Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact

Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact Cordless Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner User Manual

Model: SE 3-18 Compact (1.081-501.0)

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact Cordless Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner. This versatile tool is designed for fiber-deep cleaning, effectively removing dust and stains from various textile surfaces such as car seats, upholstered furniture, and carpets. Its compact and cordless design offers maximum flexibility, allowing you to clean without the need for a nearby power outlet. This manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your new cleaner.

2. Safety Instructions

Always read and understand all safety warnings and instructions before using the appliance. Failure to follow the warnings and instructions may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.

- Ensure the appliance is used only with the specified Kärcher 18V battery.
- Do not immerse the appliance in water.
- Keep hands, hair, loose clothing, and all parts of the body away from moving parts.
- Do not pick up flammable or combustible liquids, such as gasoline, or use in areas where they may be present.
- Store the appliance indoors in a dry place when not in use.

3. Product Overview

The Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact is a powerful and portable cleaning solution. Below are the main components and features of your cleaner.



Figure 3.1: Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact Cordless Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner with included accessories.

Included Components:

- SE 3-18 Carpet Cleaner Unit
- Spray Suction Hose (6.2 ft. 2-in-1)
- Crevice Nozzle
- Upholstery Nozzle
- *Note: Battery and Charger are sold separately.*



Figure 3.2: Key features and components of the SE 3-18 Compact, including carrying handle, self-cleaning function, fresh water tank (57 oz), waste water tank (40 oz), 6.2 ft. 2-in-1 spray and suction hose, upholstery nozzle, and crevice nozzle.

Key Features:

- **Fiber-deep cleaning:** Removes dust and stains hygienically from car seats, upholstered furniture, carpets, and other textiles.
- **Removes tough stains:** Washes and vacuums simultaneously for effective stain removal.
- **Maximum flexibility:** Compact, lightweight, and cordless design for use anywhere.
- **Self-cleaning function:** Allows for hygienic cleaning of the device without direct contact with dirt, includes a drying function for immediate storage.
- **Battery-powered:** Operates with Kärcher 18V batteries (not included), offering up to 24 minutes of runtime with a 5.0 Ah battery.

4. Setup

Follow these steps for initial setup of your Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact.

1. **Unpack:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging.
2. **Assemble Hose:** Connect the spray suction hose to the main unit. Ensure it clicks securely into place.
3. **Attach Nozzle:** Select either the upholstery nozzle or crevice nozzle and attach it to the end of the spray suction hose.
4. **Fill Fresh Water Tank:** Open the fresh water tank (57 oz capacity) and fill it with clean water and appropriate Kärcher cleaning solution (if desired). Close the tank securely.
5. **Insert Battery:** Insert a charged Kärcher 18V battery into the battery compartment. Ensure it is fully seated.



Figure 4.1: Inserting the Kärcher 18V battery (sold separately) into the cleaner for operation.

5. Operating Instructions

The Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact is designed for easy and effective spot cleaning.

1. **Power On:** Press the power button to turn on the cleaner.
2. **Spray Solution:** Press the trigger on the spray suction hose to dispense cleaning solution onto the stained area.

3. **Scrub and Suction:** Gently scrub the stained area with the attached nozzle while simultaneously activating the suction function to extract the dirty water. Move the nozzle slowly over the area.
4. **Repeat if Necessary:** For stubborn stains, repeat the spraying and suction process until the stain is removed.
5. **Empty Waste Water Tank:** Periodically check the waste water tank (40 oz capacity) and empty it when full.



Figure 5.1: The Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact effectively removes dust and stains from car seats, providing hygienic cleaning.



Figure 5.2: The SE 3-18 allows for simultaneous washing and vacuuming to tackle tough stains on carpets and upholstery.

6. Maintenance

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your cleaner.

1. **Self-Cleaning Function:** After each use, activate the self-cleaning function to rinse the hose and internal components. This helps prevent odor and ensures hygienic storage.
2. **Empty and Rinse Tanks:** Always empty and rinse both the fresh and waste water tanks after each use.
3. **Clean Nozzles:** Remove and rinse the nozzles under running water to clear any debris.
4. **Wipe Down Unit:** Wipe the exterior of the cleaner with a damp cloth.
5. **Storage:** Store the unit in a dry, protected area. The self-cleaning function includes a drying feature for immediate storage.



Figure 6.1: The SE 3-18 Compact features a self-cleaning and drying function for hygienic and immediate storage after use.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact, refer to the following common problems and solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Unit does not turn on.	Battery not charged or not inserted correctly.	Ensure battery is fully charged and properly seated.
No spray solution.	Fresh water tank empty or clogged nozzle.	Refill fresh water tank. Clean the spray nozzle.
Poor suction.	Waste water tank full, hose clogged, or nozzle not sealed.	Empty waste water tank. Check hose and nozzle for blockages. Ensure nozzle is firmly attached.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Unit leaks.	Tanks not properly sealed or damaged seals.	Check that both tanks are securely closed. Inspect seals for damage and replace if necessary.

8. Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the Kärcher SE 3-18 Compact.

- **Model Name:** SE 3-18 Extractor
- **Item Model Number:** 1.081-501.0
- **Style:** SE 3-18 (Consumer)
- **Brand:** Kärcher
- **Color:** Yellow
- **Item Weight:** 9.2 Pounds
- **Package Dimensions:** 19.25 x 11.5 x 11 inches
- **Manufacturer:** Karcher
- **Date First Available:** May 13, 2024

9. Warranty and Support

Kärcher stands behind the quality of its products. For information regarding your product's warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Kärcher website. Extended protection plans are also available for purchase to provide additional coverage.
For technical support, spare parts, or service inquiries, please contact Kärcher customer service through their official website or the contact information provided in your product documentation. When contacting support, please have your model number (1.081-501.0) and serial number (if applicable) ready.

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