

MotorGuide 38590

MotorGuide FW46 FB Freshwater Bow Mount Trolling Motor User Manual

Model: FW46 FB

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the safe and effective use of your MotorGuide FW46 FB Freshwater Bow Mount Trolling Motor. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and operation to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your product.

The MotorGuide FW46 FB is a 12-volt, 46 lb. thrust trolling motor with a 50-inch shaft, designed for freshwater use and featuring foot control for precise maneuverability.

Product Overview



Image: The MotorGuide FW46 FB Freshwater Bow Mount Trolling Motor, showcasing its main components including the motor unit, shaft, mounting bracket, and foot control pedal.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Unpacking

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Verify that all parts listed in the packing list are present. Retain packaging for future storage or transport.

Mounting the Motor

The FW46 FB is designed for bow mounting. Ensure the mounting surface on your boat is flat and strong enough to support the motor's weight and thrust. Use appropriate stainless steel fasteners (not included) to secure the mounting bracket to the boat's bow. Position the motor so that the propeller is submerged at the desired depth when deployed.

Electrical Connection

Connect the motor's power leads directly to a 12-volt deep cycle marine battery. Ensure proper polarity: red to positive (+), black to negative (-). Use appropriate gauge wiring and a circuit breaker (recommended) to protect the system. Consult a qualified marine electrician if unsure about wiring.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Deployment and Stowage

To deploy the motor, release the locking mechanism and pivot the motor down until it locks into the deployed position. To stow, reverse the process, ensuring the motor is securely latched in the stowed position before moving the boat.

Foot Control Operation

The FW46 FB features a foot control pedal for hands-free operation. Press the pedal forward to increase speed and backward to decrease speed. Steer the boat by pivoting the pedal left or right. The momentary switch engages the propeller only while pressed, while the constant-on switch keeps the propeller running.

Speed Control

The motor offers variable speed control. Adjust the speed by rotating the speed control knob on the foot pedal or by varying pressure on the pedal, depending on the specific model variant.

MAINTENANCE

After Each Use

Rinse the motor shaft and propeller with fresh water after each use, especially after operating in brackish or saltwater environments, to prevent corrosion. Inspect the propeller for fishing line or debris and remove if present.

Propeller Care

Periodically check the propeller for nicks, cracks, or bends. Replace damaged propellers to maintain efficiency and prevent vibration. Ensure the propeller nut is securely tightened.

Electrical Connections

Inspect all electrical connections for corrosion or looseness. Clean terminals and apply dielectric grease as needed to ensure good conductivity.

Shaft and Mount

Lubricate pivot points on the mounting bracket and shaft with a marine-grade lubricant annually or as needed to ensure smooth operation.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Motor Not Running

- **Check Battery:** Ensure the battery is fully charged and connections are clean and tight.
- **Check Circuit Breaker:** Verify the circuit breaker (if installed) has not tripped.
- **Check Foot Pedal:** Ensure the foot pedal is properly connected and functioning.

Reduced Thrust

- **Propeller Fouling:** Inspect the propeller for weeds, fishing line, or other debris.
- **Damaged Propeller:** Check for bent or broken propeller blades.
- **Low Battery:** Recharge or replace the battery.

Excessive Noise/Vibration

- **Damaged Propeller:** Replace the propeller if it's bent or unbalanced.
- **Loose Mount:** Tighten all mounting bolts.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model	FW46 FB
Thrust	46 lbs
Voltage	12 Volts
Shaft Length	50 inches
Control Type	Foot Control
Mounting Type	Bow Mount
Recommended Use	Freshwater
Manufacturer Part Number	38590
UPC	089287102164

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

MotorGuide products are manufactured to high standards and come with a limited warranty. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official MotorGuide website.

For technical support, parts, or service, please contact MotorGuide customer service or visit their official

website:

[Visit the MotorGuide Store on Amazon](#)

When contacting support, please have your model number (FW46 FB) and serial number (if applicable) ready.