

MERKUR MK-500001

MERKUR Progress 500 Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razor User Manual

Model: MK-500001 (90500001)

1. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read all instructions carefully before using your MERKUR Progress 500 Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razor. Improper use can result in injury.


- **Handle with Care:** The razor blades are extremely sharp. Always handle the razor and blades with caution.
- **Keep Out of Reach of Children:** Store the razor and blades in a secure location inaccessible to children.
- **Blade Disposal:** Dispose of used blades safely in a blade bank or a designated container. Do not dispose of loose blades in household waste.
- **Inspection:** Before each use, inspect the razor for any damage. Do not use if damaged.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The MERKUR Progress 500 is an adjustable double edge safety razor designed for a customizable and precise shave. Its 2-piece construction allows for easy blade loading and maintenance, while the adjustable dial enables control over the blade gap and shave aggressiveness.



Figure 2.1: Front view of the MERKUR Progress 500 Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razor.



MERKUR
Progress Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razors

The Merkur Progress Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razor has a short or long handle for an effortless grip and smooth maneuver. The adjustable blade ensures that the desired shave is achieved, while the two piece build makes it easy to clean.




Figure 2.2: Key features of the MERKUR Progress razor, highlighting its 2-piece design and adjustable mechanism.

3. SETUP

3.1 Unpacking

Carefully remove the razor from its packaging. Ensure all components are present and undamaged.

3.2 Blade Loading

The MERKUR Progress 500 features a 2-piece design for straightforward blade insertion.

1. **Disassemble the Razor:** Hold the handle firmly and twist the adjustment knob at the bottom counter-clockwise until the top cap separates from the handle and base plate.
2. **Insert Blade:** Carefully place a new double edge razor blade onto the two posts on the base plate. Ensure the blade is centered and lies flat.
3. **Reassemble the Razor:** Place the top cap over the blade and base plate, aligning the posts. Twist the adjustment knob clockwise to tighten the razor. Tighten until snug, ensuring the blade is securely held.
4. **Align Head:** Note that for proper adjustment, the head must be aligned correctly. There is a triangle mark on the handle and a notch on the removable head. These should be aligned on the same side when reassembling.



Figure 3.1: The adjustment dial at the base of the handle controls the blade gap.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Adjusting the Blade Gap

The MERKUR Progress 500 allows you to adjust the blade gap, which controls the aggressiveness of the shave. This is done via the dial at the bottom of the handle.

- **Settings:** The dial typically ranges from 1 (mildest shave) to 5 (most aggressive shave).

- **To Adjust:** Rotate the knob at the bottom of the handle. A higher number increases the blade exposure, resulting in a closer, more aggressive shave. A lower number reduces blade exposure for a milder shave.
- **Recommendation:** Begin with a lower setting (e.g., 1 or 2) and gradually increase until you find the most comfortable and effective setting for your skin and beard type.

4.2 Shaving Technique

Proper technique is crucial for a comfortable and effective shave with a safety razor.

1. **Prepare Your Skin:** Wet your face with warm water and apply a quality shaving cream or soap to create a rich lather.
2. **Hold the Razor:** Hold the razor at approximately a 30-degree angle to your skin. This angle is critical for the blade to cut effectively without irritation.
3. **No Pressure:** Let the weight of the razor do the work. Do not apply additional pressure, as this can lead to nicks, cuts, and irritation.
4. **Shave with the Grain:** For your first pass, shave in the direction your hair grows. This reduces irritation.
5. **Short Strokes:** Use short, controlled strokes. Rinse the razor frequently to clear lather and cut hair.
6. **Subsequent Passes:** For a closer shave, re-lather and perform additional passes across the grain or against the grain, adjusting the razor setting if desired.
7. **Rinse and Moisturize:** After shaving, rinse your face with cool water and apply an aftershave balm or moisturizer.

Adjust. Control. Shave.

Introduced in the 1950s, this adjustable safety razor allows precise control over blade gap and shaving angle.



5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning

- **After Each Shave:** Rinse the razor thoroughly under running water to remove all soap and hair residue. Gently shake off excess water.
- **Drying:** Allow the razor to air dry completely before storing to prevent water spots and corrosion. Do not wipe the blade.
- **Periodic Deep Cleaning:** Occasionally, disassemble the razor (as for blade loading) and clean all parts with a soft brush and mild soap. Rinse thoroughly and dry.

5.2 Storage

Store your MERKUR Progress 500 in a dry, safe place, away from humidity and direct sunlight. Ensure it is out of reach of children.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Nicks or Cuts:** This often indicates too much pressure, an incorrect shaving angle, or a dull blade. Reduce pressure, adjust your angle to 30 degrees, or replace the blade. Consider a milder setting on the adjustment dial.
- **Irritation or Razor Burn:** Ensure proper skin preparation and lubrication. Shave with the grain for the first pass. Try a milder setting on the adjustment dial. Ensure your blade is sharp.
- **Dull Shave:** The blade may be dull and needs replacement. Ensure the razor is set to an appropriate aggressiveness level for your beard type.
- **Blade Not Secure:** Ensure the razor is fully tightened after blade insertion. Check that the top cap and base plate are correctly aligned.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model Number:** MK-500001 (90500001)
- **Product Dimensions:** 4.75 x 1.8 x 1 inches
- **Item Weight:** 90 Grams (3.17 ounces)
- **Handle Material:** Stainless Steel
- **Material Type:** Nickel (Plating)
- **Color:** Silver
- **Razor Type:** Adjustable Double Edge Safety Razor
- **Features:** Adjustable comb head, 2-piece design
- **Manufacturer:** Derby International LLC, dba KANAR (for MERKUR)
- **Country of Origin:** Germany

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

MERKUR razors are precision instruments manufactured in Solingen, Germany, designed for durability and long-lasting performance. Specific warranty details are not provided in the product information. For support or further inquiries, please refer to the retailer where the product was purchased or visit the official MERKUR website.

