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> Wilton Woodworking Vise, 4" x 7" Jaw, 10" Max Jaw Opening, Rapid-Action (Model 78A) - Instruction Manual

Wilton 78A

Wilton Woodworking Vise - Model 78A

Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

The Wilton 78A Woodworker's Vise is engineered for precision and durability in woodworking applications. Its design features a metal housing that fully encloses the screw mechanism, protecting it from sawdust and debris, which extends the life of the rapid-action release. A key feature is the front jaw, which can pivot 10 degrees to accommodate irregularly shaped objects, and can also be raised and locked to serve as a full-length dog. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Wilton 78A Vise.



Figure 1: The Wilton 78A Woodworking Vise, showcasing its robust cast iron construction and integrated wooden jaw inserts.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always observe basic safety precautions when using any tools. Failure to do so may result in personal injury or damage to the equipment.

- **Read the Manual:** Familiarize yourself with all instructions and warnings before operating the vise.
- **Secure Mounting:** Ensure the vise is securely mounted to a stable workbench according to the installation instructions. Loose mounting can lead to instability and injury.
- **Wear Safety Gear:** Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety glasses, when working with the vise and other tools.
- **Proper Workpiece Clamping:** Ensure the workpiece is firmly clamped before beginning any work. An improperly secured workpiece can shift unexpectedly.
- **Avoid Over-tightening:** Do not over-tighten the vise jaws, as this can damage the workpiece, the vise, or both.
- **Keep Clear:** Keep hands and fingers clear of the jaws and moving parts during operation.
- **Maintenance:** Perform regular maintenance as described in this manual to ensure safe and efficient operation.

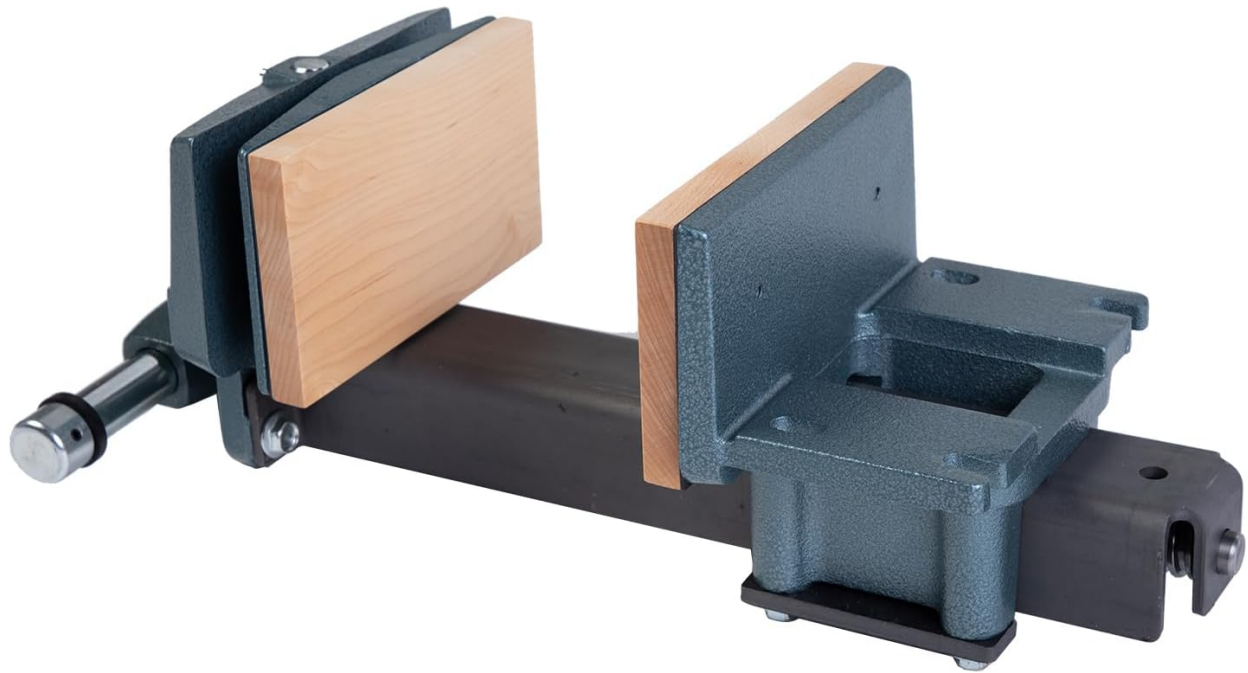
3. KEY COMPONENTS

The Wilton 78A Woodworking Vise consists of several key components designed for optimal performance:

- **Fixed Jaw:** The stationary jaw of the vise, typically mounted to the workbench.
- **Moving Jaw (Front Jaw):** The movable jaw that clamps the workpiece against the fixed jaw. This jaw can pivot 10 degrees.
- **Screw Mechanism:** Enclosed within a metal housing, this mechanism drives the moving jaw.
- **Rapid-Action Release:** Allows for quick adjustment of the moving jaw without extensive turning of the handle.
- **Guide Bars:** Provide stability and smooth movement for the moving jaw.
- **Handle:** Used to tighten and loosen the vise jaws.
- **Maple Jaw Inserts:** Removable wooden inserts that protect workpieces from marring.
- **Bench Dog Feature:** The front jaw can be raised to act as a full-length bench dog.



Figure 2: The front jaw of the vise can pivot up to 10 degrees, allowing for secure clamping of irregularly shaped workpieces.



REPLACEABLE MAPLE JAW INSERTS

Figure 3: The vise includes durable maple jaw inserts that protect workpieces and can be replaced if worn.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the stability and performance of your Wilton 78A Vise. Mounting instructions are included with the product. It is recommended to mount the vise to a sturdy workbench using appropriate hardware (sold separately).

1. **Choose Location:** Select a location on your workbench that provides ample clearance for operation and access to the vise handle.
2. **Prepare Workbench:** Ensure the workbench surface is flat and strong enough to support the vise and the forces applied during clamping.
3. **Position Vise:** Place the vise on the workbench, aligning the mounting holes with your desired position.
4. **Mark Holes:** Mark the locations for drilling mounting holes through the workbench.
5. **Drill Holes:** Drill pilot holes through the workbench using a drill bit appropriate for your mounting hardware.
6. **Secure Vise:** Fasten the vise to the workbench using bolts, washers, and nuts. Ensure all fasteners are tightened securely to prevent any movement or wobble during use.
7. **Install Jaw Inserts:** If not already installed, attach the magnetic maple jaw inserts to the vise jaws.



Figure 4: The rear of the vise includes the mounting plate and guide bars, essential for secure installation to a workbench.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Wilton 78A Vise is designed for efficient and secure clamping of woodworking projects.

5.1. Basic Clamping

1. **Open Jaws:** Turn the handle counter-clockwise to open the vise jaws. For rapid adjustment, pull the moving jaw outwards to engage the rapid-action release, then slide it to the desired opening.
2. **Insert Workpiece:** Place the workpiece between the maple jaw inserts.
3. **Close Jaws:** Push the moving jaw inwards until it makes contact with the workpiece. Turn the handle clockwise to tighten the jaws firmly around the workpiece. Ensure the workpiece is secure and does not wobble.
4. **Release Workpiece:** Turn the handle counter-clockwise to loosen the jaws. For quick release, pull the moving jaw outwards to disengage the rapid-action mechanism, then slide it open.



STURDY STEEL HANDLE

Figure 5: The vise features a sturdy steel handle for easy and secure tightening and loosening of the jaws.



10-INCH MAXIMUM JAW OPENING

Figure 6: The vise offers a maximum jaw opening of 10 inches, accommodating a wide range of workpiece sizes.

5.2. Using the Pivoting Jaw

The front jaw can pivot 10 degrees to securely hold irregularly shaped objects. When clamping such items, the jaw will automatically adjust to the angle of the workpiece, ensuring even pressure distribution.

5.3. Using the Bench Dog Feature

For clamping long workpieces against a bench dog, the entire front jaw can be moved up and locked in place to serve as a full-length dog. This provides a stable clamping surface along the length of the jaw.



**JAW MOVES 9/16" VERTICAL
(BECOMES FULL-WIDTH DOG)**

Figure 7: The front jaw can be raised by 9/16 inches to function as a full-length dog, useful for clamping longer items against a bench dog.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will ensure the longevity and smooth operation of your Wilton 78A Vise.

- **Cleaning:** Periodically clean the vise, especially around the screw mechanism and guide bars, to remove sawdust, dirt, and debris. The enclosed screw housing helps prevent accumulation, but regular cleaning is still recommended.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a light coat of machine oil or grease to the screw mechanism and guide bars occasionally to ensure smooth operation and prevent corrosion.
- **Inspect Jaws:** Check the maple jaw inserts for wear or damage. Replace them if they become excessively worn or cracked to maintain optimal clamping performance and protect workpieces.
- **Check Mounting:** Regularly inspect the mounting bolts to ensure they remain tight. Re-tighten if any

looseness is detected.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are some common issues and their potential solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Jaws are stiff or difficult to move.	Lack of lubrication; accumulation of sawdust/debris in screw mechanism.	Clean the screw and guide bars thoroughly. Apply a light machine oil or grease to all moving parts.
Vise wobbles or shifts during use.	Loose mounting bolts; unstable workbench.	Check and re-tighten all mounting bolts. Ensure the workbench is stable and properly secured.
Workpiece slips in jaws.	Jaws not tightened sufficiently; worn or damaged maple jaw inserts.	Ensure the jaws are tightened firmly. Inspect and replace maple jaw inserts if they are worn smooth or damaged.
Rapid-action release not engaging/disengaging smoothly.	Debris in the mechanism; lack of lubrication.	Clean the rapid-action mechanism and apply lubricant. Ensure no obstructions are present.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Wilton 78A Woodworking Vise:

Feature	Specification
Model Number	78A
Jaw Width	4 inches
Jaw Depth	7 inches
Maximum Jaw Opening	10 inches
Front Jaw Pivot	10 degrees
Front Jaw Vertical Movement (Dog)	Up to 9/16 inches
Material	Cast Iron
Color	Blue
Item Weight	30 Pounds
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	18 x 8 x 6 inches

Feature	Specification
UPC	019907631446

9. WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Wilton 78A Woodworking Vise is backed by Wilton's industry-leading lifetime warranty against manufacturing defects. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service. For specific terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the official Wilton website.

10. SUPPORT AND CONTACT

For technical assistance, replacement parts, or any inquiries regarding your Wilton 78A Woodworking Vise, please contact Wilton customer support. You can find contact information and additional resources by visiting the official Wilton website or their brand store.

Wilton Brand Store: <https://www.amazon.com/stores/WILTONTTOOLS/page/492C80DB-3F4F-4136-9CFB-DC0FF3764F4B>