

Bosch GBH 5-38 D

Bosch GBH 5-38 D Professional Rotary Hammer Instruction Manual

Model: GBH 5-38 D

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Bosch GBH 5-38 D Professional Rotary Hammer. This powerful tool is designed for heavy-duty drilling and chiseling in concrete, masonry, and other tough materials. To ensure safe and efficient operation, please read this instruction manual thoroughly before using the tool. Keep these instructions accessible for future reference.

2. GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Always observe the following fundamental safety precautions when operating any power tool to prevent electric shock, fire, and serious 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.
- **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.
- **Personal Safety:** Always wear eye protection. Use dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection for appropriate conditions. Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep hair and clothing away from moving parts.
- **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. This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Bosch GBH 5-38 D Rotary Hammer.



Figure 1: Bosch GBH 5-38 D Professional Rotary Hammer. This image shows the main body of the rotary hammer, including the motor housing, gear housing, auxiliary handle, and chuck.

Key Components:

- **Chuck:** For inserting drill bits and chisels.
- **Auxiliary Handle:** Provides additional grip and control during operation.
- **Trigger Switch:** Activates and deactivates the tool.
- **Mode Selector Switch:** (If applicable) For switching between drilling, hammer drilling, or chiseling modes.
- **Depth Stop:** For precise drilling depth control.

4. SETUP

4.1 Attaching the Auxiliary Handle

The auxiliary handle can be rotated to any position for optimal grip and safety.

1. Loosen the auxiliary handle by turning it counter-clockwise.
2. Slide the handle over the tool's collar to the desired position.
3. Tighten the auxiliary handle by turning it clockwise until secure.

4.2 Inserting and Removing Drill Bits/Chisels

This tool uses SDS-max shank accessories.



Figure 2: Bosch GBH 5-38 D with a drill bit inserted. This image illustrates the rotary hammer with an SDS-max drill bit securely in the chuck, ready for operation.

Inserting:

1. Clean the shank of the accessory and apply a thin layer of grease.
2. Push the accessory into the chuck while rotating it slightly until it locks.
3. Pull on the accessory to ensure it is securely seated. A slight axial play is normal and necessary for the hammer function.

Removing:

1. Pull back the locking sleeve of the chuck.
2. Remove the accessory.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Powering On/Off

- To switch on the tool, press the trigger switch.
- To switch off the tool, release the trigger switch.

5.2 Selecting Operating Mode

The GBH 5-38 D typically offers hammer drilling and chiseling functions. Use the mode selector switch to choose the appropriate function for your task.

- **Hammer Drilling:** For drilling in concrete, masonry, and stone with impact.
- **Chiseling:** For light chiseling work, such as removing tiles or breaking small sections of concrete.

5.3 Working Tips

- Always hold the tool firmly with both hands using the main handle and the auxiliary handle.
- Apply moderate pressure; do not force the tool. The hammer mechanism works most effectively with its own

weight.

- For deep holes, periodically withdraw the drill bit to clear dust and debris.
- When chiseling, position the chisel at the desired angle and allow the tool to do the work.

6. MAINTENANCE

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

- **Cleaning:** Keep the ventilation openings clean to prevent motor overheating. Regularly clean the tool housing with a soft, damp cloth. Do not use solvents.
- **Chuck Maintenance:** Periodically clean the chuck and apply a thin layer of grease to the SDS-max shank of accessories to ensure smooth operation and prevent wear.
- **Carbon Brushes:** The carbon brushes are wear parts. Have them checked and replaced by an authorized service center when worn to maintain motor efficiency.
- **Storage:** Store the tool in a dry, secure place out of reach of children.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Before contacting customer service, try these common troubleshooting steps.

- **Tool does not start:**
 - Check if the power cord is properly plugged into a functional outlet.
 - Inspect the power cord for any damage.
 - Ensure the trigger switch is fully depressed.
- **Reduced impact/drilling performance:**
 - Check if the accessory is correctly inserted and locked in the chuck.
 - Ensure the mode selector is set to the correct function (e.g., hammer drilling).
 - The accessory might be worn; replace it if necessary.
 - Carbon brushes might be worn; have them inspected by a service center.
- **Excessive vibration or unusual noise:**
 - Stop the tool immediately.
 - Check for loose parts or damaged accessories.
 - If the issue persists, contact an authorized service center.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Technical data for the Bosch GBH 5-38 D Professional Rotary Hammer.

Feature	Specification
Brand	Bosch
Model	GBH 5-38 D

Feature	Specification
Power Source	Corded Electric
Maximum Power	1050 Watts
Voltage	230 Volts
Rated Speed	320 RPM
Impact Rate at Rated Speed	2900 RPM
Impact Energy	7/9 J
Drilling Diameter, Concrete (Hammer Drill Bits)	12-38 mm
Max Drilling Diameter, Masonry (Core Cutters)	40-90 mm
Drilling Capacity Wood	38 Millimetres
Special Feature	Variable Impact Mechanism, High Impact Rate
Material	Metal
Colour	Blue, Red

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Bosch power tools are manufactured to the highest quality standards. For information regarding warranty terms and conditions, or for technical support and service, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Bosch website. Always use authorized Bosch service centers for repairs to ensure the use of genuine spare parts and to maintain product safety.