Gardner Bender B343S

Gardner Bender B343S Hydraulic One-Shot Bender Instruction Manual

1. Introduction and Overview

The Gardner Bender B343S is a robust hydraulic one-shot bender designed for efficiently bending 1 1/4 to 4 inch rigid steel and rigid aluminum conduit. This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective setup, operation, and maintenance of your B343S bender.

Image of the Gardner Bender B343S Hydraulic One-Shot Bender, a robust tool designed for bending rigid conduit.

2. Safety Information

Always prioritize safety when operating any heavy-duty equipment. Failure to follow these safety guidelines can result in serious injury or property damage.

- **Read the Manual:** Thoroughly read and understand all instructions and warnings in this manual before operating the bender.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear appropriate PPE, including safety glasses, gloves, and steel-toe boots.
- **Work Area:** Ensure your work area is clean, well-lit, and free from obstructions. Keep bystanders away from the operating area.
- **Power Source:** If using an external hydraulic pump (not included with B343S), ensure it is properly grounded and connected to a suitable power source. Disconnect power before performing any maintenance or adjustments.
- **Secure Workpiece:** Always ensure the conduit is properly secured in the bender before initiating a bend.
- **Inspect Equipment:** Before each use, inspect the bender for any signs of damage, wear, or loose components. Do not operate damaged equipment.
- **Hydraulic Fluid:** Handle hydraulic fluid with care. Refer to the pump manufacturer's instructions for safe handling and disposal.

3. Product Features

The Gardner Bender B343S Hydraulic One-Shot Bender offers several key features designed for efficiency and ease of use:

- Bends 1 1/4 to 4 inch rigid steel and rigid aluminum conduit.
- Eject-O-Matic feature retains conduit with a T-pin while the bending shoe is hydraulically retracted.
- Once the bend is complete, the conduit automatically pops free, saving time.
- Optional 5-inch conversion kit (B350) is available for segment bending (segment only).

4. Setup

Follow these steps to set up your Gardner Bender B343S bender for operation:

1. **Unpack Components:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Verify that all parts are present and undamaged.
2. **Assemble Bender:** Refer to the assembly diagrams (if provided with your unit) to connect the main bender frame, bending shoe, and any other necessary components. The included screwdriver may be required for this step.
3. **Connect Hydraulic Pump (Sold Separately):** The B343S is supplied without a pump. Connect your compatible hydraulic pump to the bender's hydraulic cylinder according to the pump manufacturer's instructions. Ensure all connections are secure and leak-free.
4. **Position Bender:** Place the bender on a stable, level surface capable of supporting its weight (approximately 364 pounds) and the forces generated during bending.
5. **Select Bending Shoe:** Choose the appropriate bending shoe for the size of conduit you intend to bend. Install it securely onto the bender.

5. Operation

Once the bender is set up, follow these steps for safe and effective conduit bending:

1. **Mark Conduit:** Accurately mark the conduit at the desired bend point.
2. **Load Conduit:** Carefully place the conduit into the bending shoe, aligning the mark with the bender's reference point. Ensure the conduit is seated firmly.
3. **Engage Eject-O-Matic:** If using the Eject-O-Matic feature, ensure the T-pin is correctly engaged to retain the conduit.
4. **Initiate Bend:** Activate the hydraulic pump to extend the cylinder and begin the bending process. Monitor the bend angle closely.
5. **Stop Bend:** Once the desired bend angle is achieved, release the hydraulic pressure.
6. **Retract Cylinder:** Retract the hydraulic cylinder. The Eject-O-Matic feature will automatically release the conduit as the shoe retracts.
7. **Remove Conduit:** Carefully remove the bent conduit from the bender.
8. **Repeat:** For multiple bends, repeat the process, ensuring proper alignment and safety for each bend.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Gardner Bender B343S bender.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the bender to remove any dirt, debris, or metal shavings. Use a dry cloth or soft brush.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect all moving parts, hydraulic connections, and structural components for wear, damage, or corrosion. Replace any worn or damaged parts immediately.
- **Hydraulic System:** Check hydraulic fluid levels and condition regularly according to your pump's manual. Replace fluid as recommended. Inspect hoses and fittings for leaks.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a light coat of appropriate lubricant to pivot points and sliding surfaces as needed to ensure smooth operation.
- **Storage:** Store the bender in a clean, dry environment when not in use.

7. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter during operation.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Bender not bending conduit	Insufficient hydraulic pressure; incorrect shoe size; conduit not seated properly.	Check hydraulic pump operation and fluid level; ensure correct bending shoe is installed; verify conduit is fully seated.
Conduit slipping during bend	Eject-O-Matic T-pin not engaged; worn bending shoe; conduit surface is oily.	Ensure T-pin is engaged; inspect and replace worn bending shoe; clean conduit surface.
Hydraulic fluid leak	Loose fittings; damaged hose or seal.	Tighten all hydraulic fittings; inspect hoses and seals for damage and replace if necessary.
Bender operates slowly	Low hydraulic fluid; air in hydraulic system; pump malfunction.	Check and refill hydraulic fluid; bleed air from the system (refer to pump manual); consult pump manufacturer for service.

8. Specifications

Key specifications for the Gardner Bender B343S Hydraulic One-Shot Bender:

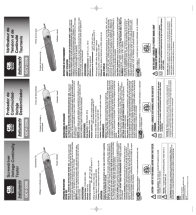
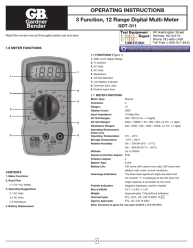
- **Model:** B343S
- **Bending Capacity:** 1 1/4 to 4 inch rigid steel and rigid aluminum conduit
- **Item Weight:** Approximately 364 pounds (165 kg)
- **Material:** Aluminum
- **Power Source:** Requires external Corded Electric Hydraulic Pump (not included)
- **Included Components:** Screwdriver
- **UPC:** 032076152581

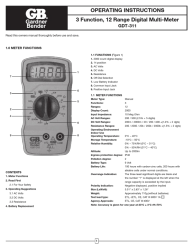
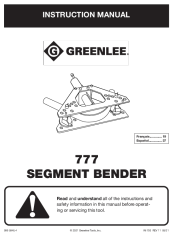
9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding product warranty, technical support, or replacement parts for your Gardner Bender B343S Hydraulic One-Shot Bender, please contact Gardner Bender customer service directly or visit their official website. Keep your purchase receipt and product serial number handy for faster service.

Gardner Bender Official Website: Visit the Gardner Bender Store on Amazon

Related Documents - B343S

	Gardner Bender COV-3200 Screwdriver Voltage-Continuity Tester Operating Instructions Operating instructions and specifications for the Gardner Bender COV-3200 Screwdriver Voltage-Continuity Tester. Learn about its features, operating range, and safety precautions.
	Gardner Bender GDT-311 Digital Multi-Meter Operating Instructions Comprehensive operating instructions for the Gardner Bender GDT-311, a 3-function, 12-range digital multi-meter. Covers meter functions, safety information, operating procedures for AC Volts, DC Volts, and Resistance, as well as battery replacement.
	Gardner Bender Digital Battery Tester Operating Instructions User guide for the Gardner Bender Digital Battery Tester, covering operation for various battery types including AA, AAA, C, D, N, 9V, and 1.5V button cells. Includes safety warnings and links to download full instructions.

	[Gardner Bender GDT-311 3 Function, 12 Range Digital Multi-Meter Operating Instructions] Operating instructions for the Gardner Bender GDT-311 3 Function, 12 Range Digital Multi-Meter. Covers meter functions, safety information, operating procedures for AC volts, DC volts, and resistance, and battery replacement.
	[Gardner Bender GMT-312 Analog Multimeter User Manual] Comprehensive user manual for the Gardner Bender GMT-312 Analog Multimeter, covering specifications, operating instructions, safety precautions, and troubleshooting.
	[Greenlee 777 Segment Bender Instruction Manual] Instruction manual for the Greenlee 777 Segment Bender, providing detailed guidance on safe operation, setup, bending techniques, maintenance, and parts identification for this conduit bending tool.