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Makita EN401MP

Makita EN401MP 20" Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment User Manual

Model: EN401MP | Brand: Makita

Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Makita EN401MP 20" Articulating Hedge Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure proper handling and to maximize the lifespan of your attachment.

Product Overview

The Makita EN401MP is an articulating hedge trimmer attachment designed for use with Makita's MM4 4-stroke engine and 18V x2 LXT (36V) cordless couple-shaft power heads (sold separately). It is engineered for efficient trimming of overhead and low-lying hedges.



Image: The Makita EN401MP articulating hedge trimmer attachment, showing its long shaft and adjustable blade.

Key Features

- **20" Double-Sided Blade:** Provides efficient cutting with a 20-inch double-sided blade.
- **13 Angle Settings:** Offers versatility for various trimming angles, suitable for overhead and low-lying hedges.
- **Angle Change Lever:** Allows for quick and easy adjustments to the blade angle during operation.
- **Commercial Duty Gear Case:** Engineered for enhanced durability and prolonged product life.
- **180° Blade Adjustment:** Enables the blade to be positioned along the shaft for convenient transport and compact storage.
- **Tip Guard:** Designed to protect the blade from unnecessary wear and damage.

Specifications

Brand	Makita

Model Number	EN401MP
Item Weight	8 Pounds (approximately 3.63 kg)
Product Dimensions	5 x 48 x 4 inches (approximately 12.7 x 121.9 x 10.2 cm)
Blade Length	20 Inches (approximately 50.8 cm)
Blade Material	Heavy-duty Steel
Power Source	Requires separate MM4 4-stroke engine or 18V x2 LXT (36V) cordless power head
Color	Silver/Black
Material	Plastic (housing), Heavy-duty Steel (blade)
UPC	088381424936

Setup and Assembly

The EN401MP is a couple shaft attachment designed to connect to compatible Makita power heads. Follow these general steps for assembly:

1. **Unpack Components:** Carefully remove all parts from the packaging. Verify that all components are present and undamaged.
2. **Prepare Power Head:** Ensure your Makita MM4 4-stroke engine or 18V x2 LXT (36V) cordless power head (sold separately) is turned off and any power source (battery or fuel) is disconnected.
3. **Attach Trimmer:** Align the shaft of the EN401MP attachment with the coupling mechanism on your power head. Push the attachment firmly into the power head until it clicks securely into place. Refer to your power head's manual for specific coupling instructions.
4. **Secure Connection:** Tighten any locking knobs or levers on the power head's coupling mechanism to ensure a rigid connection between the power head and the hedge trimmer attachment.
5. **Inspect Blade:** Before first use, inspect the hedge trimmer blade for any shipping damage or debris.

Note: Always consult the instruction manual provided with your specific Makita power head for detailed assembly and safety instructions.

Operating Instructions

Safety Precautions

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses, gloves, and hearing protection.
- Ensure the work area is clear of bystanders, pets, and obstacles.
- Do not operate the trimmer in wet conditions or near electrical wires.
- Maintain a firm grip on the power head and attachment during operation.
- Before adjusting the blade angle or performing any maintenance, always turn off the power head and disconnect the power source.

Adjusting Blade Angle

The EN401MP features 13 angle settings for versatile trimming. To adjust the blade angle:

1. Turn off the power head and ensure the blade has stopped moving.
2. Locate the angle change lever on the attachment.
3. Depress or release the lever as per the mechanism design and adjust the blade to the desired angle.
4. Ensure the blade locks securely into the chosen position before resuming operation.

Trimming Techniques

- **Overhead Trimming:** Extend the attachment to reach high hedges. Use the articulating blade to achieve the desired angle without overreaching.
- **Low-Lying Trimming:** Adjust the blade angle downwards for comfortable and effective trimming of lower hedges or ground cover.
- **Sweeping Motion:** Use a smooth, sweeping motion to cut through branches. Avoid forcing the blade through thick material.
- **Blade Capacity:** The trimmer is designed for cutting branches up to a certain diameter. Do not attempt to cut branches thicker than the recommended capacity to prevent damage to the blade or motor.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and extends the life of your EN401MP attachment. Always disconnect the power head from its power source before performing any maintenance.

Blade Care

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the blades of sap, debris, and residue using a stiff brush and a suitable cleaning solution (e.g., warm soapy water or a specialized blade cleaner).
- **Lubrication:** Apply a light machine oil or specialized blade lubricant to the blades after cleaning to prevent rust and ensure smooth operation.
- **Sharpening:** Periodically inspect the blades for dullness or nicks. Sharpen the blades as needed using a fine-tooth file or a sharpening stone, maintaining the original cutting angle. If unsure, consult a qualified service technician.
- **Tip Guard:** Ensure the tip guard is intact and properly secured to protect the blade from wear.

General Maintenance

- **Inspect Connections:** Regularly check the coupling mechanism for tightness and wear.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the attachment in a clean, dry place, out of reach of children. Utilize the 180° blade adjustment feature to fold the blade along the shaft for compact storage.
- **Gear Case:** The commercial duty gear case is designed for durability. Refer to the power head manual for any specific lubrication requirements related to the drive shaft.

Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your EN401MP attachment. For issues related to the power head, refer to its specific manual.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution

Blades not cutting efficiently	Dull blades, sap/debris buildup, attempting to cut oversized branches.	Clean and lubricate blades. Sharpen blades if dull. Do not attempt to cut branches exceeding the recommended diameter.
Blade angle not locking	Debris in locking mechanism, worn lever.	Clean the angle change lever and its mechanism. Ensure it fully engages. If worn, contact Makita service.
Excessive vibration or noise from attachment	Loose connection to power head, damaged blade, internal issue.	Ensure the attachment is securely coupled to the power head. Inspect blades for damage. If problem persists, discontinue use and contact Makita service.
Tip guard loose or missing	Improper installation, wear and tear.	Re-secure the tip guard. If damaged or missing, replace it to protect the blade.

Warranty and Support

For information regarding the warranty of your Makita EN401MP attachment, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Makita website. Makita provides comprehensive customer support for its products.

- **Official Website:** For the most up-to-date information on product support, service centers, and warranty details, please visit www.makitatools.com.
- **Customer Service:** Contact Makita customer service for assistance with product inquiries, technical support, or to locate an authorized service center.
- **Genuine Parts:** Always use genuine Makita replacement parts to ensure compatibility and maintain product performance and safety.

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