DEWALT DWFP1838

DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler Instruction Manual

Model: DWFP1838

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe operation, setup, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler. Please read and understand all instructions before using the tool to ensure safe and efficient operation.



Figure 1: The DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler. This pneumatic tool is designed for various finishing applications, providing reliable stapling performance.

2. Safety Information

Always follow basic safety precautions to reduce the risk of personal injury and damage to the tool. This tool is designed for specific applications; do not modify it or use it for unintended purposes.

General Safety Rules:

- **Wear Eye Protection:** Always wear ANSI Z87.1 compliant safety glasses with side shields.
- **Wear Hearing Protection:** Prolonged exposure to noise from power tools can cause hearing damage.
- **Dress Properly:** Do not wear loose clothing, jewelry, or long hair that can get caught in moving parts.
- **Maintain Work Area:** Keep the work area clean, well-lit, and free of clutter.
- **Stay Alert:** Do not operate the tool when tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication.
- **Disconnect Air Supply:** Always disconnect the air supply before making adjustments, clearing jams, or

servicing the tool.

- **Never Point at Self or Others:** Treat the tool as if it is always loaded.
- **Use Correct Air Pressure:** Do not exceed the maximum recommended air pressure for the tool.

3. Product Features

The DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler is engineered with features to enhance performance and user experience:

- **Long Life Maintenance-Free Motor:** Designed for durability and to prevent staining of the work surface.
- **Tool-Free Depth-of-Drive Adjustment:** Allows for precise setting of staples without additional tools.
- **Selectable Trigger:** Offers both sequential and contact actuation modes for versatile use.
- **Low Staple Lockout:** Alerts the user when staples are running low, preventing dry firing and potential damage to the workpiece.
- **Rear Exhaust:** Directs exhaust air away from the work surface, keeping it free from contaminants.

4. Setup

4.1 Connecting to Air Supply

1. Ensure the air compressor is off and the air hose is disconnected from the compressor.
2. Attach the air fitting (included) to the tool's air inlet.
3. Connect the air hose to the tool's air fitting.
4. Set the air compressor pressure to the recommended operating range (refer to Specifications section).
5. Turn on the air compressor.

4.2 Loading Staples

Proper staple loading is crucial for tool function. The DWFP1838 features a bottom-loading magazine.

1. **Disconnect Air Supply:** Always disconnect the tool from the air supply before loading staples.
2. **Open Magazine:** Locate the magazine release latch, typically at the rear or bottom of the magazine. Slide the magazine cover plate open.
3. **Insert Staples:** With the tool upside down, insert a strip of 18 gauge finish staples into the magazine channel. Ensure the staple crown (flat top) faces upwards and the staple legs point downwards into the channel. The staples should slide freely.
4. **Close Magazine:** Push the magazine cover plate back until it latches securely. Do not force it.



Figure 2: An individual operating the DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler on a wooden surface. Proper technique and safety gear are essential during use.

5. Operating

5.1 Adjusting Depth-of-Drive

The tool-free depth-of-drive adjustment allows you to control how deep the staples are driven into the material.

1. Locate the depth adjustment dial or lever on the tool.
2. Rotate the dial or move the lever to increase or decrease the staple driving depth. Test on a scrap piece of material to achieve the desired depth.

5.2 Selecting Trigger Actuation Mode

The DWFP1838 offers two trigger modes:

- **Sequential Actuation:** Requires the contact trip to be pressed against the workpiece before the trigger can be pulled. This mode offers precise fastener placement.
- **Contact Actuation:** Allows fasteners to be driven by either pressing the contact trip against the workpiece first and then pulling the trigger, or by holding the trigger and bumping the contact trip against the workpiece. This mode is faster for repetitive work.

To switch between modes, locate the selector switch on the tool and move it to the desired setting.

5.3 Firing the Stapler

1. Ensure the tool is connected to the air supply and loaded with staples.
2. Select the desired trigger actuation mode.
3. Place the nose of the tool firmly against the workpiece where the staple is to be driven.
4. Pull the trigger to drive a staple.
5. Release the trigger and lift the tool from the workpiece.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your stapler.

6.1 General Cleaning

- **Disconnect Air Supply:** Always disconnect the tool from the air supply before cleaning.
- Wipe down the tool with a clean, dry cloth.
- Keep the magazine free of debris and dust to ensure smooth staple feeding.
- The motor is designed to be maintenance-free, eliminating the need for regular oiling.

6.2 Air Inlet Filter

Periodically check the air inlet filter for clogs. Clean or replace if necessary to maintain proper airflow.

6.3 Storage

Store the tool in a clean, dry environment. The included carrying case provides excellent protection.



Figure 3: The DEWALT carrying case, designed for protecting and transporting the DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler and its accessories.

7. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your stapler.

Common Issues and Solutions:

- **Staples Not Driving Fully:**
  - Check air pressure; ensure it's within the recommended range.
  - Adjust the depth-of-drive setting to a deeper position.
  - Ensure the correct staple length and type are being used for the material.
- **Tool Misfires or Skips Staples:**
  - Check if the magazine is empty or if staples are low (low staple lockout engaged).
  - Ensure staples are loaded correctly and slide freely in the magazine.
  - Inspect the driver blade for wear or damage.
- **Air Leaks:**
  - Check all air connections for tightness.
  - Inspect the air hose for damage.
  - If leaks persist from the tool body, contact DEWALT service.
- **Staples Jamming:**

- **Disconnect Air Supply:** Immediately disconnect the air supply.
- Open the magazine and carefully remove any jammed staples.
- Ensure the correct staple size and type are used.
- Clean the magazine channel.

8. Specifications

Manufacturer	DEWALT
Model Number	DWFP1838
Item Weight	5.6 pounds
Product Dimensions	13.03 x 3.74 x 13.09 inches
Power Source	Pneumatic
Voltage	20 Volts (Operating pressure typically 70-120 PSI)
Staple Gauge	18 Gauge
Included Components	DWFP1838 Finish stapler, carrying case, fitting, and owner's manual

9. Warranty and Support

Warranty Information:

The DEWALT DWFP1838 18 Gauge Finish Stapler comes with a **7-year limited liability warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship. For specific terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official DEWALT website.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, warranty claims, or to locate an authorized service center, please contact DEWALT customer support. Contact information can typically be found on the DEWALT official website or in the product packaging.

10. Official Product Videos

No official seller videos were available for embedding at this time.

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