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Kobalt 63287

Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane

User Manual - Model 63287

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane, Model 63287. This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use, setup, operation, and maintenance of your new tool. Please read this manual thoroughly before first use and retain it for future reference. This bench plane is designed for flattening, smoothing, and shaping wood surfaces, offering precision and control for various woodworking tasks.

2. Safety Instructions

WARNING: Always follow basic safety precautions to reduce the risk of personal injury.

- **Wear Eye Protection:** Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields that comply with current standards when operating hand tools.
- **Keep Blades Sharp:** A sharp blade is safer and more effective than a dull one. Dull blades require more force, increasing the risk of slippage and injury.
- **Secure Workpiece:** Always clamp or otherwise secure your workpiece firmly to prevent movement during planing.
- **Maintain Control:** Use both hands to control the plane. Apply even pressure and maintain a stable stance.
- **Inspect Tool:** Before each use, inspect the plane for any damage, loose parts, or dull blades. Do not use a damaged tool.
- **Proper Storage:** Store the plane in a dry, secure place, out of reach of children. Protect the blade edge when not in use.
- **Work in a Well-Lit Area:** Ensure adequate lighting to clearly see your workpiece and the tool.

3. Components Overview

Familiarize yourself with the various parts of your Kobalt Bench Plane for proper assembly, adjustment, and operation.



Figure 1: The Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane. This image displays the assembled plane, highlighting its cast iron body, precision-ground sole, and polished hardwood handle and knob. The blade, frog, and adjustment mechanisms are visible.



Figure 2: Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane in its original packaging. The packaging indicates key features such as its use for flattening and smoothing wood surfaces, cast-iron base, and polished hardwood handles.

- **Blade (Iron):** The cutting edge of the plane.
- **Cap Iron (Chip Breaker):** Sits on top of the blade, curling the shavings and preventing tear-out.
- **Frog:** The angled casting that supports the blade and cap iron assembly.
- **Lateral Adjustment Lever:** Used to adjust the blade's cutting edge parallel to the sole.
- **Depth Adjustment Nut:** Controls how much of the blade extends below the sole, determining the depth of cut.
- **Lever Cap:** Holds the blade and cap iron assembly firmly against the frog.
- **Handle (Tote):** Rear grip for pushing the plane.
- **Knob (Front Handle):** Front grip for guiding the plane.
- **Sole:** The flat bottom surface of the plane that slides over the wood.
- **Mouth:** The opening in the sole through which the blade protrudes and shavings exit.

4. Setup and Adjustment

Before using your bench plane, ensure it is properly assembled and adjusted for optimal performance.

1. **Unpacking and Inspection:** Carefully remove the plane from its packaging. Inspect all components for any signs of damage during shipping. Ensure all parts listed in the 'Components Overview' are present.
2. **Blade Installation (if necessary):** If the blade is not pre-installed, loosen the lever cap and position the blade and cap iron assembly onto the frog. Ensure the bevel of the blade faces down.
3. **Blade Sharpening:** For best results, ensure the blade is razor-sharp. Refer to woodworking resources for proper blade sharpening techniques if needed.
4. **Depth of Cut Adjustment:** Turn the depth adjustment nut to move the blade up or down. For initial use, adjust the blade so it protrudes only slightly below the sole. A very fine shaving should be produced.

5. **Lateral Adjustment:** Use the lateral adjustment lever to ensure the blade's cutting edge is parallel to the sole. Sight down the sole to check for even projection of the blade.
6. **Secure Lever Cap:** Once the blade is adjusted, tighten the lever cap firmly to hold the blade assembly securely in place. Do not overtighten.

5. Operating the Bench Plane

Proper technique is crucial for achieving smooth, consistent results and ensuring safety.

- **Workpiece Preparation:** Secure your workpiece firmly to a workbench using clamps or a vise. Ensure the surface to be planed is clean and free of obstructions.
- **Grip and Stance:** Hold the handle (tote) with your dominant hand and the knob (front handle) with your other hand. Maintain a balanced stance, positioning your body to allow for a smooth, continuous stroke.
- **Planing Motion:** Place the front of the plane on the workpiece. Apply downward pressure on the knob at the start of the stroke, then shift pressure to the handle as you push the plane forward. Maintain even pressure throughout the stroke.
- **Direction of Grain:** Always plane with the grain of the wood to prevent tear-out and achieve the smoothest finish. If tear-out occurs, try planing at a slight angle to the grain or reversing the direction.
- **Shaving Thickness:** Adjust the depth of cut for thin, consistent shavings. Multiple light passes are generally better than one heavy pass.
- **End of Stroke:** Lift the plane slightly at the end of the stroke to avoid damaging the workpiece edge or the blade.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance will prolong the life of your Kobalt Bench Plane and ensure its continued performance.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, brush off all wood shavings and dust from the plane. Use a dry cloth to wipe down metal surfaces.
- **Blade Sharpening:** Keep the blade sharp. A dull blade will not cut effectively and can lead to frustration and poor results. Sharpen the blade regularly using appropriate sharpening stones or systems.
- **Rust Prevention:** Apply a thin coat of camellia oil, paste wax, or a rust preventative to all exposed metal surfaces (especially the sole and blade) after cleaning, particularly if storing for extended periods or in humid environments.
- **Lubrication:** Occasionally apply a small amount of light machine oil to the adjustment mechanisms (depth adjustment nut, lateral adjustment lever) to ensure smooth operation.
- **Storage:** Store the plane in a dry, stable environment. Consider using a blade guard or storing the plane on its side to protect the cutting edge.

7. Troubleshooting

Refer to this section for common issues and their potential solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Plane chatters or vibrates	Blade not securely held; blade dull; cap iron not tight enough.	Ensure lever cap is tight; sharpen blade; tighten cap iron screw.
Plane digs in or takes too deep a cut	Blade protrudes too far; too much pressure on the front knob.	Adjust depth adjustment nut to retract blade; apply more even pressure.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Uneven shavings or cut	Blade not parallel to sole; sole not flat.	Use lateral adjustment lever to align blade; check sole for flatness (requires advanced technique).
Tear-out or rough surface	Planing against the grain; blade dull; mouth opening too wide.	Plane with the grain; sharpen blade; adjust frog forward to narrow mouth (if adjustable).
Plane stops cutting	Blade dull; blade retracted too far; mouth clogged with shavings.	Sharpen blade; adjust depth of cut; clear shavings from mouth.

8. Specifications

Technical details for the Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane, Model 63287.

Feature	Detail
Brand	Kobalt
Model Number	63287
Part Number	63287
Type	Bench Plane
Nominal Length	9.75 inches
Material	Metal (Cast Iron Base), Hardwood (Handle/Knob)
Colour	Black / Blue (body), Brown (wood)
Power Source	Manual
Item Weight	1.59 kg (approx. 3.5 lbs)
Product Dimensions	29.97 x 19.3 x 7.37 cm (11.8 x 7.6 x 2.9 inches)
UPC	820909632870
Date First Available	16 January 2017

9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding warranty coverage, technical support, or replacement parts for your Kobalt 9.75-inch Bench Plane, please refer to the official Kobalt website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Manufacturer: Kobalt

Website: www.kobalttools.com (*Note: This is a placeholder link; please verify the official website for support.*)

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