

## Makita EM403MP

# Makita EM403MP 17" Brush Cutter Couple Shaft Attachment Instruction Manual

## 1. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Before operating the Makita EM403MP attachment, carefully read and understand all safety instructions provided in this manual and the power head's manual. Failure to follow these instructions can result in serious injury.

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including **eye protection**, **long sleeves**, and **sturdy shoes**.
- Maintain a safe operating distance from other individuals, pets, and property while the tool is in use.
- Ensure the attachment is securely fastened to the power head before starting operation.
- Inspect the attachment for any damage or loose parts before each use. Do not operate if damaged.

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Makita EM403MP is a 17-inch brush cutter couple shaft attachment designed for use with compatible Makita MM4 4-stroke engine and 18V x2 LXT (36V) cordless couple-shaft power heads (sold separately). It features a versatile design for grass cutting and can be adapted for brush cutting with additional components.



Figure 1: Makita EM403MP 17" Brush Cutter Couple Shaft Attachment. This image shows the attachment with its standard bump and feed trimmer head and large grass shield.

### Key Features:

- **Quick Attachment:** Designed for fast and easy connection to compatible power heads.
- **Durable Construction:** Features a steel drive shaft engineered for reduced vibration and extended service life.
- **Versatile Shield:** Includes a large multi-purpose grass shield, suitable for use with the included trimmer head or an optional brush cutter blade (part no. B-14118).
- **Efficient Cutting:** Provides a 17-inch cutting swathe for effective grass trimming.
- **Bump and Feed Trimmer Head:** Facilitates quick and efficient line feed during operation.

### 3. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

This section details the steps for attaching the EM403MP to a compatible power head and preparing it for use.

## Attaching to Power Head:

1. Ensure the power head is turned off and the battery (if applicable) is removed for safety.
2. Align the shaft of the EM403MP attachment with the coupling mechanism on your Makita power head.
3. Push the attachment firmly into the power head until it clicks into place.
4. Tighten any securing knobs or levers on the power head's coupling to ensure a firm connection. Refer to your power head's manual for specific coupling instructions.

## Brush Cutter Blade Conversion (Optional):

The EM403MP is designed to accept a brush cutter blade (Makita part no. B-14118) for heavier vegetation. However, it is important to note that the necessary components for blade installation (such as the clamp washer, cup, and hex lock nut) are **typically sold separately** and are not included with the standard EM403MP attachment in some regions (e.g., US and Canada). Users wishing to convert to a brush cutter blade must acquire these additional parts.

Required parts for brush cutter blade installation (may vary, consult Makita parts list):

- Makita 9 in. Brush Cutting Blade (B-14118)
- Clamp Washer (e.g., part # 346660-7 or 347105-8)
- Cup (e.g., part # 457274-8 or 457290-0)
- Hex. Lock Nut M10-17 (e.g., part # 264088-6 or 252236-9)

Consult an authorized Makita service center or parts dealer for the correct and most current part numbers for your region. Installation of the brush cutter blade requires specific tools and adherence to safety guidelines outlined in the blade's instructions and the power head manual.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once the EM403MP attachment is securely installed on your power head, follow these guidelines for effective and safe operation.

### Using the Bump and Feed Trimmer Head:

1. Start the power head according to its instruction manual.
2. Allow the trimmer line to reach full operating speed before beginning to cut.
3. To advance the trimmer line, gently tap the bump knob on the ground while the head is spinning. The centrifugal force will extend the line.
4. Cut grass and light weeds using a sweeping motion, keeping the cutting head parallel to the ground. The 17-inch cutting swath allows for efficient coverage.
5. Avoid contact with hard objects, rocks, and fences to prevent damage to the trimmer line and head.

### Using a Brush Cutter Blade (if installed):

If you have installed a brush cutter blade, operate with extreme caution. Brush cutting is for heavier vegetation and requires a different technique than string trimming.

- Always wear heavy-duty protective gear, including a face shield, thick gloves, and leg protection.
- Use a controlled, deliberate motion. Avoid swinging the blade wildly.
- Be aware of kickback, which can occur if the blade strikes an immovable object or binds in thick material.
- Do not attempt to cut material thicker than the blade is designed for.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Makita EM403MP attachment.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the attachment, especially the cutting head and shield, to remove grass, dirt, and debris. Use a damp cloth; avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Trimmer Line Replacement:** When the trimmer line runs out, replace it with the recommended diameter and type specified by Makita. Refer to the trimmer head's specific instructions for line winding.
- **Blade Inspection (if applicable):** If using a brush cutter blade, regularly inspect it for sharpness, cracks, or damage. Replace dull or damaged blades immediately.
- **Shaft Lubrication:** The steel drive shaft is designed for durability. Periodically check for any unusual noises or vibrations. If lubrication is required, use only recommended lubricants as per Makita guidelines.
- **Storage:** Store the attachment in a clean, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Detach it from the power head for compact storage.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with the EM403MP attachment.

### Attachment Does Not Operate:

- Ensure the attachment is correctly and securely connected to the power head.
- Verify that the power head itself is functioning correctly (e.g., battery charged, fuel present, engine started).

### Trimmer Line Does Not Feed:

- Check if the trimmer line is tangled or jammed inside the head.
- Ensure the line is not too short. Replace if necessary.
- Verify that the bump mechanism is not worn or damaged.

### Confusion Regarding "Brush Cutter" Functionality:

The EM403MP is marketed as a "Brush Cutter Couple Shaft Attachment." However, it is crucial to understand that while it is designed to accept a brush cutter blade, the necessary components for blade installation (clamp washer, cup, hex lock nut) and the blade itself are **typically not included** with the attachment and must be purchased separately. If you intend to use this attachment for brush cutting with a blade, ensure you have acquired all required conversion parts.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

| Specification      | Detail                                    |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Model Number       | EM403MP                                   |
| Brand              | Makita                                    |
| Item Weight        | 6.19 Pounds (2.81 kg)                     |
| Cutting Width      | 17 Inches (43.18 cm)                      |
| Product Dimensions | 8.27 x 37 x 5.12 inches (21 x 94 x 13 cm) |

|                        |                                                                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shaft Arbor            | 10 mm left-handed thread                                                        |
| Compatible Power Heads | Makita MM4 4-stroke engine & 18V x2 LXT (36V) cordless couple-shaft power heads |
| UPC                    | 088381548878                                                                    |

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Makita products are manufactured to high-quality standards and are backed by a limited warranty. For specific warranty details, including coverage period and terms, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Makita website.

For technical assistance, parts inquiries, or service, please contact Makita customer support or an authorized Makita service center. Contact information can typically be found on the Makita website or in your product's packaging.

### ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

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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.

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