

## Skil 5301

# Skil 5301 7-Inch 1300W Circular Saw User Manual

Model: 5301

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of your Skil 5301 7-Inch 1300W Circular Saw. Please read these instructions carefully before operating the tool to ensure proper function and to prevent injury. The Skil 5301 is designed for cutting various materials including plywood, soft wood, hard wood, laminates, plastics, polymer sheets, and soft metals like aluminum, copper, or bronze.



*Image: Skil 5301 7-Inch 1300W Circular Saw. This image displays the complete circular saw unit, highlighting its main body, handle, blade guard, and base plate.*

## 2. GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Always follow basic safety precautions to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury.

### 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.
- Keep children and bystanders away while operating a power tool. Distractions can cause you to lose control.

## Electrical Safety

- Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way.
- Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges, and refrigerators.
- Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions. Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.

## Personal Safety

- Always wear eye protection. Use a dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection for appropriate conditions.
- Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep your hair and clothing away from moving parts.
- Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the power tool on.

## 3. COMPONENTS OVERVIEW

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Familiarize yourself with the main parts of your Skil 5301 Circular Saw:

- **Motor Housing:** Contains the 1300W motor.
- **Handle:** Ergonomically designed for grip and control.
- **Blade Guard:** Retracts during cutting to expose the blade and covers it when not in use.
- **Base Plate (Shoe):** Supports the saw on the workpiece and guides the cut.
- **Blade:** 7-inch (184mm) TCT wood cut blade for various materials.
- **Spindle Lock:** For easy blade changing.
- **Depth Adjustment Lever:** To set the cutting depth.
- **Bevel Adjustment Lever:** To set the cutting angle (0-45 degrees).
- **Dust Chute:** For dust extraction.
- **External Carbon Brush Access:** For easy brush replacement.

## 4. SETUP

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### 4.1 Blade Installation and Removal

1. **Disconnect Power:** Always unplug the saw before performing any adjustments or maintenance.
2. **Engage Spindle Lock:** Press and hold the spindle lock button to prevent the blade from rotating.
3. **Loosen Blade Bolt:** Use the provided blade wrench to loosen the blade bolt. Turn it counter-clockwise.
4. **Remove Outer Washer and Blade:** Carefully remove the outer washer and the old blade. Note the direction of the blade teeth.
5. **Install New Blade:** Place the new 7-inch (184mm) TCT blade onto the spindle, ensuring the teeth are pointing in the correct direction (usually indicated by an arrow on the blade and saw).
6. **Replace Washer and Tighten Bolt:** Reinstall the outer washer and tighten the blade bolt securely with the wrench while holding the spindle lock.

### 4.2 Adjusting Cutting Depth

The cutting depth can be adjusted to match the thickness of your workpiece.

1. **Loosen Depth Adjustment Lever:** Locate and loosen the depth adjustment lever on the side of the saw.
2. **Set Depth:** Raise or lower the base plate until the desired cutting depth is achieved. For optimal cutting, the blade should extend approximately 1/8 inch (3mm) below the workpiece.
3. **Tighten Lever:** Securely tighten the depth adjustment lever.

### 4.3 Adjusting Bevel Angle (Angular Cutting)

The saw allows for bevel cuts from 0 to 45 degrees.

1. **Loosen Bevel Adjustment Lever:** Locate and loosen the bevel adjustment lever, typically at the front of the saw.
2. **Set Angle:** Tilt the base plate to the desired angle (0-45 degrees) using the angle scale.
3. **Tighten Lever:** Securely tighten the bevel adjustment lever.

## 5. OPERATION

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### 5.1 General Cutting Guidelines

- **Secure Workpiece:** Always clamp the workpiece firmly to prevent movement during cutting.
- **Proper Stance:** Maintain a balanced stance and firm grip on the saw.
- **Starting the Cut:** Allow the blade to reach full speed before entering the material.
- **Feed Rate:** Apply steady, consistent pressure. Do not force the saw.
- **Finishing the Cut:** Support the off-cut piece to prevent pinching the blade.

### 5.2 Applications

- **Rip Cutting:** For cutting along the grain of hard and soft plywoods.
- **Cross Cutting:** For cutting across the grain of various woods.
- **Bevel Cutting:** For making angular cuts on the edge of materials (0-45 degrees).
- **Material Versatility:** Suitable for cutting plastics, polymer sheets, and soft metal sections like aluminum.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your circular saw.

- **Cleaning:** Keep the saw clean and free of dust and debris. Use a dry cloth or compressed air. Ensure the blade guard mechanism moves freely.
- **Blade Inspection:** Regularly inspect the blade for sharpness and damage. Replace dull or damaged blades promptly.
- **Carbon Brush Replacement:** The Skil 5301 features external carbon brush access for easy replacement. Refer to a service technician if unsure.
- **Cord Inspection:** Check the power cord for any damage or fraying.
- **Lubrication:** Do not lubricate internal components unless specified by the manufacturer.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

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This section addresses common issues you might encounter.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Saw does not start	No power supply; faulty switch; worn carbon brushes.	Check power connection; test outlet; replace switch; inspect/replace carbon brushes.
Blade binds or smokes	Dull blade; incorrect cutting depth; forcing the saw; workpiece not secured.	Replace blade; adjust cutting depth; reduce feed rate; secure workpiece.
Inaccurate cuts	Loose blade; incorrect bevel/depth setting; worn blade; unstable workpiece.	Tighten blade bolt; re-adjust settings; replace blade; secure workpiece.
Excessive vibration	Damaged blade; loose components; worn bearings.	Replace blade; check for loose parts and tighten; contact service for bearing issues.

## 8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	5301
Power Input	1300 W
No-Load Speed	5,000 RPM
Blade Diameter	184 mm (7 1/4 inches)
Max. Cutting Depth at 90°	62 mm
Max. Bevel Cut	0-45°
Weight	4.9 kg
Blade Material	Aluminium, Metal (TCT blade)
Standard Accessories	Wrench, Parallel Guide Attachment, 7-inch TCT Wood Cut Blade

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Skil 5301 Circular Saw comes with a limited warranty.

- **Warranty Period:** 6 months from the date of invoice.
- **Claiming Warranty:** To claim warranty service, you must provide a copy of your purchase invoice.
- **Support:** For technical assistance, service, or warranty claims, please contact Skil customer support. Refer to your purchase documentation for contact details.

