**PORTER-CABLE 5558**

# PORTER-CABLE 5558 4-Inch, 6-Tooth Plate Joiner Blade User Manual

Model: 5558

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of your PORTER-CABLE 5558 4-Inch, 6-Tooth Plate Joiner Blade. This blade is an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) authorized part, designed to fit various Porter Cable plate joiner models, specifically replacing the blade for the Porter Cable model 557 plate joiner. It features six strong carbide teeth, engineered for reliable and consistent cuts when creating standard biscuit slots.

The blade has a 7/8-inch arbor hole and a four-inch diameter, facilitating rapid and efficient cutting while maintaining precision and control. Proper understanding and adherence to these instructions will ensure optimal performance and longevity of the blade.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working with power tools and accessories. Failure to follow these safety guidelines may result in serious injury or damage to the tool.

- **Wear Eye Protection:** Always wear ANSI-approved safety glasses or goggles to protect against flying debris.

- **Disconnect Power:** Before installing, removing, or performing any maintenance on the blade, ensure the plate joiner is disconnected from its power source.

- **Inspect Blade:** Before each use, inspect the blade for any signs of damage, cracks, or dullness. Do not use a damaged blade.

- **Proper Installation:** Ensure the blade is correctly installed and securely fastened according to your plate joiner's instructions. Incorrect installation can lead to blade ejection or tool malfunction.

- **Maintain Clear Work Area:** Keep your work area clean and well-lit. Remove any obstructions or loose materials that could interfere with operation.

- **Keep Hands Clear:** Never place hands near the blade while the tool is connected to power or operating.

- **Use Correct Blade:** Only use blades designed for your specific plate joiner model and application.

## 3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The PORTER-CABLE 5558 blade is designed for straightforward installation and removal. Follow these steps for proper setup:

1. **Disconnect Power:** Ensure your plate joiner is unplugged from the power outlet.
2. **Access Blade Compartment:** Refer to your plate joiner's specific instruction manual for how to safely open the blade compartment or access the blade arbor.
3. **Remove Old Blade (if applicable):** If replacing an existing blade, carefully loosen the arbor nut or bolt using the appropriate wrench. Remove the old blade and any washers.
4. **Clean Arbor:** Clean the blade arbor and any washers to ensure a flush fit for the new blade.
5. **Install New Blade:** Place the PORTER-CABLE 5558 blade onto the arbor, ensuring the teeth are oriented correctly for cutting (typically indicated by an arrow on the blade or tool). The blade features a 7/8-inch arbor hole.
6. **Secure Blade:** Reinstall any washers and securely tighten the arbor nut or bolt. Do not overtighten, but ensure the blade is firmly seated and cannot wobble.
7. **Close Compartment:** Close the blade compartment or reassemble any guards according to your tool's instructions.

The blade's design allows it to affix and detach with minimal effort, simplifying the installation process.

**Image 1:** The PORTER-CABLE 5558 plate joiner blade. This image displays the circular blade with its six carbide-tipped teeth. Visible text on the blade includes 'PORTER CABLE', '10,000 R.P.M. MAX.', 'BLADE #5558', and 'MADE IN U.S.A.', along with an arrow indicating the direction of rotation.

# 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once the blade is securely installed, you can proceed with operating your plate joiner. Always refer to your plate joiner's primary instruction manual for detailed operating procedures.

- **Maximum RPM:** This 6-tooth carbide-tipped blade is rated for a maximum of 10,000 RPM. Ensure your plate joiner operates within this limit.
- **Kerf:** The blade produces a kerf (cut width) of approximately .155 to .160 inches, suitable for standard biscuit slots.
- **Material Compatibility:** This blade is designed for cutting wood and wood composites for joinery applications.
- **Smooth Operation:** Allow the blade to reach full speed before engaging with the workpiece. Apply steady, even pressure during the cut. Avoid forcing the tool, as this can lead to poor cut quality and premature blade wear.
- **Dust Collection:** Utilize your plate joiner's dust collection system to maintain a clear line of sight and

reduce airborne dust.

# 5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will extend the life and performance of your PORTER-CABLE 5558 blade.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, disconnect the power tool and carefully clean the blade to remove resin, sawdust, and other debris. Use a suitable blade cleaner and a stiff brush. Avoid abrasive materials that could damage the carbide tips.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the carbide teeth for chips, cracks, or excessive wear. Check the blade body for any signs of warping or damage.
- **Sharpening:** The blade can be re-sharpened by a professional service to restore its cutting edge and save on replacement costs. Do not attempt to sharpen carbide-tipped blades yourself without proper equipment and expertise.
- **Storage:** Store the blade in a dry, protected area to prevent rust and damage. Use a blade case or hang it securely to protect the teeth.

# 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your blade, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Poor Cut Quality / Rough Edges:**
  - **Cause:** Dull blade, incorrect feed rate, or improper blade installation.
  - **Solution:** Inspect the blade for dullness and consider professional sharpening. Adjust your feed rate to a slower, more consistent pace. Recheck blade installation for security and correct orientation.

- **Excessive Vibration:**
  - **Cause:** Loose blade, damaged blade, or debris on the arbor.
  - **Solution:** Disconnect power and check if the blade is securely tightened. Inspect the blade for any damage or warping. Clean the arbor and blade mounting surfaces.

- **Blade Overheating:**
  - **Cause:** Dull blade, forcing the cut, or incorrect blade for the material.
  - **Solution:** Sharpen or replace the blade. Reduce the feed pressure. Ensure the blade is appropriate for the material being cut.

If problems persist, consult a qualified technician or contact PORTER-CABLE customer support.

# 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the PORTER-CABLE 5558 Plate Joiner Blade:

| Feature | Specification |
| --- | --- |
| Brand | PORTER-CABLE |
| Model Number | 5558 |
| Blade Diameter | 4 inches |

| Feature | Specification |
| --- | --- |
| Number of Teeth | 6 |
| Tooth Material | Carbide Tipped |
| Arbor Hole Size | 7/8 inch |
| Kerf (Cut Width) | 0.155 to 0.160 inches |
| Maximum RPM | 10,000 RPM |
| Item Thickness | 0.16 Inches |
| Item Weight | 0.01 Ounces |
| Material | Blend |
| UPC | 039404102034 |

## 8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

For specific warranty details regarding the PORTER-CABLE 5558 4-Inch, 6-Tooth Plate Joiner Blade, please refer to the official warranty documentation provided with your original purchase or visit the official PORTER-CABLE website. Warranty terms typically cover manufacturing defects and material flaws under normal use conditions.

## 9. SUPPORT

If you require further assistance, have questions about installation, operation, or maintenance, or need to report an issue, please contact PORTER-CABLE customer support. You can typically find contact information, including phone numbers and online support resources, on the official PORTER-CABLE website or within the documentation accompanying your plate joiner tool.

**Online Resources:** Visit the PORTER-CABLE Store on Amazon

**Related Documents - 5558**
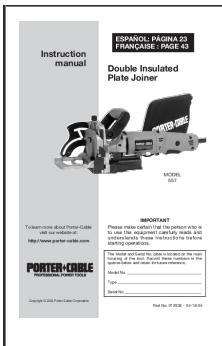
[Porter-Cable Model 557 Plate Joiner Instruction Manual](#)
Comprehensive instruction manual for the Porter-Cable Model 557 Double Insulated Plate Joiner, covering safety guidelines, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting.



[Porter Cable 10-Inch Jobsite Table Saw Instruction Manual](#)
Comprehensive instruction manual for the Porter Cable 10-Inch Jobsite Table Saw (Model PCB220TS), covering safety, assembly, operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and warranty information.



[Porter-Cable Model 121 Oscillating Spindle Sander Instruction Manual](#)
Comprehensive instruction manual for the Porter-Cable Model 121 Oscillating Spindle Sander, covering safety guidelines, operation, maintenance, and specifications. Learn how to use your sander safely and effectively.



[Porter-Cable Tiger Saw Instruction Manual: Models 735, 737, 738](#)
Comprehensive instruction manual for Porter-Cable Tiger Saw models 735, 737, and 738, covering safety, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting for these all-purpose reciprocating saws.
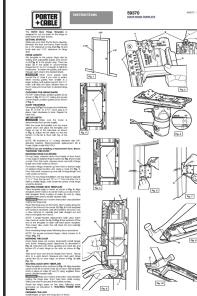


[Porter Cable 59370 Door Hinge Template Instructions and Guide](#)
Detailed instructions for using the Porter Cable 59370 Door Hinge Template to create precise hinge mortises in doors and frames. Covers setup, adjustments, marking, and routing procedures for various hinge types and door thicknesses.



[Porter-Cable Model 543 Double Insulated Bayonet Saw Instruction Manual](#)
This manual provides essential safety instructions, operation guidelines, assembly procedures, maintenance tips, and troubleshooting advice for the Porter-Cable Model 543 Double Insulated Bayonet Saw. Learn how to use your tool safely and effectively.