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Makita XCU06Z

Makita XCU06Z 18V LXT® Lithium-Ion Brushless Cordless 10" Top Handle Chain Saw User Manual

Model: XCU06Z | Brand: Makita

1. Introduction and Overview

The Makita XCU06Z 18V LXT® Lithium-Ion Brushless Cordless 10" Top Handle Chain Saw is designed to provide a cordless alternative to gas-powered outdoor power equipment. It offers zero emissions, lower noise, and significantly reduced maintenance, making it an ideal solution for various cutting and trimming applications, particularly within the professional tree care industry.

This chain saw is powered by a single 18V LXT battery (sold separately), leveraging Makita's preferred 18V battery platform for optimal power, speed, and run-time. Its efficient Makita outer rotor brushless motor with a direct drive system delivers high power efficiency comparable to a gas chain saw.

Key Features:

- Compact top handle design ideal for pruning, trimming, and limbing.
- Makita-built Outer Rotor BL Brushless Motor direct-drive system provides power equivalent to a 22cc gas chain saw.
- Achieves up to 175 cuts in 2x2 cedar with an 18V LXT 5.0Ah battery (battery not included).
- Features a torque boost mode for cutting dense material.
- Equipped with a captured bar nut and lateral chain tensioning for convenient operation and maintenance.
- Adjustable automatic chain lubrication system.
- Built-on lock-off lever to help prevent accidental engagement.
- Electric brake for enhanced productivity.



Figure 1.1: Makita XCU06Z 10-inch Top Handle Chain Saw.

2. Safety Information

Always prioritize safety when operating power tools. Read and understand all instructions and warnings in the complete user manual before use. Failure to follow these instructions may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.

General Safety Precautions:

- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear appropriate PPE, including safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves, and sturdy footwear.
- **Work Area:** Keep the work area clean and well-lit. Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents. Ensure bystanders, especially children, are kept away.
- **Battery Safety:** Use only Makita 18V LXT batteries. Do not use damaged or modified battery packs. Avoid short-circuiting battery terminals.
- **Chain Saw Operation:** Always hold the chain saw firmly with both hands when operating. Ensure the lock-off lever is engaged before starting to prevent accidental activation.
- **Kickback:** Be aware of chain saw kickback. Avoid the guide bar tip contacting any object.
- **Electric Brake:** The electric brake is designed for maximum productivity. Allow the chain to come to a complete stop before setting the saw down.
- **Storage:** Store the chain saw in a dry, secure location out of reach of children. No need to drain fuel for storage as it is battery-powered.

For comprehensive safety guidelines, refer to the official User Guide (PDF) provided by Makita.

3. Setup

Proper setup ensures safe and efficient operation of your Makita XCU06Z chain saw.

3.1 Battery Installation

1. Ensure the chain saw is turned off and the lock-off lever is engaged.
2. Align the 18V LXT Lithium-Ion battery with the battery slot at the base of the saw.
3. Slide the battery into the slot until it clicks securely into place. Ensure it is fully seated.

3.2 Chain and Guide Bar Installation/Tensioning

The chain and guide bar are critical components. Proper installation and tensioning are essential for performance and safety.

1. Remove the side cover by loosening the captured bar nut.
2. Carefully place the chain around the drive sprocket and guide bar, ensuring the cutting edges of the chain are facing the correct direction (clockwise).
3. Reinstall the side cover and hand-tighten the bar nut.
4. Adjust the chain tension using the lateral chain tensioning screw. The chain should be snug against the guide bar but still able to be pulled freely by hand. Refer to the full manual for precise tensioning guidelines.
5. Once tension is set, fully tighten the captured bar nut.



Figure 3.1: Chain saw with included wrench for assembly and maintenance.



Figure 3.2: Close-up view of the lateral chain tensioning mechanism.

3.3 Chain Lubrication

The XCU06Z features an adjustable automatic chain lubrication system. Ensure the oil reservoir is filled with appropriate bar and chain oil before each use.

1. Locate the oil fill cap on the side of the chain saw.
2. Unscrew the cap and fill the reservoir with high-quality bar and chain oil.
3. Monitor the oil level indicator during operation to ensure continuous lubrication.



Figure 3.3: Oil fill cap and transparent oil level indicator for easy monitoring.

4. Operating Instructions

Follow these steps for safe and effective operation of your chain saw.

4.1 Starting the Chain Saw

1. Ensure the battery is fully charged and properly installed.
2. Press the power button located on the top handle to activate the saw. A green indicator light will illuminate.
3. Engage the lock-off lever (red lever) with your thumb.
4. Squeeze the variable speed trigger to start the chain. The chain speed will vary based on trigger pressure.



Figure 4.1: Ergonomic top handle with power button and safety lock-off lever.

4.2 Cutting Techniques

- **Pruning and Trimming:** For smaller branches, use a smooth, steady motion. The compact design is ideal for precise cuts.
- **Limbing:** When limbing, be aware of branches under tension that may spring back. Always stand on the uphill side of the log when cutting on a slope.
- **Torque Boost Mode:** For cutting denser materials, the saw features a torque boost mode. This provides additional power when needed.

Video 4.1: Official Makita product video demonstrating the XCU06Z chain saw in action, highlighting its features and cutting capabilities.

5. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Makita chain saw. The XCU06Z requires considerably less maintenance than gas-powered models.

5.1 Chain and Bar Maintenance

- **Chain Lubrication:** Regularly check and refill the chain oil reservoir. The automatic oiler requires a consistent supply of bar and chain oil.
- **Chain Tension:** Periodically check the chain tension. Adjust as needed using the lateral chain tensioning mechanism to prevent chain derailment or excessive wear.
- **Chain Sharpening/Replacement:** A dull chain can reduce cutting efficiency and increase kickback risk. Sharpen the chain regularly or replace it when necessary.
- **Bar Nut:** Ensure the captured bar nut is always securely tightened after any adjustments or maintenance to the chain or bar.

5.2 General Cleaning

- After each use, clean sawdust and debris from the saw body, guide bar, and chain.
- Unlike gas models, there is no engine oil to change, no spark plug to replace, and no air filter or muffler to clean.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Makita XCU06Z chain saw, refer to the following common troubleshooting tips. For more detailed solutions, consult the full user manual.

Common Issues and Solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Saw does not start	Battery not charged or improperly installed; Power button not pressed; Lock-off lever not engaged.	Charge and re-install battery; Press power button (green light); Engage lock-off lever.
Chain not moving	Chain brake engaged; Chain too tight; Obstruction in chain path.	Disengage chain brake; Adjust chain tension; Clear any obstructions.
Poor cutting performance	Dull chain; Incorrect chain tension; Low chain oil.	Sharpen or replace chain; Adjust chain tension; Refill chain oil reservoir.
Saw overheats	Overloading the saw; Prolonged continuous use.	Reduce cutting pressure; Allow saw to cool down between uses.

7. Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the Makita XCU06Z 18V LXT® Lithium-Ion Brushless Cordless 10" Top Handle Chain Saw.

- **Brand:** Makita
- **Model Number:** XCU06Z
- **Power Source:** Battery Powered (18V LXT Lithium-Ion)
- **Chain Length:** 10 Inches
- **Chain Speed:** 4,720 FPM (Feet Per Minute)
- **Item Weight:** 7.2 Pounds
- **Product Dimensions:** 12"L x 12"W x 12"H (Approximate)
- **Voltage:** 18 Volts
- **Included Components:** Makita - 18V Brushless Cordless 10" Top Handle Chain Saw (XCU06Z) (Tool Only)
- **Batteries Included?:** No
- **Batteries Required?:** Yes
- **Manufacturer:** Makita
- **UPC:** 088381857536

8. Warranty and Support

Makita stands behind the quality of its products. For specific warranty information, service, or technical support, please refer to the official user guide or contact Makita customer service directly.

You can find the official User Guide (PDF) for the Makita XCU06Z chain saw at: https://manuals.plus/m/e0504c340c53ba0bd3714349989b1a2948503faedd508f031afcd05915201241

For additional information about Makita products and support, visit the official Makita Store:Makita Power Tools Store

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