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Gardena 1600 S (08718-48)

Gardena Splitting Axe 1600 S User Manual

Model: 08718-48

1. Product Overview

The Gardena Splitting Axe 1600 S is engineered for efficient splitting of firewood logs. Its design incorporates features for enhanced performance, durability, and user comfort.

- **Optimized Axe Head:** Features a non-stick coating for reduced friction and easy entry into wood, with geometry adapted for splitting medium-sized logs.
- **Durable Handle:** Equipped with stainless steel shaft protection for extended life and a fiber-reinforced PA shaft for robustness.
- **Balanced Design:** The balance point is positioned close to the axe head, ensuring optimal balance and weight distribution for powerful, controlled swings.
- **Hammer Function:** Designed for effective use with plastic, wood, or aluminum splitting wedges (do not use with steel wedges).




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Image 1.1: The Gardena Splitting Axe 1600 S, showcasing its design and features.

2. Safety Information

Always prioritize safety when using the Gardena Splitting Axe. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in serious injury.

- **Wear Protective Gear:** Always wear safety glasses, gloves, sturdy footwear, and appropriate clothing.
- **Clear Work Area:** Ensure the area around you is clear of people, pets, and obstructions. Maintain a safe distance from others.
- **Inspect Axe:** Before each use, check the axe head and handle for any damage, cracks, or looseness. Do not use a damaged axe.
- **Secure Log:** Place the log to be split on a stable, flat surface, such as a chopping block. Ensure it cannot roll or shift during splitting.
- **Proper Stance:** Stand with your feet shoulder-width apart, maintaining good balance.
- **Controlled Swings:** Use controlled, deliberate swings. Aim for the center of the log.
- **Avoid Ricochet:** Be aware of potential ricochet from wood chips or the axe itself if it glances off the log.

- **Never Use Steel Wedges:** The hammer function is only for plastic, wood, or aluminum wedges. Using steel wedges can damage the axe and cause injury.
- **Storage:** Store the axe in a secure location, away from children and unauthorized users. Use a blade cover to protect the edge.

3. Setup

The Gardena Splitting Axe 1600 S comes pre-assembled and ready for use. Before first use, and periodically thereafter, perform the following checks:

- **Handle Security:** Verify that the axe head is firmly attached to the handle. There should be no wobbling or looseness.
- **Blade Condition:** Inspect the blade edge for sharpness and any nicks or damage. A sharp blade is safer and more effective.
- **Handle Integrity:** Check the handle for cracks, splinters, or other damage that could compromise its strength or your grip.
- **Cleanliness:** Ensure the axe head and handle are clean and free of grease or debris that could affect grip or performance.

4. Operating Instructions

Follow these steps for effective and safe wood splitting with your Gardena Splitting Axe.

4.1 Splitting Logs

1. **Prepare the Log:** Place the log vertically on a stable chopping block. Ensure the log is not rotten or contains hidden metal objects.
2. **Stance:** Stand with your feet slightly wider than shoulder-width apart, with the log positioned in front of you.
3. **Grip:** Hold the axe with both hands, one near the head and the other at the end of the handle.
4. **Swing:** Raise the axe above your head, keeping your eyes on the target point on the log. Bring the axe down in a controlled, powerful motion, aiming for the center of the log. Allow the axe's weight to do most of the work.
5. **Follow Through:** If the axe gets stuck, do not twist it. Lift the log and axe together and strike again.



Image 4.1: A user demonstrating the initial strike with the Gardena Splitting Axe on a log.

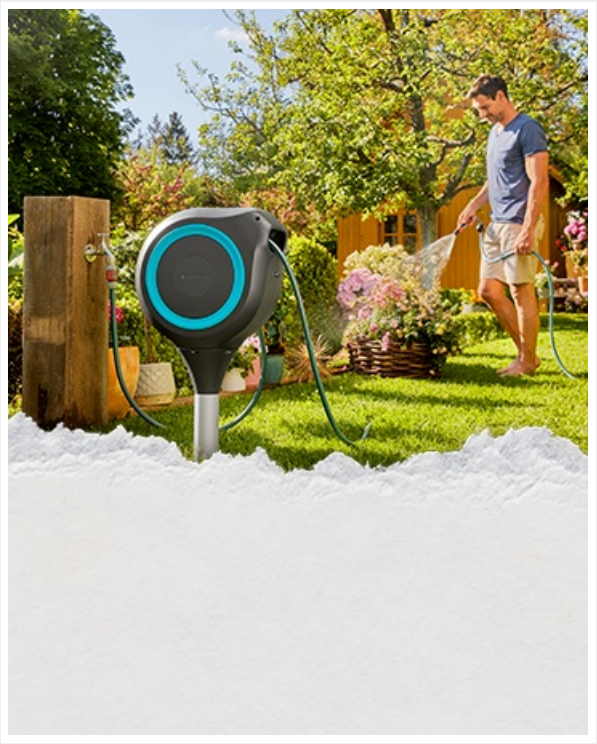


Image 4.2: The axe effectively splitting a log, showcasing the power and efficiency.

4.2 Using the Hammer Function

The flat side of the axe head can be used as a hammer to drive plastic, wood, or aluminum splitting wedges into larger logs.

- **Position Wedge:** Place the wedge into a crack or starting point on the log.
- **Strike:** Use the flat hammer surface of the axe head to strike the wedge firmly.
- **Caution:** *Never use the hammer function with steel wedges*, as this can cause damage to the axe head or create dangerous metal fragments.



Image 4.3: A user demonstrating the splitting of smaller wood pieces or kindling.

5. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Gardena Splitting Axe.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the axe head and handle to remove sap, dirt, and debris. A damp cloth is usually sufficient.
- **Sharpening:** Keep the blade sharp using an appropriate axe sharpener or sharpening stone. A sharp blade is safer and more effective. Follow the original bevel angle when sharpening.
- **Rust Prevention:** If the axe head is made of carbon steel (not stainless steel), apply a thin layer of oil to the blade after cleaning to prevent rust. The 1600 S features a non-stick coating, which also aids in protection.
- **Storage:** Store the axe in a dry place, away from extreme temperatures and humidity. Always use a blade cover to protect the edge and prevent accidental injury.

6. Troubleshooting

Here are solutions to common issues you might encounter:

- **Axe Gets Stuck in Log:** If the axe head becomes embedded, do not try to pry it out by twisting the handle. Instead, lift the log and axe together, then strike the log again on a hard surface to dislodge the axe.
- **Ineffective Splitting:** Ensure the blade is sharp. A dull blade will bounce off or get stuck more easily. Also, verify you are striking the log in the correct location (usually the center or along existing cracks).
- **Handle Damage:** If the handle shows signs of significant damage (cracks, severe splintering), discontinue use immediately. Contact Gardena support for replacement options or professional repair.

7. Specifications

Feature	Specification

Feature	Specification
Brand	Gardena
Model Number	08718-48
Product Dimensions	23.62"L x 7.28"W (60 cm Length)
Axe Head Weight	1200 g
Item Weight	14.11 ounces
Handle Material	Fiber-reinforced PA (Glass Fiber)
Blade Material	Stainless Steel with non-stick coating
Head Type	Splitting
Included Components	Splitting Axe

8. Warranty and Support

Gardena products are manufactured to high-quality standards and are designed for reliability and long service life. For specific warranty details, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Gardena website.

If you require technical assistance, have questions about your product, or need to claim warranty service, please contact Gardena Customer Support:

- **Website:** www.gardena.com
- **Contact Information:** Refer to the 'Contact Us' section on the official website for phone numbers and email support in your region.

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