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› AL-KO BC 400 B Petrol Brush Cutter User Manual

AL-KO BC 400 B

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Model: 113784

1. INTRODUCTION AND PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The AL-KO BC 400 B is a versatile, lightweight, and easy-to-handle petrol brush cutter designed for independent operation in various outdoor environments. It features an easy-start 2-stroke engine with a pull starter, a double-bearing crankshaft, and a robust angle drive, ensuring an extended service life. A metal tank guard enhances both safety and durability.

This brush cutter offers precise control through its adjustable, comfortable bike handle. Integrated controls are paired with a Fast&Easy line head, simplifying line threading and winding without the need to open the head. This design promotes secure guidance and additional protection during use.

Operating without cords or battery charging, the AL-KO BC 400 B is suitable for large gardens, lawns, meadows, slopes, and areas inaccessible to traditional lawnmowers. It provides powerful clearing capabilities with a 41 cm cutting width when using the line head and a 25 cm cutting width with the included metal blade. The automatic tip feature allows for optimal line length adjustment during operation (not applicable when using the blade).



Image 1.1: The AL-KO BC 400 B Petrol Brush Cutter, showcasing its design with a bike handle.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when operating the AL-KO BC 400 B brush cutter. Failure to follow safety instructions can result in serious injury.

- **Read the Manual:** Thoroughly read and understand this entire instruction manual before operating the brush cutter.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear appropriate PPE, including safety glasses or a face shield, sturdy shoes, long pants, hearing protection, and gloves.

- **Bystanders:** Keep all bystanders, children, and pets at a safe distance (at least 15 meters / 50 feet) from the operating area.
- **Work Area:** Before starting, inspect the work area for objects that could be thrown or entangled in the cutting attachment, such as rocks, wire, or debris. Clear the area of such items.
- **Fuel Handling:** Handle fuel with extreme care. Petrol is highly flammable. Refuel outdoors, away from ignition sources, and do not smoke while refueling. Allow the engine to cool before refueling.
- **Secure Grip:** Maintain a firm grip on both handles of the brush cutter during operation.
- **Hot Surfaces:** Be aware that the engine and exhaust system become hot during operation and can cause burns. Avoid contact.
- **Before Maintenance:** Always switch off the engine and ensure all moving parts have stopped before performing any maintenance, cleaning, or adjustments.
- **Flying Debris:** Be mindful of flying debris and sharp edges during operation.

The robust metal tank guard protects against damage and effectively prevents fuel leaks, contributing to both safety and environmental protection.

3. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

The AL-KO BC 400 B requires some initial assembly before first use. The package includes the brush cutter unit, a line spool, a cutting blade, and a carrying strap.

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging and check for any damage. Ensure all listed parts are present.
2. **Attaching the Bike Handle:** Secure the ergonomic bike handle to the shaft using the provided fasteners. Adjust its position for comfortable and balanced operation.
3. **Mounting the Guard:** Install the protective guard over the cutting attachment area. This guard is crucial for deflecting debris and must always be in place during operation.
4. **Installing Cutting Attachment:**
 - **Line Head:** The Fast&Easy line head is designed for simple threading and winding of the cutting line without opening the head. Follow the instructions for inserting new line.
 - **Cutting Blade:** For tougher vegetation, attach the 3-tooth metal cutting blade (25 cm working width). Ensure it is securely fastened according to the manual's diagrams.
5. **Adjusting the Carrying Strap:** Attach the padded double strap with hip protection to the brush cutter. Adjust the strap length to distribute the tool's 7.6 kg weight evenly across your shoulders, ensuring comfortable and fatigue-free operation.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Proper operation ensures efficiency and safety. The AL-KO BC 400 B is powered by a 2-stroke petrol engine.

4.1 Fueling the Engine

This brush cutter uses a 2-stroke engine, requiring a specific petrol-oil mixture. Refer to the engine manufacturer's recommendations for the correct mixing ratio (typically 50:1 or 25:1, depending on the oil type). Use fresh, unleaded petrol and high-quality 2-stroke engine oil.

- Mix fuel in a separate, approved container.
- Ensure the engine is off and cool before refueling.

- Refuel in a well-ventilated outdoor area, away from open flames or sparks.
- Wipe up any spilled fuel immediately.

4.2 Starting the Engine

1. Place the brush cutter on a flat, stable surface.
2. Engage the choke (if cold start).
3. Press the primer bulb several times until fuel is visible.
4. Set the throttle to the starting position.
5. Pull the starter cord firmly and smoothly until the engine starts.
6. Once started, gradually disengage the choke.
7. Allow the engine to warm up for a few moments before beginning work.

4.3 Stopping the Engine

To stop the engine, release the throttle and press the engine stop switch. Ensure the engine comes to a complete stop before setting the tool down.

4.4 Using the Cutting Attachments

- **Line Head (41 cm cutting width):** Ideal for trimming grass and light weeds. To extend the cutting line, simply tap the rotating head gently on the ground while the engine is running. The automatic tip mechanism will feed out new line.
- **Cutting Blade (25 cm cutting width):** Use the 3-tooth metal blade for thicker grass, brush, and small saplings. Exercise extra caution when using the blade due to increased risk of kickback.

4.5 Working Technique

Hold the brush cutter firmly with both hands, maintaining a balanced stance. Use a sweeping motion to cut vegetation. Always cut away from your body. Be aware of the cutting direction and potential for thrown debris.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your AL-KO BC 400 B brush cutter.

- **After Each Use:** Clean the brush cutter thoroughly, removing grass, dirt, and debris from the engine, guard, and cutting attachment. Inspect for any damage or loose fasteners.
- **Air Filter:** Check and clean the air filter regularly (e.g., every 10-15 hours of operation). A clogged air filter can reduce engine performance. Replace if damaged.
- **Spark Plug:** Inspect the spark plug periodically (e.g., every 25-30 hours). Clean or replace if fouled or worn. Ensure correct gap.
- **Fuel Filter:** Check the fuel filter in the fuel tank for blockages. Replace if necessary.
- **Cutting Attachments:**
 - **Line Head:** Replace the cutting line when it runs out or becomes brittle. Ensure the Fast&Easy mechanism is clean and functional.
 - **Blade:** Inspect the cutting blade for sharpness and damage. Sharpen or replace as needed. A dull or damaged blade can cause excessive vibration and reduce cutting efficiency.
- **Gearbox Lubrication:** Periodically check and replenish the gearbox grease as specified in the full manual.

- **Storage:** For long-term storage, drain the fuel tank and run the engine until it stops to clear the carburetor. Clean the unit and store it in a dry, secure place, out of reach of children.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your AL-KO BC 400 B brush cutter.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine won't start	No fuel or incorrect fuel mixture Clogged fuel filter Fouled or damaged spark plug Choke not engaged/disengaged correctly	Check fuel level and mixture Clean or replace fuel filter Clean or replace spark plug Follow starting procedure carefully
Loss of power during operation	Clogged air filter Incorrect fuel mixture Dull or damaged cutting attachment Engine overheating	Clean or replace air filter Ensure correct fuel-oil ratio Sharpen or replace blade/line Allow engine to cool, check for obstructions
Excessive vibration	Damaged or unbalanced cutting blade/line head Loose components Bent shaft	Inspect and replace damaged cutting attachment Check and tighten all fasteners Contact service center for inspection
Line not feeding automatically	Line tangled or too short Line head mechanism clogged Incorrect line diameter	Replace line or untangle Clean line head Use recommended line diameter

If you encounter problems not listed here or if solutions do not resolve the issue, please contact AL-KO customer support or an authorized service center.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

The following table details the technical specifications for the AL-KO BC 400 B Petrol Brush Cutter (Model 113784).



Image 7.1: Product label with key specifications for the AL-KO BC 400 B.

Specification	Value
Manufacturer	AL-KO
Model Number	113784
Product Name	BC 400 B Petrol Brush Cutter
Power Source	Petrol
Engine Type	2-stroke

Specification	Value
Engine Power	1.25 kW / 1.7 HP
Engine Displacement	39.8 cm ³
Max Speed	7000 rpm
Item Weight	7.6 Kilograms
Cutting Width (Line)	41 Centimeters
Cutting Width (Blade)	25 Centimeters (3-tooth blade)
Handle Type	Bike Handle (adjustable)
Included Components	Brush cutter, line spool, cutting blade, carrying strap
Assembly Required	No (refers to initial assembly, not ongoing user assembly)
Cordless	No

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

AL-KO stands by the quality of its products. For information regarding your product's warranty, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase. AL-KO offers a warranty extension upon online registration of your product.



Image 8.1: AL-KO offers a 2+2 year warranty extension upon online registration.

To register your product and potentially extend your warranty, visit the official AL-KO website: www.alko-garden.de.

For technical support, spare parts, or service inquiries, please contact your local AL-KO dealer or the AL-KO customer service department. Contact details can typically be found on the AL-KO website or in your product's packaging.

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