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Dewalt DW343

DeWALT DW343 550W Jigsaw Instruction Manual

Model: DW343

Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and setup of your DeWALT DW343 550W Jigsaw. Please read these instructions thoroughly before using the tool to ensure optimal performance and user safety. Keep this manual for future reference.

General Safety Instructions

Always follow basic safety precautions when using electric power tools to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury. Familiarize yourself with all warnings and instructions.

- **Work Area Safety:** Keep the work area clean and well-lit. Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents. Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.
- **Electrical Safety:** Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way. Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces. Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions.
- **Personal Safety:** Stay alert, watch what you are doing, and use common sense. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including safety glasses, hearing protection, dust mask, and non-skid safety shoes.
- **Tool Use and Care:** Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application. Disconnect the plug from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.
- **Service:** Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts.

Product Overview

The DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw is a versatile tool designed for cutting various materials. Below are key components of the tool.



Figure 1: Front view of the DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw, showing the blade, shoe, and handle.



Figure 2: Side view of the DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw, highlighting the motor housing and power cord connection.

Key components include the motor housing, handle, trigger switch, blade clamp, shoe (base plate), and power cord.

Setup

1. Blade Installation and Removal

1. **Disconnect Power:** Always ensure the jigsaw is unplugged from the power source before installing or removing blades.
2. **Open Blade Clamp:** Locate the blade clamp lever or screw. Depending on the model, you may need a hex key or simply open a quick-release lever.
3. **Insert Blade:** Insert the shank of the jigsaw blade into the blade clamp, ensuring the teeth face forward. Push the blade in until it seats firmly.
4. **Secure Blade:** Close the blade clamp lever or tighten the screw to secure the blade. Gently pull on the blade to confirm it is locked in place.
5. **Removal:** Reverse the steps to remove the blade. Be cautious as the blade may be hot after use.

2. Adjusting the Base Plate (Bevel Cuts)

The base plate can be adjusted for bevel cuts at various angles.

1. **Loosen Adjustment Screws:** Locate the screws or levers that secure the base plate. Loosen them sufficiently to allow movement.
2. **Set Angle:** Tilt the base plate to the desired angle (e.g., 15°, 30°, 45°). Most jigsaws have angle markings for common settings.
3. **Tighten Screws:** Securely tighten the adjustment screws or levers to lock the base plate in position.
4. **Return to 0°:** For straight cuts, ensure the base plate is set to 0° (perpendicular to the blade) and securely tightened.

3. Connecting to Power

Ensure the power cord is in good condition and plug it into a suitable 230 Volt power outlet. Verify that the power switch is in the "OFF" position before plugging in the tool.

Operating Instructions

1. Switching On/Off

- **To Start:** Press the trigger switch. For continuous operation, some models may have a lock-on button.
- **To Stop:** Release the trigger switch. If the lock-on button is engaged, press the trigger again to release it.

2. Cutting Techniques

Always ensure the workpiece is securely clamped before cutting.

- **Straight Cuts:** Guide the jigsaw along a marked line, keeping the base plate flat against the workpiece. Apply steady, even pressure.
- **Curved Cuts:** Use a narrower blade for tighter curves. Guide the tool slowly, allowing the blade to follow the curve without forcing it.
- **Plunge Cuts:** For internal cuts without a pilot hole, tilt the jigsaw forward so the front edge of the base plate rests on the workpiece. Start the saw, then slowly lower the rear of the base plate until the blade plunges through the

material. This technique requires practice and caution.



Figure 3: Demonstrating an undercut with the DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw, showing the tool's maneuverability for specific cutting tasks.



Figure 4: A user operating the DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw to cut a piece of wood, illustrating proper grip and control.



Figure 5: The DeWALT DW343 Jigsaw being used to cut a metal sheet, demonstrating its capability across different materials.

3. Material Suitability

The DW343 Jigsaw is suitable for cutting various materials, including wood and metal. Always use the appropriate blade type for the material being cut.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your jigsaw.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, unplug the tool and clean dust and debris from the ventilation openings and around the blade clamp area. Use a soft brush or compressed air. Do not use solvents.
- **Blade Care:** Inspect blades regularly for sharpness and damage. Replace dull or bent blades immediately to prevent poor cuts and potential kickback.
- **Cord Inspection:** Periodically check the power cord for cuts, abrasions, or damage. If damaged, have it repaired by a qualified service technician.
- **Lubrication:** This tool is designed for maintenance-free operation regarding lubrication. Do not attempt to lubricate internal components.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Tool does not start	No power supply; faulty switch; damaged cord.	Check power outlet and cord. Ensure switch is fully engaged. If problem persists, seek professional service.
Poor cut quality / Blade bending	Dull or incorrect blade; forcing the tool; incorrect speed.	Replace blade with a sharp, appropriate type. Reduce feed pressure. Ensure correct blade for material.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive vibration	Loose blade; damaged blade; worn internal components.	Ensure blade is securely clamped. Replace damaged blade. If vibration continues, professional inspection is recommended.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	DeWALT
Model Number	DW343
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	230 Volts
Wattage	550 Watts
Item Weight	2 Kilograms
Blade Length	550 Millimeters
Special Features	Brushless
Included Components	Handle, Jigsaw
Blade Material	Alloy Steel
Surface Recommendation	Metal
Number of Teeth	5

Warranty and Support

For warranty information, service, or technical support, please contact DeWALT customer service or visit the official DeWALT website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.
Official DeWALT Website: www.dewalt.com

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