (folded)

72 HOW TO OPERATE

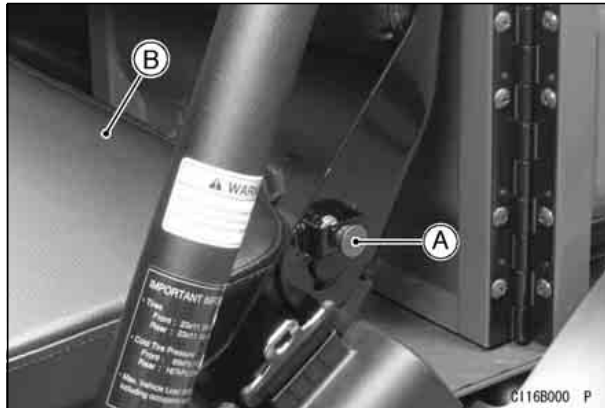
Raising & Lowering the Cargo Bed

⚠ WARNING

Reduced clearance between cargo bed and cab frame can cause hand injury. Do not hold cab frame in the location of the label when raising or lowering the cargo bed.

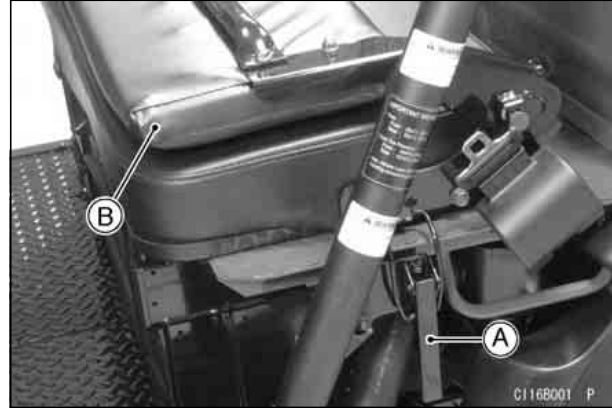
Raising the cargo bed (Shortened Condition) :

1. Pull the rear seat stopper pin on the left side.



- A. Stopper pin
- B. Rear Seat

2. Push the rear seat back forward.
3. Release the latches on both sides.



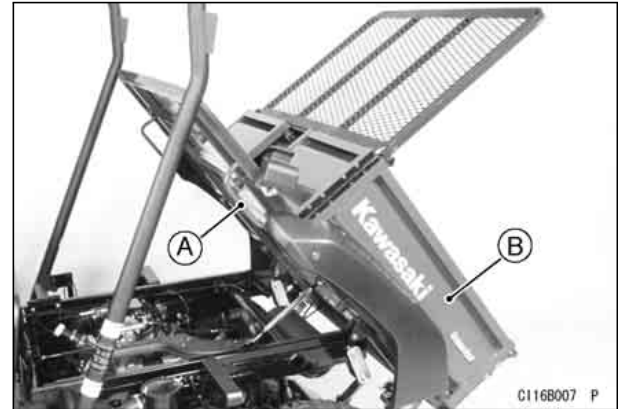
- A. Latch
- B. Rear Seat Back (lowered position)

4. Push the rear seat assembly forward into the stored position.



A. Rear Seat (Stored position)
B. Front Seat Back

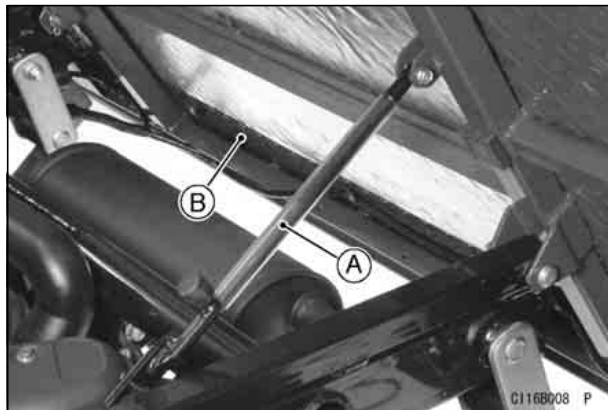
5. Holding the hand grip and cargo bed top, raise the cargo bed.



A. Handgrip
B. Hold here.

6. Support the bed in the tilted position with the supporting rod.

74 HOW TO OPERATE



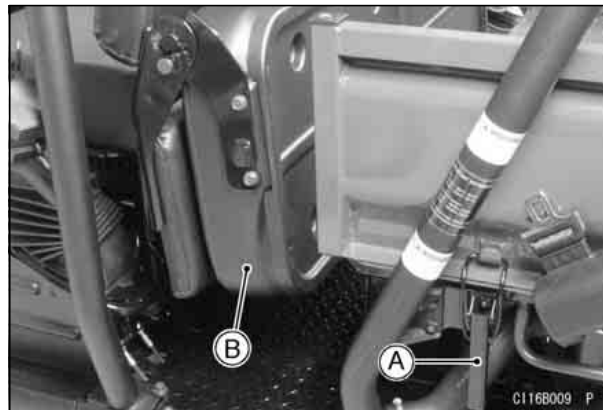
- A. Supporting Rod
- B. Cargo Bed (Raised Position)

NOTE

○ *To lower the cargo bed, follow the reverse procedure for raising. Be sure to restore the seat as before and put the latches on. Never drive the Mule without putting the latches to the cargo bed.*

Raising the cargo bed (Extended Condition):

1. Release the side latches.



- A. Latch
- B. Rear Seat (Stored position)

2. Holding the handgrip and cargo bed on the top edge, raise the cargo bed.
3. Support the bed in the tilted position with the supporting rod.

NOTE

○ *To lower the cargo bed, follow the reverse procedure for raising. Be sure to attach the latches to the cargo bed.*

A WARNING

Cargo bed becomes heavier in the extended mode. Pay attention when raising or lowering the cargo bed not to injure your hand.