

DEWALT DWM120

DEWALT DWM120 Portable Deep Cut Band Saw User Manual

Model: DWM120

1. IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Always observe basic safety precautions when operating power tools to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury. Read and understand all instructions before operating this tool.

- **Eye Protection:** Always wear appropriate eye protection (safety glasses or goggles) that comply with applicable standards.
- **Hearing Protection:** Wear hearing protection during extended periods of operation.
- **Work Area:** Keep the work area clean and well-lit. Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents.
- **Electrical Safety:** Ensure the power supply matches the tool's requirements. Avoid using the tool in damp or wet conditions.
- **Secure Workpiece:** Always clamp or otherwise secure the workpiece to prevent movement during cutting. Never hold the workpiece by hand.
- **Blade Safety:** Ensure the blade is correctly installed and tensioned. Never touch the blade while the tool is running or connected to power.
- **Personal Attire:** Do not wear loose clothing, ties, or jewelry that can get caught in moving parts. Tie back long hair.
- **Maintain Tool:** Keep cutting tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories.
- **Unplug When Not In Use:** Disconnect the tool from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing the tool.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The DEWALT DWM120 Portable Deep Cut Band Saw is designed for cutting various materials, primarily metal, with precision and efficiency. It features a powerful 10 Amp motor and a variable speed dial for optimal performance across different applications.

Key Features:

- **10 Amp Motor:** Provides ample power for demanding job site applications.
- **5-Inch Deep Cut Capacity:** Accommodates rectangular stock up to 5 x 4-3/4 inches and round stock up to 5 inches.
- **Variable Speed Dial:** Allows adjustment of blade speed from 100 to 350 surface feet per minute (sfm) for material-specific cutting.
- **LED Sight Light:** Illuminates the cut line for improved visibility in low-light conditions.
- **Integrated Hang Hook:** Provides convenient storage and prevents damage to the front handle.
- **Durable Construction:** Features a serviceable steel shroud and rubber bumpers to withstand job site abuse.
- **Ergonomic Design:** Multi-position adjustable front handle and soft grip back handle for comfort and control.



Figure 1: The DEWALT DWM120 Portable Deep Cut Band Saw, showcasing its compact design and handles.

3. COMPONENTS AND CONTROLS

Familiarize yourself with the various parts of your band saw before operation.

- **Main Handle:** Rear grip with trigger switch.
- **Front Handle:** Multi-position adjustable handle for stability and control.
- **Trigger Switch:** Activates the motor.
- **Variable Speed Dial:** Located near the main handle, used to adjust blade speed.
- **Blade:** The cutting element.
- **Blade Guide Rollers:** Support and guide the blade during operation.
- **Material Guide:** Adjustable guide for securing workpieces.
- **LED Sight Light:** Illuminates the cutting path.
- **Hang Hook:** For convenient storage.
- **Blade Changing Lever:** Releases blade tension for easy blade replacement.



Figure 2: Close-up view of the main handle and variable speed dial, indicating control placement.

4. SETUP

4.1 Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the band saw and all accessories from the packaging. Inspect the tool for any damage that may have occurred during shipping. Ensure all components listed in the 'What's in the Box' section of your product information are present.

4.2 Blade Installation and Replacement

To install or replace the blade:

1. **Disconnect Power:** Always unplug the tool from the power source before performing any maintenance or blade changes.
2. **Release Tension:** Locate the blade changing lever and move it to the 'release' position to loosen blade tension.
3. **Remove Old Blade:** Carefully remove the old blade from the guide rollers and drive wheels.
4. **Install New Blade:** Position the new blade around the drive wheels, ensuring the teeth are pointing in the correct cutting direction (refer to directional arrows on the tool, if present). Guide the blade into the blade guide rollers.
5. **Apply Tension:** Move the blade changing lever to the 'tension' position to secure the new blade. Ensure the blade is properly seated and tensioned.
6. **Check Tracking:** Verify the blade tracking adjustment to ensure the blade runs centrally on the wheels. Adjust if necessary to prevent premature blade wear.



Figure 3: Detail of the blade guide rollers and surrounding mechanism, crucial for proper blade installation.



Figure 4: Internal view showing the blade path around the drive wheels and the tensioning components.

5. OPERATION

5.1 Powering On and Off

To turn the saw ON, depress the trigger switch. To turn the saw OFF, release the trigger switch.

5.2 Variable Speed Control

The variable speed dial allows you to select the appropriate blade speed for the material being cut. Rotate the dial to adjust the speed between 100 and 350 sfm. Lower speeds are generally used for harder metals, while higher speeds are suitable for softer materials.

5.3 Cutting Procedures

Before cutting, ensure the workpiece is securely clamped. Position the saw so the blade is aligned with your cut line. The LED sight light can assist in precise alignment. Maintain a firm grip on both handles and apply steady, even pressure. Allow the blade to do the work; do not force the cut. The saw has a maximum cutting capacity of 5 inches for round stock and 5 x 4-3/4 inches for rectangular stock.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and extends the life of your DEWALT DWM120 band saw.

6.1 Cleaning

After each use, clean the saw to remove metal chips, dust, and debris. Use a dry cloth or compressed air. Do not use solvents that could damage plastic parts.

6.2 Blade Tracking Adjustment

Periodically check and adjust the blade tracking to ensure the blade runs true on the wheels. Proper tracking reduces blade wear and improves cut quality. Refer to the specific instructions in your full manual for detailed adjustment procedures.

6.3 Carbon Brush Replacement

The DWM120 features externally replaceable carbon brushes. If the motor performance decreases or sparks become excessive, the brushes may need replacement. Disconnect power, locate the brush caps, remove them, and replace the worn brushes with new ones. Consult your full manual for detailed instructions and brush specifications.

6.4 Storage

When not in use, store the band saw in a clean, dry location. Utilize the integrated hang hook for convenient and safe storage.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your band saw.

- **Saw Does Not Start:**

- Check if the tool is properly plugged into a working power outlet.
- Inspect the power cord for damage.
- Ensure the trigger switch is fully depressed.
- Check carbon brushes for wear (refer to Maintenance section).

- **Poor Cut Quality / Blade Wandering:**

- Blade may be dull; replace with a new, sharp blade.
- Blade tension may be incorrect; adjust using the blade changing lever.
- Blade tracking may be off; adjust blade tracking.
- Blade guide rollers may be worn or misaligned; inspect and adjust/replace if necessary.
- Workpiece not securely clamped.

- **Excessive Vibration or Noise:**

- Blade may be damaged or incorrectly installed.
- Blade guide rollers may be worn or damaged.
- Internal components may require inspection by a qualified service technician.

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

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	DWM120
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	120 Volts
Amperage	10 Amps
Wattage	1200 Watts
Round Stock Capacity	5 Inches
Rectangular Stock Capacity	5 x 4-3/4 Inches
Blade Length	44-7/8 Inches
Blade Width	1/2 Inch
Blade Thickness	0.020 Inch
Surface Feet per Minute (SFM)	100-350 (Variable Speed)
Item Weight	18 Pounds
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	23.38" x 21" x 13.25"
Handle Material	Rubber
Blade Material	Metal, Steel

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

DEWALT stands behind the quality of its products. The DWM120 Portable Deep Cut Band Saw comes with the following warranty and service package:

- **Three-Year Limited Warranty:** Covers defects in material or workmanship for three years from the date of purchase.
- **One-Year Free Service Contract:** DEWALT will maintain the tool and replace worn parts caused by normal use, for free, any time during the first year after purchase.
- **90-Day Money Back Guarantee:** If you are not completely satisfied with the performance of your DEWALT Power Tool, Laser, or Nailer for any reason, you can return it within 90 days from the date of purchase for a full refund.

For warranty claims, service, or technical support, please contact DEWALT customer service or visit an authorized DEWALT service center. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty validation.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

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