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WEN PL1326

WEN PL1326 13-Inch Benchtop Thickness Planer

User Manual - Model: PL1326

1. Introduction

The WEN PL1326 13-Inch Benchtop Thickness Planer is designed to resurface rough and worn wood, providing an exceptionally smooth finish. This powerful tool is equipped with a spiral cutterhead and a robust 15-amp motor, making it suitable for both hard and soft woods. This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your planer.



Figure 1: WEN PL1326 13-Inch Benchtop Thickness Planer, front view with infeed and outfeed tables extended.

2. Safety Information

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

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including eye protection, hearing protection, and dust masks.
- Ensure the work area is clean, well-lit, and free from obstructions.
- Keep hands and fingers away from the cutterhead and feed rollers during operation.
- Always disconnect power before performing any adjustments, maintenance, or when the tool is not in use.
- Secure the workpiece properly to prevent kickback.
- Connect the dust port to a suitable dust collection system to manage wood chips and sawdust.

3. Setup

3.1 Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the planer and all accessories from the packaging. Inspect the unit for any damage that may have occurred during shipping. Report any damage immediately to WEN customer service.

3.2 Mounting the Planer

The planer features predrilled base holes for secure mounting to a workbench or a dedicated planer stand (such as the WEN MSA658 Planer Stand). Ensure the mounting surface is stable and level to prevent movement during operation.



Figure 2: Top view of the planer, highlighting the mounting rails for secure installation.

3.3 Attaching Infeed and Outfeed Tables

The planer includes height-adjustable infeed and outfeed tables. Attach these tables as per the instructions in the included assembly guide. Proper adjustment of these tables is crucial to minimize snipe and provide adequate support for your workpiece.



Figure 3: Rear view of the planer, showing the adjustable dust port and the depth stop mechanism.

3.4 Dust Collection Connection

Connect the adjustable dust port to a dust collection system or shop vacuum. Effective dust collection is essential for maintaining a clean work environment and ensuring optimal planer performance.

4. Operation

4.1 Powering On/Off

Locate the power switch on the planer. Ensure the switch is in the "OFF" position before plugging the unit into a standard 120V AC outlet. To start the planer, switch it to the "ON" position. To stop, switch to "OFF".

4.2 Adjusting Planing Depth

Use the handy depth adjustment knob to set the desired material removal per pass. The planer can remove anywhere from 0 to 1/8 of an inch per pass. For best results and to prevent motor overload, especially with hard woods, take shallow passes.



Figure 4: Detailed view of the onboard planing gauge, indicating material removal depth.

4.3 Using the Onboard Planing Gauge

The onboard planing gauge provides a visual indication of the amount of material being removed during each pass. Refer to this gauge to ensure consistent and accurate planing depths.



Figure 5: Close-up of the depth stop, allowing for precise workpiece thickness settings.

4.4 Feeding Material

Ensure the workpiece is free of nails, screws, or other foreign objects that could damage the cutterhead. Feed the material smoothly and consistently into the planer. The 15-amp motor rotates the cutterhead at over 10,000 RPM with a 26 feet per minute feed rate, allowing for efficient planing of boards up to 13 inches wide and 6 inches thick.



Figure 6: View of the spiral cutterhead, featuring 26 staggered HSS blades for a smooth finish.

5. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your WEN PL1326 planer.

5.1 Cleaning

After each use, disconnect the planer from power and clean all surfaces, especially around the cutterhead and feed rollers, to remove wood chips and resin buildup. Ensure the dust port and collection system are clear.



Figure 7: Side view of the planer, illustrating the dust port connection for chip removal.

5.2 Cutterhead Blade Inspection and Replacement

The spiral cutterhead uses 26 staggered and rotatable HSS blades. Periodically inspect the blades for dullness or damage. When necessary, rotate or replace the blades. Compatible replacement blades are WEN BP510H. Refer to the detailed instructions in the full manual for blade replacement procedures.

5.3 Lubrication

Lubricate moving parts, such as the height adjustment screws, periodically with a dry lubricant to ensure smooth operation. Avoid excessive lubrication that could attract dust.

6. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Planer does not start	No power, tripped circuit breaker, faulty switch.	Check power connection, reset circuit breaker, contact service if switch is faulty.
Excessive snipe on workpiece ends	Improperly adjusted infeed/outfeed tables, feeding too fast.	Adjust tables for proper support, feed material at a consistent, slower rate.
Rough finish on wood	Dull or damaged blades, too deep a cut.	Rotate or replace cutterhead blades, take shallower passes.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Motor stalls or bogs down	Overload due to too deep a cut, feeding too fast, dull blades.	Reduce depth of cut, slow down feed rate, replace blades.
Poor dust collection	Clogged dust port, inadequate dust collection system.	Clear dust port and hose, ensure dust collector is properly sized and functioning.

7. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Brand	WEN
Model Number	PL1326
Power Source	Corded Electric
Amperage	15 Amps
Cutterhead Speed	10,000 RPM
Feed Rate	26 feet per minute
Max. Planing Width	13 inches (33 cm)
Max. Planing Thickness	6 inches
Max. Cut Depth Per Pass	1/8 inch
Cutterhead Type	Spiral with 26 HSS blades
Base Material	Cast Iron
Item Weight	80.8 pounds (36.74 Kilograms)
Included Components	Depth stop, adjustable dust port

8. Warranty and Support

WEN products are backed by a nationwide network of skilled service technicians. For assistance, warranty claims, or to locate replacement parts, please visit the official WEN website or contact their customer support directly. Always refer to your purchase documentation for specific warranty terms and conditions.

For more information, visit the WEN Store on Amazon.

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