

BLACK+DECKER ST8600

BLACK+DECKER ST8600 13-Inch 5-Amp String Trimmer/Edger

Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The BLACK+DECKER 5 Amp 13-Inch String Trimmer/Edger (Model ST8600) is designed for cutting overgrowth, grass, and weeds. This versatile tool easily converts between a string trimmer and a wheeled edger, providing efficient lawn care. It features an adjustable height and handles for user comfort, PowerDrive Transmission for enhanced cutting power, and AUTOMATIC SPOOL FEED technology for continuous operation without manual bumping.

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of your BLACK+DECKER ST8600. Please read it thoroughly before assembly, operation, or maintenance.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: To reduce the risk of injury, always follow these safety precautions:

- **Electric shock hazard:** Do not use the tool while wet or in damp conditions.
- Keep away from water sources.
- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including eye protection, long pants, and sturdy footwear.
- Ensure the area is clear of bystanders, children, and pets before operating.
- Inspect the tool and extension cord for damage before each use. Do not use if damaged.
- Always disconnect the power supply before performing any adjustments, cleaning, or maintenance.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your BLACK+DECKER ST8600 package should contain the following items:

- (1) ST8600 13" String Trimmer/Edger
- (1) AF-100 Spool

- (1) Guard
- (1) Auxiliary Handle

If any parts are missing or damaged, please contact BLACK+DECKER customer service.

4. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

Before first use, assemble the components as described below. Ensure the tool is unplugged from the power source during assembly.

4.1 Attaching the Guard

The guard protects against debris. Align the guard with the slots on the trimmer head and secure it firmly. Refer to the diagram below for proper placement.



Image: Labeled diagram of the BLACK+DECKER ST8600, highlighting key features like the adjustable handle, 2-in-1 head,

PowerDrive Transmission, and automatic spool feed.

4.2 Installing the Auxiliary Handle

Attach the auxiliary handle to the main shaft. This handle can be adjusted for comfort and control during operation. Loosen the knob, slide the handle to the desired position, and tighten the knob securely.

4.3 Connecting to Power

This is a corded electric tool. Connect the tool's power cord to a suitable outdoor-rated extension cord. Ensure the extension cord is rated for outdoor use and has sufficient gauge for the length required to prevent voltage drop. For a visual guide on assembly and initial setup, please watch the official product video:

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video: Official BLACK+DECKER product overview demonstrating the features and basic operation of the 13-Inch 5-Amp String Trimmer/Edger (ST8600).

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The BLACK+DECKER ST8600 is designed for both trimming and edging tasks. Always ensure the area is clear of obstacles and debris before starting.

5.1 Trimming Operation

Hold the trimmer firmly with both hands. Position the cutting head parallel to the ground. Move the trimmer slowly and steadily across the area to be cut. The 13-inch trim radius allows for efficient coverage.



Image: A user demonstrating the string trimmer function, cutting grass around a landscaped area.



Image: A person using the trimmer to clear grass from a wooden border, showcasing its lightweight design and ease of handling.

5.2 Edging Operation

To convert to an edger, rotate the head of the tool. The integrated wheel guide assists in maintaining a consistent cutting depth along sidewalks, driveways, and flower beds. Position the wheel on the hard surface and guide the trimmer along the edge.



Image: The trimmer in edging mode, demonstrating how the wheel guide helps create precise edges along paved surfaces.



Image: A user demonstrating the quick conversion feature between trimming and edging functions.

5.3 Automatic Spool Feed

The AUTOMATIC SPOOL FEED technology automatically advances the cutting line as needed, eliminating the need for manual bumping. This ensures continuous cutting without interruption.



Image: Close-up of the trimmer head during operation, showing the automatic line feed mechanism at work.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and extends the life of your tool. Always disconnect the power before performing any maintenance.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the trimmer head and guard of any grass clippings or debris. Use a damp cloth; do not use solvents.
- **Line Replacement:** When the cutting line runs out, replace the spool with a genuine BLACK+DECKER AF-100 replacement spool. Follow the instructions provided with the replacement spool for proper installation.
- **Storage:** Store the tool in a dry, secure location out of reach of children.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your BLACK+DECKER ST8600, refer to the following common troubleshooting tips:

- **Tool does not start:** Ensure the power cord and extension cord are securely plugged into a working outlet. Check for tripped circuit breakers.
- **Cutting line does not advance:** Verify that the spool is correctly installed and that the line is not tangled or fused. Replace the spool if necessary.
- **Reduced cutting performance:** The cutting line may be too short or worn. Replace the spool. Ensure the guard is clean and free of debris.
- **Excessive vibration:** Check for damaged or improperly installed cutting line. Ensure all components are

securely fastened.

For persistent issues, contact BLACK+DECKER customer support.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	BLACK+DECKER
Model Number	ST8600
Power Source	Corded Electric
Item Weight	5.35 Pounds
Cutting Width	13 Inches
Speed	7000 RPM
Item Dimensions (L x W)	36.6"L x 4.9"W
Included Components	(1) ST8600 13" String Trimmer/Edger, (1) AF-100 Spool, (1) Guard, (1) Auxiliary Handle
UPC	885911498319

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official BLACK+DECKER website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims. For technical support, replacement parts, or further assistance, please contact BLACK+DECKER customer service through their official channels.

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Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question