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Stihl GE450, GE450.1

Instruction Manual for Stihl Viking Counter Knife

Models: GE450 & GE450.1 Electric Garden Shredders

1. Introduction

This instruction manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use, installation, and maintenance of your new Stihl Viking counter knife. This counter knife is specifically designed for Stihl Viking GE 450 and GE 450.1 electric garden shredders. Please read this manual thoroughly before attempting any installation or maintenance procedures to ensure your safety and the longevity of the product.

2. Safety Information

Your safety is paramount. Always observe the following safety precautions when handling the counter knife or working with your garden shredder.

WARNING: Always disconnect the shredder from the power supply before performing any installation, maintenance, or cleaning tasks. Unexpected startup can cause severe injury.



CAUTION: The counter knife has sharp edges. Always wear heavy-duty protective gloves when handling the blade to prevent cuts and lacerations.



Read the entire shredder instruction manual in conjunction with this counter knife manual for comprehensive safety guidelines and operating procedures.

Keep children and bystanders away from the work area during installation and operation.

Ensure all fasteners are securely tightened after installation to prevent vibration and potential detachment during operation.

3. Product Overview

The Stihl Viking counter knife is a critical component of your electric garden shredder's cutting mechanism. It works in conjunction with the rotating blades to effectively shred garden waste into smaller, manageable pieces for composting or disposal. This replacement part ensures optimal shredding performance and extends the life of your shredder.



Figure 3.1: Stihl Viking Counter Knife. This image shows the robust metal construction of the counter knife, featuring its distinct shape with mounting holes and the sharpened edge designed to work against the rotating blades of the shredder.



Figure 3.2: Front and Side Views of the Counter Knife. These images provide different perspectives of the counter knife, highlighting its thickness and the precise angle of its cutting surface, which is crucial for efficient shredding.

4. Setup and Installation

Replacing the counter knife requires careful attention to safety and proper procedure. Refer to your shredder's main manual for specific instructions on accessing the cutting chamber.

1. **Preparation:**
   - Ensure the shredder is unplugged from the power outlet.
   - Wear heavy-duty protective gloves and safety glasses.
   - Clear the work area of any debris.
2. **Accessing the Cutting Chamber:**
   - Follow the instructions in your Stihl Viking GE 450 or GE 450.1 shredder manual to safely open and access the cutting chamber where the counter knife is located. This typically involves removing covers or opening latches.
3. **Removing the Old Counter Knife:**
   - Identify the existing counter knife. It will be positioned opposite the rotating blades.
   - Using appropriate tools (e.g., wrenches, screwdrivers), carefully loosen and remove the bolts or screws securing the old counter knife.
   - Carefully remove the old counter knife, being mindful of its sharp edges and any accumulated debris. Dispose of the old knife responsibly.
4. **Installing the New Counter Knife:**
   - Position the new Stihl Viking counter knife in the correct orientation within the cutting chamber. Ensure the cutting edge faces the rotating blades as intended.
   - Align the mounting holes of the new counter knife with the corresponding holes in the shredder's housing.
   - Insert the securing bolts or screws and hand-tighten them initially.
   - Once all fasteners are in place, tighten them securely using the appropriate tools. Refer to your shredder manual for any specific torque specifications. Ensure the knife is firmly seated and does not wobble.
5. **Reassembly:**
   - Reassemble any covers or components that were removed to access the cutting chamber. Ensure all safety interlocks are correctly engaged.
6. **Final Check:**
   - Before reconnecting power, manually check that the rotating blades can spin freely without obstruction and that the new counter knife is securely in place.

5. Operating Considerations

While the counter knife itself does not have operational controls, its proper function is integral to the shredder's performance. After

installation, ensure:

- The shredder is used only for materials it is designed to process (e.g., branches, leaves, garden waste). Avoid metal, stones, or other hard objects that can damage the knife.
- The shredder is operated according to the manufacturer's instructions provided in its main manual.
- Regularly check the quality of the shredded material. If it appears stringy or poorly cut, the main blades or the counter knife may require inspection or replacement.

6. Maintenance

To ensure optimal performance and extend the life of your counter knife and shredder:

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the counter knife for signs of wear, nicks, or damage. The frequency depends on usage, but a visual check after every few hours of operation is recommended.
- **Cleaning:** After each use, and always with the shredder unplugged, clean any accumulated debris from the cutting chamber and around the counter knife. Use a stiff brush or compressed air.
- **Replacement:** The counter knife is a wear part. Replace it when it shows significant signs of wear, damage, or when the shredder's performance noticeably declines (e.g., material is not cleanly cut). Always use genuine Stihl Viking replacement parts.
- **Storage:** If storing the shredder for an extended period, ensure the cutting chamber and counter knife are clean and dry to prevent rust.

7. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues after installing the new counter knife, consider the following:

- **Poor Shredding Performance:**
  - Ensure the counter knife is installed correctly and securely tightened.
  - Check the main rotating blades for wear or damage. They may also need replacement or sharpening.
  - Verify that the material being fed is appropriate for the shredder.
- **Unusual Noise or Vibration:**
  - Immediately unplug the shredder.
  - Inspect the counter knife and main blades for any loose parts, foreign objects, or incorrect installation.
  - Ensure all covers and safety mechanisms are properly reassembled and secured.
- **Knife Appears Loose:**
  - Unplug the shredder.
  - Retighten the mounting bolts/screws for the counter knife. Do not overtighten, but ensure they are firm.

If problems persist, consult the main shredder manual or contact Stihl Viking customer support.

8. Specifications

Attribute	Detail
Brand	Stihl
Compatible Models	Viking GE 450, Viking GE 450.1 Electric Garden Shredders
Part Type	Counter Knife / Gegenmesser

Manufacturer	STIHL
ASIN	B0CDRSPY98
UPC	795711685324
Quantity	1 unit
First Available on Amazon.de	August 5, 2023

9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding the warranty of this Stihl Viking counter knife, please refer to the original purchase documentation or contact the seller directly. Warranty terms may vary based on region and retailer.
For technical support, replacement parts, or further assistance, please contact your authorized Stihl Viking dealer or visit the official Stihl website. When contacting support, please have your shredder model number (GE 450 or GE 450.1) and the counter knife's ASIN (B0CDRSPY98) ready.

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