

Poulan 581562201

Poulan 16-inch Chainsaw Replacement Chain (Model 581562201) Instruction Manual

Model: 581562201

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

This document provides instructions for the Poulan 16-inch Chainsaw Replacement Chain, Model 581562201. This chain is designed for specific Poulan and Weed Eater chainsaw models, ensuring efficient cutting performance when properly installed and maintained.

Key specifications for this replacement chain include:

- **Chain Length:** 16 inches
- **Pitch:** 3/8 inch
- **Gauge:** .050 inch
- **Drive Links:** 56
- **Chain Type:** Semi-Chisel (Type 91VJP)



Figure 1: Poulan 16-inch Chainsaw Replacement Chain. This image shows the coiled replacement chain, highlighting its design and length.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working with chainsaws and their components. Failure to follow safety guidelines can result in serious injury.

- **Read Your Chainsaw Manual:** Always refer to your chainsaw's original instruction manual for specific safety warnings and operating procedures.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Wear appropriate PPE, including safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves, and sturdy footwear, when handling chainsaw chains or operating a chainsaw.
- **Power Off:** Ensure the chainsaw engine is off and the spark plug wire is disconnected (for gasoline models) or the battery is removed (for electric/cordless models) before performing any maintenance, installation, or adjustment.
- **Sharp Edges:** Chainsaw chains are extremely sharp. Handle with care to avoid cuts.
- **Stable Work Area:** Perform all installation and maintenance tasks on a stable, flat surface.

3. INSTALLATION

Installing a new chainsaw chain requires careful attention to detail. Always consult your chainsaw's specific manual for detailed steps, as procedures may vary slightly between models.

1. **Prepare the Chainsaw:** Ensure the chainsaw is turned off, cooled down, and the spark plug wire is disconnected or battery

removed. Engage the chain brake.

2. **Remove Bar Cover:** Loosen and remove the bar nuts, then remove the clutch cover (or side cover) and the old chain.
3. **Clean Components:** Clean any sawdust, debris, or old oil from the guide bar groove, sprocket, and clutch area. Inspect the guide bar for wear or damage.
4. **Install New Chain:** Place the new Poulan replacement chain onto the sprocket. Ensure the cutting edges of the chain teeth are facing the correct direction (usually forward, away from the chainsaw body, on the top of the guide bar).
5. **Position Guide Bar:** Fit the guide bar over the bar studs and align the chain in the guide bar groove.
6. **Replace Bar Cover:** Reinstall the clutch cover, ensuring the chain tensioner pin engages with the hole in the guide bar. Hand-tighten the bar nuts.
7. **Adjust Chain Tension:** While holding the tip of the guide bar up, use the chain tensioning screw (typically located on the side cover) to adjust the chain tension. The chain should be snug against the bottom of the guide bar, but still able to be pulled freely by hand. There should be no slack on the underside of the bar.
8. **Final Tightening:** Once tension is correct, fully tighten the bar nuts while still holding the guide bar tip up.
9. **Check Tension:** Release the chain brake and pull the chain around the guide bar by hand to ensure smooth movement. Recheck tension. The chain should not sag, but should not be overly tight.

An illustration demonstrating the proper method for placing the chain onto the guide bar and sprocket, ensuring correct tooth orientation, would typically be included here.

4. OPERATION AND USAGE

Once the Poulan replacement chain is correctly installed, proper operating procedures are crucial for safety and optimal performance.

- **Pre-Operation Check:** Before each use, always check the chain tension. A loose chain can derail, and an overly tight chain can cause premature wear to the chain, bar, and sprocket.
- **Lubrication:** Ensure the chainsaw's automatic oiler is functioning correctly and the oil reservoir is filled with appropriate bar and chain oil. Proper lubrication is vital for reducing friction and heat, extending chain life.
- **Cutting Technique:** Refer to your chainsaw's manual for safe and effective cutting techniques. Avoid forcing the chain; let the chain do the work.
- **Avoid Obstacles:** Do not cut into dirt, rocks, or metal, as this will dull or damage the chain instantly.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance of your Poulan replacement chain will ensure its longevity and cutting efficiency.

- **Sharpening:** A sharp chain is essential for safe and efficient cutting. Sharpen the chain regularly using a round file of the correct diameter (typically 5/32 inch for 3/8-inch low profile chains like this one) and a filing guide. Maintain the correct filing angles as specified in your chainsaw manual. If unsure, consult a professional.
- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean sawdust and debris from the chain, guide bar groove, and sprocket. This prevents buildup that can impede chain movement and lubrication.
- **Guide Bar Maintenance:** Periodically flip the guide bar to ensure even wear. Clean the guide bar groove and oil holes.
- **Storage:** When not in use, clean and lightly oil the chain before storing it in a dry place to prevent rust. Always use a guide bar cover for safety during storage and transport.

An image illustrating the process of manually sharpening a chainsaw chain with a round file and guide would typically be included here.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your chainsaw chain.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Chain dulls quickly	Cutting into dirt/rocks, improper sharpening, worn chain.	Avoid ground contact, sharpen correctly, replace if excessively worn.
Chain jumps off guide bar	Incorrect chain tension (too loose), worn guide bar, damaged drive links.	Adjust chain tension, inspect guide bar for wear, check chain for damaged links.
Chain not cutting efficiently	Dull chain, incorrect chain direction, insufficient lubrication.	Sharpen chain, verify correct installation direction, ensure proper oil flow.
Chain links kink or bind	Impact damage, lack of lubrication, manufacturing defect.	Inspect for damage, ensure proper lubrication, contact customer support if new and defective.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Brand	Poulan
Model Number	581562201
Chain Type	Semi-Chisel (Type 91VJP)
Item Length	16 Inches
Chain Length	16 Inches
Drive Link Count	56
Pitch	3/8 inch (low profile)
Gauge	.050 inch
Manufacturer	POULAN/WEED EATER
UPC	705788515592
Item Weight	0.46 Pounds

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support regarding your Poulan 16-inch Chainsaw Replacement Chain (Model 581562201), please refer to the documentation provided with your original chainsaw or contact Poulan customer service directly. Contact information for Poulan can typically be found on their official website or in your chainsaw's user manual.

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