Makita XRU23SM1

Makita XRU23SM1 18V LXT® Lithium-Ion Brushless Cordless 13" String Trimmer Kit Instruction Manual

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and care of your Makita XRU23SM1 18V LXT® Lithium-Ion Brushless Cordless 13" String Trimmer Kit. Please read all instructions carefully before use and retain this manual for future reference.



Image 1: The Makita XRU23SM1 18V LXT Brushless Cordless 13" String Trimmer Kit, featuring its teal and black design with a battery attached.

The Makita XRU23SM1 string trimmer offers a solution for landscaping tasks with zero emissions, reduced noise, and minimal maintenance. It is designed for precision trimming and edging, powered by an efficient Makita-built brushless motor that provides extended run time, increased power, and longer tool life. The motor delivers up to 6,000 RPM for efficient cutting. With an 18V LXT 4.0Ah Battery, the trimmer can operate for up to 1 hour. It includes a variable speed

trigger for precise cutting speed control and a high/low button for power and run time management. The rapid load bump-and-feed trimmer head allows for quick line replacement in three simple steps. This tool incorporates Makita's Extreme Protection Technology (XPT™), a protective seal engineered for improved operation in harsh conditions by diverting water and dust from internal components. It is part of the Makita 18V LXT System, utilizing 18V lithium-ion slide-style batteries known for fast charge times and enhanced performance through Star Protection Computer Controls™ communication technology, which protects against overloading, over-discharging, and overheating.

2. Safety Information

WARNING: To reduce the risk of injury, always observe the following safety precautions:

- Always wear appropriate safety gear, including eye protection (safety glasses or goggles) and heavy-duty gloves.
- Be aware of flying debris and potential cut hazards when operating the string trimmer.
- Ensure children, pets, and bystanders are kept at a safe distance (at least 50 feet/15 meters) from the operating area.
- Do not operate the tool if the guard is damaged, missing, or improperly installed. The guard is essential for operator protection.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation, assembly, and maintenance.
- Before performing any maintenance, cleaning, or when the tool is not in use, always remove the battery pack.
- Inspect the work area for objects that could be thrown by the cutting line. Remove any stones, sticks, or other debris.

3. Setup

3.1 Assembly

The string trimmer requires minimal assembly. Ensure all components are securely fastened before use. Refer to the included diagrams for specific assembly steps, such as attaching the protective guard and adjusting the auxiliary handle for comfortable operation.

3.2 Battery Installation and Charging

Insert a fully charged 18V LXT Lithium-Ion battery into the battery slot until it clicks into place. To charge the battery, use the Makita 18V LXT charger according to its instructions. Ensure the battery is cool before charging for optimal performance and longevity.

3.3 Loading Trimmer Line

The rapid load bump-and-feed trimmer head simplifies line replacement. Follow these three easy steps:

1. **Align:** Align the eyelets on the trimmer head with the arrows on the housing.
2. **Feed:** Feed the trimmer line through one eyelet and out the other until an equal length extends from both sides.
3. **Twist:** Rotate the bump knob clockwise to wind the line into the head.



Image 2: Close-up of hands demonstrating the process of loading new trimmer line into the bump-and-feed head.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1 Starting and Stopping

To start the trimmer, ensure the battery is installed, then press the power button. Squeeze the variable speed trigger to begin cutting. To stop, release the trigger and press the power button again.

4.2 Speed Control

The trimmer features a variable speed trigger for precise control over cutting speed. Additionally, a high/low button allows you to switch between two power settings to manage performance and battery run time. Use the low setting for lighter tasks and to conserve battery, and the high setting for denser vegetation.



Image 3: A detailed view of the trimmer's control panel, highlighting the power button and high/low speed selector.

4.3 Trimming and Edging Techniques

Hold the trimmer firmly with both hands. Maintain a comfortable stance and keep the cutting head parallel to the ground for even trimming. For edging, tilt the trimmer head to a vertical position and guide it along the edge of sidewalks or garden beds. Always move the trimmer away from your body and avoid contact with hard surfaces to prevent line breakage.



Image 4: An individual demonstrating proper technique for edging a lawn with the Makita string trimmer along a fence line.



Image 5: A close-up view of the trimmer head actively cutting grass, showing the effectiveness of the cutting line.

4.4 Official Product Video

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: An official Makita video demonstrating the features and operation of the 18V LXT Brushless Cordless String Trimmer (XRU23), including assembly and usage tips.

5. Maintenance

5.1 Cleaning

After each use, disconnect the battery and clean the trimmer head and guard. Remove any accumulated grass, dirt, or debris using a brush or cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners. Ensure ventilation openings are clear of obstructions.

5.2 Trimmer Line Replacement

Replace the trimmer line when it becomes too short or breaks frequently. Refer to Section 3.3 for detailed instructions on loading new trimmer line.

5.3 Battery Care and Storage

Store batteries in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Do not store batteries in a discharged state for extended periods. For long-term storage, charge batteries to approximately 50% capacity. Avoid exposing batteries to water or impact.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your string trimmer, consult the following table:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Trimmer does not start	Battery not inserted correctly or discharged; Power button not pressed; Trigger not squeezed.	Ensure battery is fully charged and properly seated. Press the power button and squeeze the trigger.
Trimmer line does not advance	Line is tangled or too short; Trimmer head is clogged with debris.	Tap the bump head firmly on the ground while the trimmer is running. If unsuccessful, remove battery, inspect and clear debris from the head, or replace the line.
Reduced cutting performance	Trimmer line is worn or incorrect type; Low battery charge; Operating in high/dense vegetation on low speed.	Replace trimmer line with recommended type. Charge battery. Switch to high-speed setting for tougher conditions.
Excessive vibration	Damaged or improperly installed trimmer head/line; Loose components.	Remove battery and inspect trimmer head for damage. Ensure line is evenly distributed. Check all fasteners for tightness.

If problems persist after attempting these solutions, contact Makita customer support or an authorized service center.

7. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Brand	Makita
Model Number	XRU23SM1
Power Source	Battery Powered (18V LXT Lithium-Ion)
Cutting Width	13 inches
Speed	Up to 6000 RPM
Battery Average Life	Up to 60 minutes (with 4.0Ah battery)
Item Dimensions (L x W)	8.07"L x 40.28"W
Item Weight	0.27 g (Note: This weight seems unusually low and may refer to a component, not the full tool. Refer to product packaging for accurate full tool weight.)

Feature	Specification
Included Components	Trimmer item, 18V LXT 4.0Ah Battery, Charger
UPC	088381730358

8. Warranty and Support

8.1 Manufacturer's Warranty

The Makita XRU23SM1 String Trimmer Kit comes with a**3-year limited warranty** on the tool, battery, and charger. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For full details, terms, and conditions of the warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Makita website.

8.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, service, or to inquire about replacement parts, please contact Makita customer support. You can find contact information on the official Makita website or in the documentation provided with your product. When contacting support, please have your model number (XRU23SM1) and purchase date available.

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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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

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