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Makita EN420MP

Makita 10" EN420MP Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment User Manual

Brand: Makita | Model: EN420MP

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of the Makita 10" EN420MP Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment. This attachment is designed for use with Makita Multi-Function Power Heads (sold separately) and is ideal for trimming overhead and low-lying hedges. It features a 10-inch double-sided blade with 13 angle settings for versatile operation and a tip guard to protect the blade. Please read this manual thoroughly before operation and retain it for future reference.

2. Safety Information

Always observe basic safety precautions to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury.

- **Read the Manual:** Familiarize yourself with all instructions and warnings before operating the attachment.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear appropriate eye protection (safety glasses), hearing protection, gloves, and sturdy footwear. Long pants and sleeves are recommended.
- **Work Area:** Keep the work area clean and well-lit. Do not operate in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.
- **Keep Bystanders Away:** Ensure that all persons, especially children, and pets are kept at a safe distance from the operating area.
- **Secure Attachment:** Always ensure the hedge trimmer attachment is securely fastened to the power head before use. Refer to your power head's manual for specific attachment instructions.
- **Inspect Before Use:** Before each use, inspect the blade for damage, cracks, or excessive wear. Ensure all fasteners are tight.
- **Avoid Contact:** Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from the cutting blade.
- **Proper Grip:** Maintain a firm grip on the power head handles during operation.
- **Blade Guard:** Always use the blade cover when transporting or storing the attachment.

3. Components and Features

The Makita EN420MP Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment includes the following key components and

features:

- **10-inch Double-Sided Blade:** Designed for efficient cutting in both directions.
- **Articulating Head:** Offers 13 angle settings for versatile trimming of various hedge heights and shapes.
- **Angle Change Lever:** Allows for quick and easy adjustment of the blade angle.
- **135-degree Blade Adjustment:** Enables the blade to be positioned along the shaft for convenient transport and storage.
- **Steel Drive Shaft:** Provides reduced vibration and extended equipment life.
- **Commercial Duty Gear Case:** Ensures durability and reliable performance.
- **Tip Guard:** Engineered to protect the blade from unnecessary wear when trimming near hard surfaces.
- **Included Accessories:** Shear blade and blade cover.



Figure 3.1: The Makita EN420MP Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment, showing its extended design and articulating blade.

4. Setup and Assembly

The EN420MP is a couple shaft attachment designed to connect to compatible Makita Multi-Function Power Heads.

1. **Prepare Power Head:** Ensure your Makita Multi-Function Power Head is turned off and the battery (if applicable) is removed or the spark plug cap is disconnected for gasoline models.
2. **Align Shafts:** Align the drive shaft of the EN420MP attachment with the coupling mechanism on your power head. The attachment is designed for quick and easy connection.
3. **Secure Connection:** Push the attachment firmly into the power head's coupling until it clicks into place or the locking mechanism engages. Refer to your specific power head's manual for detailed coupling instructions.
4. **Verify Security:** Gently pull on the attachment to ensure it is securely fastened and does not wobble. A loose connection can be dangerous during operation.
5. **Adjust Blade Angle (Initial):** Before starting, you can pre-set the blade angle using the angle change lever. This allows for optimal positioning for the task at hand.



Figure 4.1: The EN420MP attachment (bottom right) shown alongside a Makita Multi-Function Power Head and other compatible attachments, illustrating the modular system.

5. Operating Instructions

Once the EN420MP attachment is securely connected to your power head, you are ready to begin trimming.

1. **Power On:** Start your Makita Multi-Function Power Head according to its specific operating instructions.
2. **Adjust Blade Angle:** Use the angle change lever to select one of the 13 available blade angles. This allows you to reach various heights and angles of hedges without excessive bending or stretching. The 135-degree adjustment feature also allows for positioning the blade parallel to the shaft for transport or storage.
3. **Trimming Technique:**
    - Hold the power head firmly with both hands.
    - Maintain a balanced stance.

- Move the hedge trimmer smoothly and evenly along the hedge. The double-sided blade allows for cutting in both directions.
- For thick branches, make several passes or use a pruning saw if the branch exceeds the cutting capacity of the blade.
- Be mindful of the tip guard, especially when trimming close to walls, fences, or the ground, as it protects the blade from wear.

4. **Overhead Trimming:** The articulating head is particularly useful for overhead trimming. Adjust the blade to the desired upward angle and extend the power head. Ensure you maintain control and balance.
5. **Low-Lying Trimming:** Similarly, adjust the blade to a downward angle for trimming low hedges or ground cover without excessive bending.
6. **Power Off:** After use, turn off the power head and remove the battery or disconnect the spark plug cap.



Figure 5.1: An operator demonstrating the use of the articulating hedge trimmer attachment for reaching and trimming tall hedges effectively.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and extends the life of your hedge trimmer attachment.

- **Blade Cleaning:** After each use, clean the blade thoroughly to remove sap, leaves, and debris. Use a stiff brush and a suitable cleaning solution.
- **Blade Lubrication:** Apply a light coat of machine oil or blade lubricant to the cutting edges after cleaning to prevent rust and ensure smooth operation.
- **Blade Sharpening:** If the blade becomes dull or damaged, it should be sharpened or replaced by a qualified service technician. A dull blade can cause excessive vibration and poor cutting performance.
- **Inspect for Damage:** Periodically inspect the attachment for any signs of damage, loose fasteners, or wear. Pay close attention to the articulating joint and the drive shaft connection.
- **Storage:** Always attach the blade cover before storing. Store the attachment in a clean, dry place, out of reach of children and away from direct sunlight or extreme temperatures. The 135-degree blade adjustment allows for compact storage.

7. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your hedge trimmer attachment.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Attachment not cutting effectively.	Dull or damaged blade; excessive debris on blade.	Clean blade thoroughly. If dull, have blade sharpened or replaced by a qualified technician.
Excessive vibration during operation.	Loose attachment connection; bent or damaged blade; worn drive shaft.	Ensure attachment is securely connected to the power head. Inspect blade for damage. If problem persists, contact service.
Blade angle adjustment is stiff or stuck.	Debris in the articulating mechanism; lack of lubrication.	Clean the articulating joint. Apply a small amount of lubricant to the moving parts of the angle adjustment mechanism.
Attachment does not connect securely to power head.	Misalignment; debris in coupling; damaged coupling mechanism.	Ensure proper alignment. Clean coupling area. Inspect for damage. Refer to power head manual for specific coupling instructions.

If you encounter issues not listed here or if the suggested solutions do not resolve the problem, please contact Makita customer support or an authorized service center.

8. Specifications

Manufacturer	Makita
Part Number	EN420MP
Item Weight	5.9 pounds
Product Dimensions	4.72 x 42.13 x 4.53 inches
Country of Origin	China

Item Model Number	EN420MP
Color	Red, black, silver
Material	Alloy Steel
Power Source	Battery Powered (via compatible power head)
Item Package Quantity	1
Blade Length	10 Inches
Included Components	Shear blade and blade cover
Batteries Included?	No (requires power head battery)
Batteries Required?	No (requires power head battery)
Date First Available	September 30, 2019

9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding the warranty of your Makita EN420MP Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the official Makita website.
For technical support, service, or to locate an authorized service center, please visit the Makita official store or contact their customer service department.
Makita Official Store: Visit Makita Store on Amazon

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