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Stihl HLA 56

STIHL HLA 56 Battery Hedge Trimmer Instruction Manual

Model: HLA 56

Introduction

This instruction manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and care of your STIHL HLA 56 Battery Hedge Trimmer. Please read this manual thoroughly before first use and keep it for future reference. Understanding and following these instructions will help prevent accidents, ensure optimal performance, and extend the lifespan of your tool.

The STIHL HLA 56 is a lightweight, balanced, long-reach cordless hedge trimmer designed for precise and even trimming. It features double-edged, teardrop blades and an adjustable head angle for versatile use in various garden applications. This tool is part of the STIHL AK battery system, utilizing interchangeable batteries like the AK10 and chargers like the AL101.

1. Safety Instructions

WARNING: Read all safety warnings, instructions, illustrations, and specifications provided with this power tool. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.

1.1 General Safety

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including eye protection, hearing protection, gloves, and sturdy footwear.
- Keep children and bystanders away while operating the hedge trimmer.
- Do not operate the tool in wet conditions or in the rain.
- Inspect the hedge trimmer for damage before each use. Do not use if damaged.
- Ensure the battery is removed before cleaning, maintenance, or storage.
- Maintain a firm grip with both hands on the tool during operation.

1.2 Battery and Charger Safety

- Use only STIHL AK series batteries and AL series chargers with this tool.
- Do not expose batteries to water, heat, or direct sunlight.
- Charge batteries in a well-ventilated area.
- Do not attempt to open or modify the battery or charger.

- Store batteries in a cool, dry place, away from metallic objects.

2. Components Overview

Familiarize yourself with the main components of your STIHL HLA 56 hedge trimmer:



Figure 1: Overview of the STIHL HLA 56 Battery Hedge Trimmer, including the main unit, AK10 battery, and AL101 charger. The hedge trimmer features a long shaft and an adjustable cutting head.

1. **Cutting Blade:** Double-edged, teardrop-shaped blades for efficient cutting.
2. **Adjustable Head:** Allows angle adjustment from -45° to +90°.
3. **Shaft:** Long-reach shaft, separable for transport and storage.
4. **Handle:** All-round handle for comfortable grip and maneuverability.
5. **Control Levers:** Locking lever, ERGO lever, and main trigger lever for operation.
6. **Battery Compartment:** Houses the AK series battery.
7. **Blade Guard:** Protective cover for the cutting blade.
8. **Tip Protector:** Protects the blade tip during use near obstacles.

3. Setup and Assembly

3.1 Charging the Battery (AL101 Charger & AK10 Battery)

Before first use, fully charge the AK10 battery using the AL101 charger.

1. Connect the AL101 charger to a suitable power outlet.
2. Slide the AK10 battery into the charger until it clicks into place.
3. The charging indicator light on the charger will show the charging status. Refer to the AL101 charger manual for specific light patterns.
4. Once fully charged, remove the battery from the charger.

3.2 Assembling the Shaft

The HLA 56 features a split shaft for easy transport and storage.

1. Align the two sections of the shaft.
2. Push them together until they are fully seated.
3. Secure the connection using the clamp with the toggle screw. Ensure it is tightened firmly to prevent movement during operation.

3.3 Installing the Battery

1. Ensure the hedge trimmer is switched off.
2. Open the battery compartment cover.
3. Slide the charged AK10 battery into the compartment until it locks securely into place.
4. Close the battery compartment cover.



Figure 2: The STIHL HLA 56 hedge trimmer with the orange blade cover in place, demonstrating safe storage or transport configuration.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1 Starting and Stopping

1. To start: Press the locking lever (front orange), then the ERGO lever (black), and finally the main trigger lever (bottom orange). The blades will begin to move.
2. To stop: Release the main trigger lever. The blades will stop.

4.2 Adjusting the Head Angle

The cutting head angle can be adjusted from -45° to +90° for various trimming tasks.

1. Ensure the tool is switched off and the battery is removed for safety during adjustment.
2. Locate the large angle adjustment knob.
3. Press or turn the knob (refer to specific tool design for exact mechanism) to unlock the head.
4. Adjust the cutting head to the desired angle.
5. Release or re-engage the knob to lock the head securely in position.



Figure 3: Detailed view of the STIHL HLA 56 cutting head, showing the double-edged blades and the control area with safety levers.

4.3 Trimming Techniques

- **Horizontal Trimming:** Hold the tool with the blade parallel to the ground. Use a sweeping motion.
- **Vertical Trimming:** Hold the tool with the blade perpendicular to the ground. Work from bottom to top for best results.
- **Overhead Trimming:** Utilize the adjustable head and long reach. Be mindful of falling debris.
- Avoid cutting branches thicker than the recommended capacity (refer to specifications).

5. Maintenance

WARNING: Always remove the battery before performing any maintenance or cleaning tasks.

5.1 Cleaning the Blades

1. After each use, remove sap and debris from the blades using a stiff brush or cloth.
2. Apply a suitable blade cleaner or light oil to prevent rust and ensure smooth operation.

5.2 General Cleaning and Storage

1. Wipe down the tool housing with a damp cloth. Do not use strong detergents or solvents.
2. Store the hedge trimmer in a dry, secure location, out of reach of children.
3. Always install the blade guard before storing or transporting the tool.
4. For long-term storage, remove the battery and store it separately in a cool, dry place.

6. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Tool does not start	Battery not inserted correctly or discharged. Safety levers not engaged.	Ensure battery is fully inserted and charged. Engage all safety levers (locking, ERGO, trigger).
Reduced cutting performance	Blades are dull or dirty. Overloading the tool.	Clean and sharpen blades. Avoid cutting branches thicker than recommended.
Excessive vibration	Loose components. Damaged blade.	Check all fasteners. Inspect blades for damage; replace if necessary. If problem persists, contact service.

7. Technical Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model	STIHL HLA 56
Power Source	Battery Powered (STIHL AK System)
Compatible Battery	STIHL AK10 (or higher AK series)
Compatible Charger	STIHL AL101
Blade Length	115 cm (approximately 45.3 inches)
Blade Material	High Carbon Steel
Adjustable Head Angle	-45° to +90°
Total Length	210 cm (approximately 82.7 inches)
Item Weight (without battery)	4.6 kg (approximately 10.12 lbs)
Sound Power Level (LwA)	90 dB (as per product label)
Model Number	HLA 56
UPC	659701381347, 886661771066



Figure 4: Product label indicating the STIHL HLA 56 model, voltage range, manufacturing origin, and a sound power level (LwA) of 90

dB.

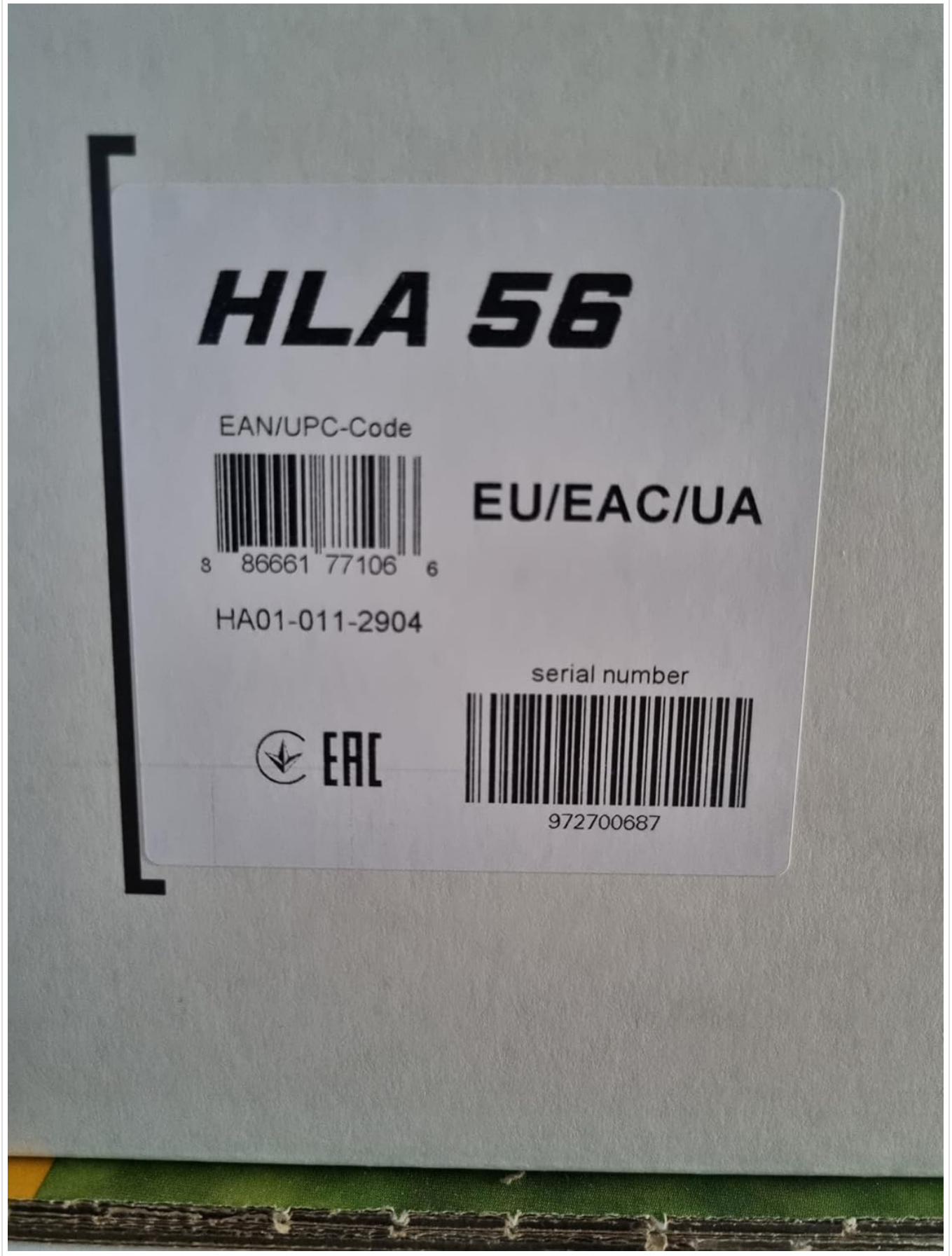


Figure 5: Product label displaying the HLA 56 model, EAN/UPC code (886661771066), and serial number (972700687).

8. Warranty and Support

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the official STIHL website or contact your authorized STIHL dealer. Keep your purchase receipt and product serial number (found on the product label, e.g., 972700687) for warranty claims.
You can find more information and contact details on the officialSTIHL website.

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