## Makita EM409MP

# Makita EM409MP 13" String Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment User Manual

Model: EM409MP

## 1. Introduction and Product Overview

The Makita EM409MP 13" String Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment is designed to provide efficient and versatile trimming capabilities when paired with compatible Makita MM4® 4-Stroke Engine or 18V X2 (36V) LXT® Cordless Couple-Shaft Power Heads (sold separately). This attachment is engineered for durability and ease of use, making it an ideal accessory for various landscaping tasks.

### Key Features:

- 13" cutting swath ideal for precision trimming and edging.
- Steel drive shaft for less vibration and longer equipment life.
- Rapid loading bump and feed trimmer head loads line in seconds with 3 easy steps: align, feed and twist.
- M10 x 1.25 LH shaft arbor fits common sized trimmer heads.
- Quickly attaches to power head for easy operation.



Figure 1: Makita EM409MP 13" String Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment. This image shows the complete attachment, including the trimmer head and the shaft, ready for connection to a power head.

## 2. Safety Guidelines

Always prioritize safety when operating power tools. Read and understand all instructions before use. Failure to follow safety warnings and instructions may result in serious injury.

### General Safety Precautions:

- **Read the Manual:** Familiarize yourself with the operation and safety instructions of both the attachment and your power head.
- **Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Always wear eye protection (safety glasses or goggles), hearing protection, long pants, sturdy footwear, and gloves.
- **Inspect Before Use:** Before each use, check the attachment for any damaged or loose parts. Ensure all fasteners

are tight.

- **Clear Work Area:** Keep the work area clear of other people, children, and pets. Be aware of hidden obstacles like rocks, wires, or debris that could be thrown.
- **Maintain Control:** Always maintain a firm grip on the power tool and attachment. Operate with both hands when required.
- **Avoid Contact:** Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from the cutting head while the tool is running.
- **Proper Storage:** Store the attachment in a dry, secure place, out of reach of children.

## 3. Setup and Assembly

### Attaching the Trimmer Head:

The EM409MP attachment is designed for quick and tool-less installation onto compatible Makita couple-shaft power heads. Ensure your power head is turned off and the battery (if applicable) is removed before attaching or detaching the trimmer head.

1. Align the male shaft of the EM409MP attachment with the female receiver on your power head.
2. Push the attachment firmly into the receiver until the spring-loaded pin on the power head engages with the hole on the attachment shaft, securing it in place.
3. Ensure the attachment is fully seated and locked by gently pulling on it. It should not come loose.




Figure 2: Lever style lock system. This image illustrates the quick-release mechanism on the power head that allows for fast and easy attachment and detachment of the trimmer shaft.




Figure 3: Key components of the EM409MP. This diagram highlights the Pin for quick attachment changes, the Steel Drive Shaft for durability, the Cutting Tool Guard for protection, and the Cord Cutter for maintaining optimal line length.

## Loading Trimmer Line:

The EM409MP features a rapid loading bump and feed trimmer head for quick line replacement.

1. **Align:** Rotate the trimmer head until the arrows on the head align with the eyelets.
2. **Feed:** Insert a new length of trimmer line through one eyelet and push it straight through the head until it exits the opposite eyelet. Pull the line through until equal lengths extend from both sides.
3. **Twist:** While holding the trimmer head firmly, twist the bump knob in the direction indicated by the arrows (usually clockwise) to wind the line into the head. Continue twisting until only the desired length of line extends from the head.




Figure 4: Close-up of the trimmer head. This image provides a detailed view of the bump and feed trimmer head, showing the line exit points and the mechanism for line advancement.

## 4. Operating Instructions

### General Trimming Operation:

Once the EM409MP attachment is securely connected to your power head and the line is loaded, you are ready to begin trimming. Always ensure you are wearing appropriate PPE.

1. **Start the Power Head:** Follow the instructions for your specific Makita power head to start the engine or motor.
2. **Maintain Proper Stance:** Hold the power tool firmly with both hands, maintaining a balanced and stable stance. Keep the trimmer head away from your body.
3. **Trimming Technique:** Use a sweeping motion, moving the trimmer head from side to side. For best results, cut with the tip of the line. Avoid forcing the trimmer into thick vegetation, which can bog down the motor and wear out

the line quickly.

4. **Edging:** For edging, tilt the trimmer head to a vertical position and guide it along the edge of sidewalks, driveways, or flowerbeds.
5. **Advancing Line:** If the line becomes too short, lightly tap the bump knob on the ground while the trimmer head is spinning. This will advance more line. The built-in cord cutter on the guard will trim the line to the optimal length.
6. **Stopping Operation:** Release the trigger or turn off the power head according to its instructions. Allow the trimmer head to come to a complete stop before setting the tool down.




Figure 5: Proper use of the string trimmer. This image demonstrates a user operating the Makita string trimmer attachment, showing the correct posture and handling for effective trimming.

## 5. Maintenance and Care

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Makita EM409MP attachment. Always disconnect the power head from its power source (e.g., remove battery or spark plug wire) before performing any maintenance.

### Cleaning:

- After each use, clean the trimmer head and guard to remove grass clippings, dirt, and debris. Use a dry cloth or a soft brush.
- Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners, as they can damage plastic parts.
- Ensure the ventilation openings on the power head are clear of debris to prevent overheating.

### Line Replacement:

Refer to Section 3 for detailed instructions on loading new trimmer line. Use only recommended trimmer line sizes and types for optimal performance and to prevent damage to the trimmer head.

### Storage:

- Store the attachment in a clean, dry place, away from direct sunlight, moisture, and extreme temperatures.
- If storing for an extended period, consider removing any remaining trimmer line to prevent it from becoming brittle.
- Store out of reach of children and unauthorized persons.

## 6. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your EM409MP attachment. For issues related to the power head, refer to its specific user manual.

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|---|---|---|
| Trimmer line does not advance. | Line is tangled or fused inside head; line is too short; wrong line diameter. | Remove trimmer head cover and untangle/re-spool line; replace with new line; use recommended line diameter. |
| Excessive vibration. | Bent shaft; loose attachment connection; damaged trimmer head. | Inspect shaft for bends; ensure attachment is securely locked to power head; inspect trimmer head for damage and replace if necessary. |
| Poor cutting performance. | Line is too short or worn; wrong line type; cutting too much material at once. | Advance or replace trimmer line; use appropriate line for task; take smaller passes. |

## 7. Product Specifications

Below are the key specifications for the Makita EM409MP 13" String Trimmer Couple Shaft Attachment.

| Specification | Value |
| --- | --- |
| Brand | Makita |
| Model Number | EM409MP |
| Cutting Width | 13 Inches |
| Item Weight | 2.7 Pounds |
| Product Dimensions | 8.5"L x 39.5"W |
| Shaft Arbor | M10 x 1.25 LH |
| Assembly Required | No (for attachment itself) |
| UPC | 088381574693 |

## Compatible Attachments:

The Makita Couple Shaft System supports a wide range of attachments for various landscaping needs. The EM409MP is part of this versatile system.



Figure 6: List of Compatible Attachments. This image provides a textual list of various attachments compatible with the Makita Couple Shaft System, including different types of trimmers, edgers, and other tools.



Figure 7: Diagram of Compatible Attachments. This visual representation shows various Makita Couple Shaft attachments, illustrating their form and function within the system.

## 8. Warranty and Customer Support

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

For technical assistance, parts, or service, please contact Makita customer support or visit an authorized Makita service center.

You can find more information and explore other Makita products by visiting the officiaMakita Store on Amazon.

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