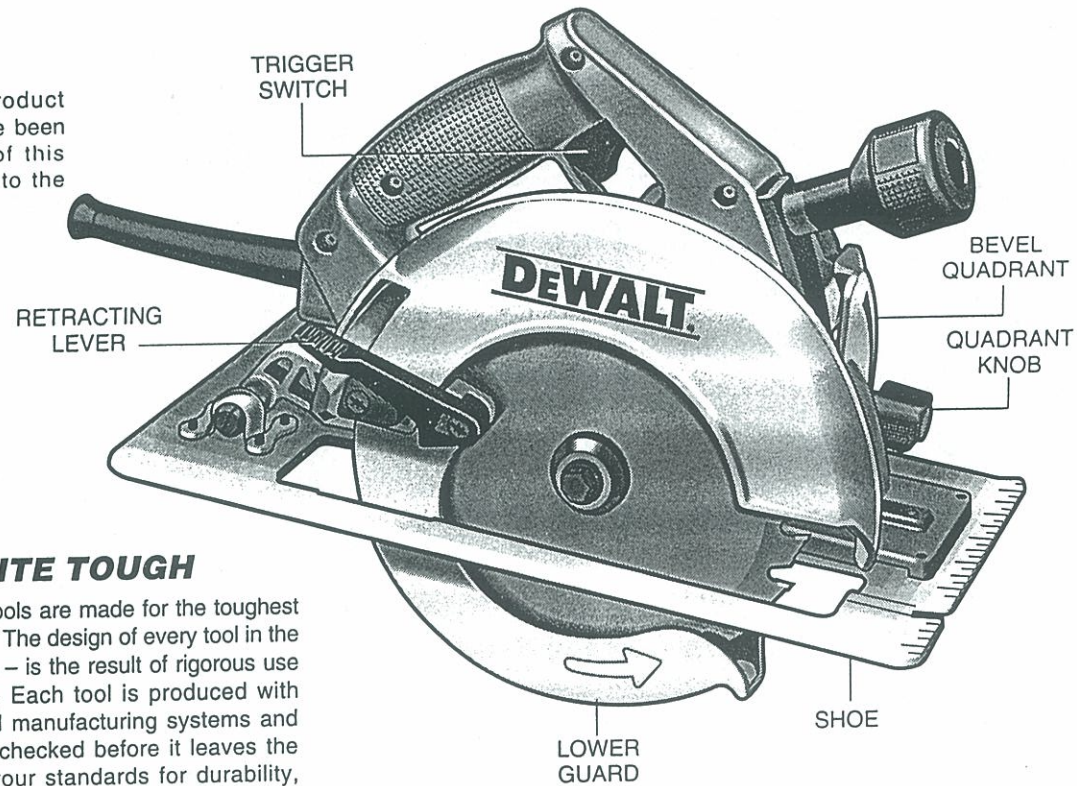


DEWALT®

INSTRUCTION MANUAL
DW384 210 mm (8 1/4") Circular Saw

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS, OR ANY DeWALT TOOL, CALL US TOLL FREE AT 008-816900.

Consistent with our continuing product development, improvements may have been made which render the contents of this instruction manual slightly different to the product received.



DeWALT...BUILT JOBSITE TOUGH

DeWALT high performance industrial tools are made for the toughest industrial and construction applications. The design of every tool in the line – from drills to sanders to grinders – is the result of rigorous use on jobsites and throughout industry. Each tool is produced with painstaking precision using advanced manufacturing systems and intense quality control. Every tool is checked before it leaves the factory to make sure that it meets your standards for durability, reliability and power.

DeWALT Built Jobsite Tough...WE GUARANTEE IT.

Important Safety Instructions

- * **WARNING:** When using Electric Tools, basic safety precautions should always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury, including the following:
 - * Read all Instructions.
 - * **KEEP WORK AREA CLEAN.** Cluttered areas and benches invite injuries.
 - * **CONSIDER WORK AREA ENVIRONMENT.** Don't expose power tools to rain. Don't use power tools in damp or wet locations. Keep work area well lit.
 - * **GUARD AGAINST ELECTRIC SHOCK.** Prevent body contact with earthed surfaces. For example: pipes, radiators, ranges, refrigerator enclosures.
 - * **KEEP CHILDREN AWAY.** All visitors should be kept away from work area. Do not let visitors contact tool or extension cord.
 - * **STORE IDLE TOOLS.** When not in use, tools should be stored in dry, and high or locked-up place – out of reach of children.
 - * **DON'T FORCE TOOL.** It will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was intended.
 - * **USE RIGHT TOOL.** Don't force small tool or attachment to do the job of a heavy-duty tool. Don't use tool for purpose not intended, for example, don't use circular saw for cutting tree limbs or logs.
 - * **DRESS PROPERLY.** Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. They can be caught in moving parts. Rubber gloves and non-skid footwear are recommended when working outdoors. Wear protective hair covering to contain long hair.
 - * **USE SAFETY GLASSES.** Also use face or dustmask if operation is dusty.
 - * **DON'T ABUSE CORD.** Never carry tool by cord or pull it to disconnect from socket. Keep cord from heat, oil, and sharp edges.
 - * **SECURE WORK.** Use clamps or a vice to hold work. It's safer than using your hand and it frees both hands to operate tool.
- * **DON'T OVERREACH.** Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- * **MAINTAIN TOOLS WITH CARE.** Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safe performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories. Inspect tool cords periodically and if damaged have repaired by a DeWALT certified service centre. Inspect extension cords periodically and replace if damaged. Keep handles dry, clean, and free from oil and grease.
- * **DISCONNECT TOOLS.** When not in use, before servicing, and when changing accessories, such as blades, bits, cutters.
- * **REMOVE ADJUSTING KEYS AND WRENCHES.** Form habit of checking to see that keys and adjusting wrenches are removed from tool before turning it on.
- * **AVOID UNINTENTIONAL STARTING.** Don't carry plugged-in tool with finger on switch. Be sure switch is off when plugging in.
- * **STAY ALERT.** Watch what you are doing. Use common sense. Do not operate tool when you are tired.
- * **CHECK DAMAGED PARTS.** Before further use of the tool, a guard or other part that is damaged should be carefully checked to determine that it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, mounting, and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by a DeWALT certified service centre unless otherwise indicated elsewhere in this instruction manual. Have defective switches replaced by a DeWALT certified service centre. Do not use tool if switch does not turn it on and off.
- * **DO NOT OPERATE** portable electric tools near flammable liquids or in gaseous or explosive atmospheres. Motors in these tools normally spark, and the sparks might ignite fumes.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE USE.

Circular Saw Safety Instructions

1. Disconnect plug from power supply before changing blades, making cutting depth or cutting angle adjustments, inspecting, cleaning or when saw is not being used.
2. Keep guards in place and in working order. Never wedge or tie lower guard open. Check operation of lower guard before each use. Do not use if lower guard does not close briskly and completely over saw blade. **CAUTION:** If saw is dropped, lower guard may be bent restricting full return. Do not use saw until lower guard is returned to the proper working order.
3. **KEEP BLADES CLEAN AND SHARP.** Sharp blades minimize stalling, overload, kickback and give a cleaner cut.
4. **DANGER: KEEP HANDS AWAY FROM CUTTING AREA.** Keep hands away from blades. Do not reach underneath work while blade is rotating. Do not attempt to remove cut material when blade is moving. **CAUTION:** Blades continue to coast after releasing trigger. Never place your hand on the work surface in front of or behind the saw.
5. **SUPPORT LARGE PANELS.** Large panels must be supported as shown in FIGURE 14 to minimize the risk of overload and kickback from blade pinching. When cutting operation requires the resting of the saw on the workpiece, the saw should be rested on the larger portion and the smaller piece cut off.

6. **USE RIP FENCE.** Always use a fence or straight edge guide when ripping.
7. **GUARD AGAINST KICKBACK.** Kickback occurs when the saw begins to stall rapidly and is driven back towards the operator. Release switch immediately if blade binds or saw stalls. Keep blades sharp. Support large panels as shown in FIGURE 14. Use fence or straight edge guide when ripping. Don't force tool. Stay alert, exercise control. Don't remove saw from work during a cut while the blade is moving. A more detailed explanation of kickback follows the "Operation" section of this manual.
8. **LOWER GUARD.** When necessary for accurate starts or when pocket cutting, raise lower guard with the retracting lever.
9. **ADJUSTMENTS.** Before cutting be sure depth and bevel adjustments are tight.
10. **DO NOT** use blades with incorrect size holes. Never use defective or incorrect blade washers or bolts.
11. **AVOID CUTTING NAILS.** Inspect for and remove all nails from timber before cutting.

CAUTION: When sawing into walls, floors or wherever "live" electrical wires may be encountered, **DO NOT TOUCH ANY METAL PARTS OF THE TOOL!** Hold the Saw only by its plastic handles to prevent electric shock if you saw into a "live" wire.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

Motor

Your DeWALT tool is powered by a DeWALT-built motor. Be sure your power supply agrees with nameplate marking, 240 Volts AC. Lower voltage will cause loss of power and can result in over-heating. All DeWALT tools are factory-tested; if this tool does not operate, check the power supply.

Brushes

DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY

Inspect carbon brushes regularly, by unplugging tool, removing the Brush Inspection Cap (Figure 2) and withdrawing the brush assembly. Keep brushes clean and sliding freely in their guides. Always replace a used brush in the same orientation in the holder as it was prior to removal. Carbon brushes have varying symbols stamped into their sides, and if the brushes are worn down to the line closest to the spring, they must be replaced. Use only identical DeWALT brushes. Always replace both brushes. Use of the correct grade of brush is essential. New brush assemblies are available at your local service centre. The tool should be allowed to "run in" (run at no load without blade) for 10 minutes before use to seat new brushes.

While "running in" DO NOT TIE, TAPE, OR OTHERWISE LOCK THE TRIGGER SWITCH ON. HOLD BY HAND ONLY.

Adjustments and Setup

ATTACHING AND REMOVING BLADES

DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY.

To attach the blade, retract lower blade guard and place inner clamp washer and blade on saw spindle with printed side of blade out (teeth at bottom of blade pointing forward) (Figure 1). Install outer clamp washer. The larger surfaces of both washers must face the blade. Thread on blade clamping screw firmly by hand to hold washers in position.

Lightly depress the blade lock (Figure 2) while turning the spindle until the blade stops rotating. Tighten blade clamping screw (clockwise) firmly with the blade wrench (Figure 3).

NEVER ENGAGE BLADE LOCK WHILE SAW IS RUNNING, OR ENGAGE IN AN EFFORT TO STOP THE TOOL. NEVER TURN SWITCH ON WHEN BLADE LOCK IS ENGAGED.

When removing the blade, first unplug the saw. Engage the blade lock and unscrew the blade clamping screw by turning it counter-clockwise with the blade wrench.

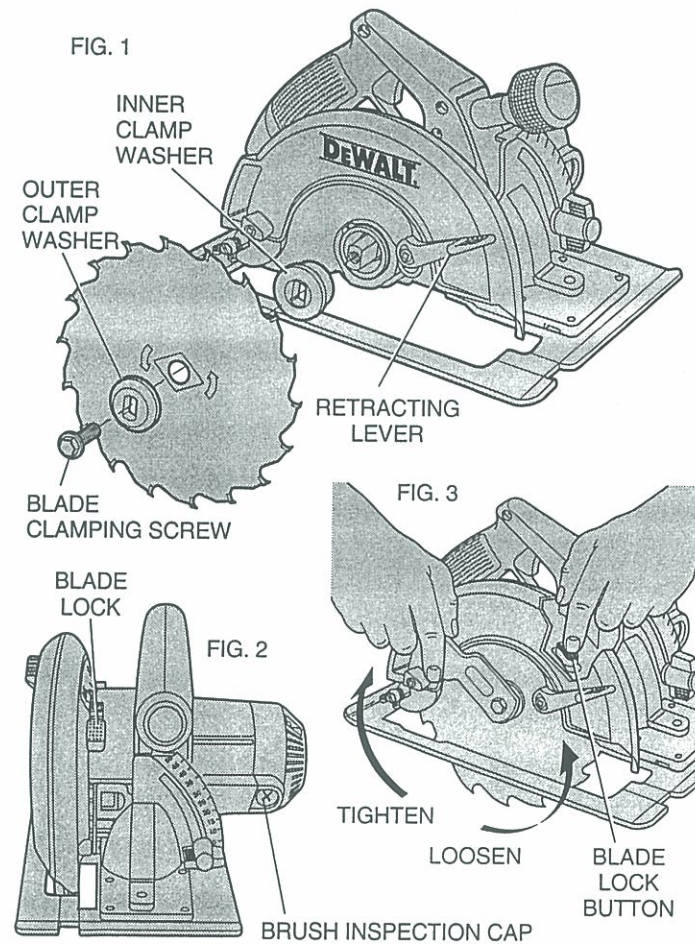
CUTTING DEPTH ADJUSTMENT

DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY.

Loosen (counterclockwise) the Cutting Depth Adjustment Knob, shown in (Figure 4). Lift the saw handle, as shown in the figure, to adjust it to the desired height. Tighten the knob to secure it in place. If depth of cut cannot be adjusted, inspect parts for damage and service as required before use. A scale and pointer is provided to enable you to select a specific depth of cut. Simply align the pointer, shown in (Figure 5), to the desired depth of cut.

NOTE: To adjust the depth of cut pointer for various blade diameters, loosen the Cutting Depth Adjustment Knob and raise the saw until the blade just touches the workpiece and tighten the knob. This is the zero depth of cut position. If required, loosen the screw that holds the pointer and adjust to the zero indicator mark. The saw is now adjusted to accurately indicate the depth of cut for the blade used.

For the most efficient cutting action using a carbide tipped saw blade, set the Depth Adjustment so that about one half of a tooth projects below the surface of the wood to be cut. The height of a whole tooth is the distance from the tip of the tooth to the bottom of the gullet in front of it. Study Figures 5A and 5B to determine what one half tooth means. (5A shows one half tooth projecting below the surface and figure 5B shows a whole tooth projecting below the surface.)



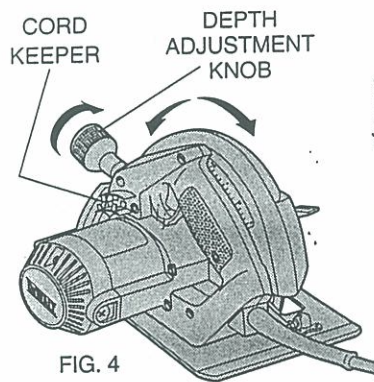


FIG. 4

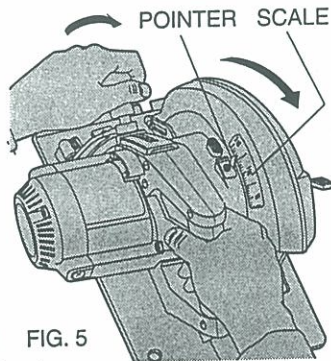


FIG. 5

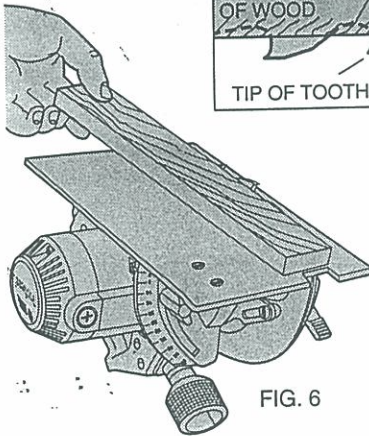
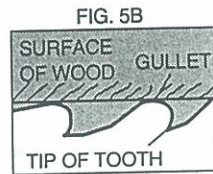
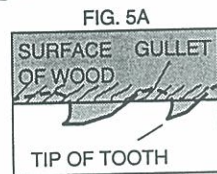


FIG. 6

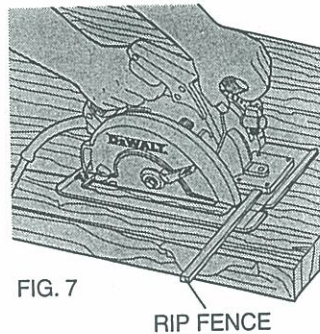


FIG. 7

Setting the saw at the proper cutting depth keeps blade friction to a minimum, removes sawdust from between the blade teeth, results in cooler, faster sawing and reduces the chance of kickback.

A method of checking for the correct cutting depth is shown in Figure 6. Lay a piece of the material you plan to cut along the side of the blade, as shown in the figure, and observe how much tooth projects beyond the material.

NOTE: When using a non carbide tipped blade, make an exception to the above procedure and allow a full tooth to project below the material, as shown in Figure 5B.

BEVEL ANGLE ADJUSTMENT

DISCONNECT THE SAW FROM THE POWER SUPPLY.

The full range of the Bevel Adjustment is from 0 to 50 DEGREES.

The quadrant is graduated in increments of 1 degree.

On the front of the saw is a bevel angle adjustment mechanism (Figure 8) consisting of a calibrated quadrant and a knob. To set the saw for a bevel cut, loosen (counterclockwise) the quadrant knob and tilt shoe to the desired angle by aligning the pointer with the desired angle mark. Retighten knob firmly (clockwise).

KERF INDICATOR

The front of the saw shoe has a kerf indicator (Figure 8) for vertical and bevel cutting. This indicator enables you to guide the saw along cutting lines penciled on the material being cut. The indicator lines up with the left (inner) side of the saw blade, which makes the slot or "kerf" cut by the moving blade fall to the right of the indicator. Guide along the penciled cutting line so that the kerf falls into the waste or surplus material - See Figure 9. Figure 9 shows the dimensions of the shoe. Note that the left side is 138 mm between the left side of the blade and the left edge of the shoe. The right dimension is 38 mm.

SHOE ALIGNMENT

Your saw has been set at the factory for accurate vertical cuts (a 90 degree angle between the bottom of the shoe and the blade). The edge of the shoe has also been set parallel to the blade so that it will not bind when using an edge guide. If the saw should ever need adjustment, it may be done as follows:

ADJUSTING FOR 90° CUTS

1. DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY.
2. Adjust the saw to 0° bevel.
3. Place saw on blade side (Figure 10). Retract blade guard.
4. Loosen quadrant knob. (Figure 10). Place a square against the blade and shoe to adjust the 90° setting.
5. Loosen the hex nut and move the adjustment screw so that the shoe will stop at the proper angle as shown in Figure 11. Lock the screw in place by tightening the hex nut.
6. It may be necessary to adjust the quadrant angle pointer to line up on "0" after shoe has been adjusted.

FIG. 8

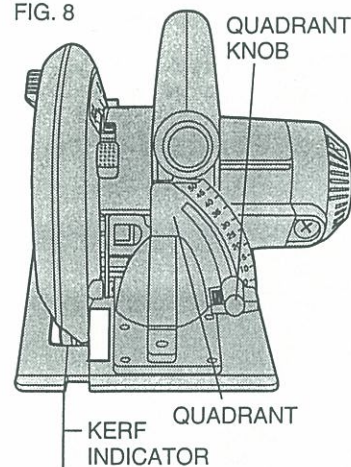


FIG. 10

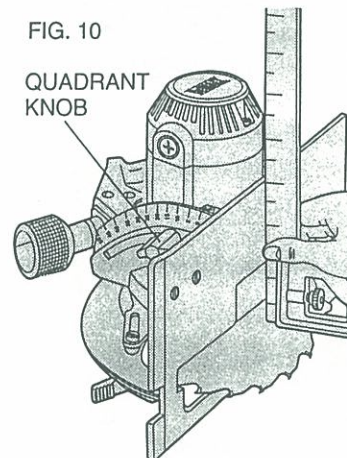
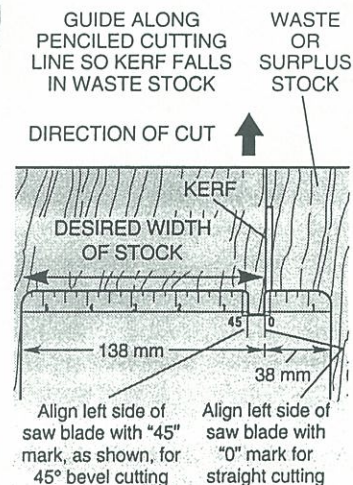


FIG. 9



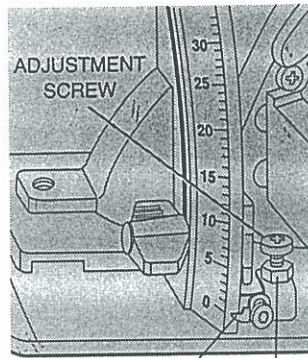


FIG. 11

ADJUSTMENT
SCREW
QUADRANT
POINTER
HEX
NUT

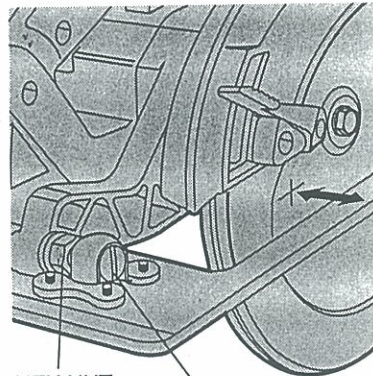


FIG. 12

HEX NUT
SCREW

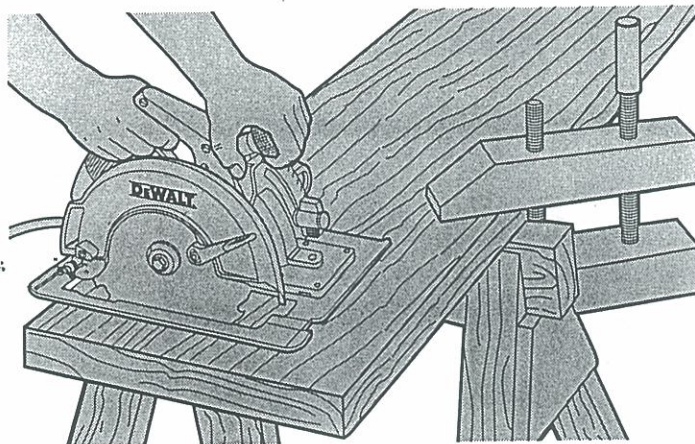


FIG. 13

ADJUSTING THE SHOE PARALLEL TO THE BLADE

1. DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY.
2. Loosen the hex nut shown in (Figure 12) and then turn the adjustment screw in or out as needed to adjust for parallelism.
3. Adjust the shoe until it is parallel to the blade by measuring from the edge of the shoe to the blade, front & rear. You can measure from the outside edge of the blade to the shoe as shown in (Figure 12) or from the inner edge of the blade to the wider part of the shoe. (Do not measure from the tips of any saw blade teeth.)
4. When the shoe and blade are parallel, hold the adjusting screw in place and tighten the hex nut firmly.

Operation

SWITCH

Pull the trigger switch to turn the motor "ON". Releasing the trigger turns the motor "OFF". This tool has no provision to lock the switch in the "ON" position, and should never be locked "ON" by any other means.

WORKPIECE SUPPORT

Figure 13 shows proper sawing position. Note that hands are kept away from cutting area, and power cord is positioned clear of the cutting area so that it will not get caught or hung up on the work.

To avoid kickback, DO support board or panel NEAR the cut and on both sides of the cut, (Figure 14). DON'T support board or panel away from the cut, (Figure 15). When ripping long narrow strips, support cut-off waste material.

When operating the saw, keep the cord away from the cutting area and prevent it from becoming hung up on the work piece. Note that a special Cord Keeper has been provided on the tool's handle, as shown in Figure 4. Simply press the cord into the keeper to keep it in sight and out of the way.

WARNING: It is important to support the work properly and to hold the saw firmly to prevent loss of control which could cause personal injury; Figure 13 illustrates typical hand support of the saw.

ALWAYS DISCONNECT SAW BEFORE MAKING ANY ADJUSTMENTS! Place the work with its "good" side - the one on which appearance is most important - down. The saw cuts upward, so any splintering will be on the work face that is up when you saw it.

Support the work so that the cut will be on your right. Place the wider portion of the saw shoe on that part of the work piece which is solidly supported, not on the section that will fall off when the cut is made. As examples, Figure 16 illustrates the **RIGHT** way to cut off the end of a board, and Figure 17 the **WRONG** way. Always clamp work. Don't try to hold short pieces by hand! Remember to support cantilevered and overhanging material. Use caution when sawing material from below.

CUTTING

Be sure saw is up to full speed before blade contacts material to be cut. Starting saw with blade against material to be cut or pushed forward into kerf can result in kickback.

Push the saw forward at a speed which allows the blade to cut without laboring. Hardness and toughness can vary even in the same piece of material, and knotty or damp sections can put a heavy load on the saw. When this happens, push the saw more slowly, but hard enough to keep it working without much decrease in speed. Forcing the saw can cause rough cuts, inaccuracy, kickback and over-heating of the motor.

Should your cut begin to go off the line, don't try to force it back on. Release the switch and allow blade to come to a complete stop. Then you can withdraw the saw, sight anew, and start a new cut slightly inside the wrong one. In any event, withdraw the saw if you must shift the cut. Forcing a correction inside the cut can stall the saw and lead to kickback. **IF SAW STALLS, RELEASE THE TRIGGER AND BACK THE SAW UNTIL IT IS LOOSE. BE SURE BLADE IS STRAIGHT IN THE CUT AND CLEAR OF THE CUTTING EDGE BEFORE RESTARTING.**

FIG. 14

RIGHT

**SUPPORT WORK
NEAR CUT**

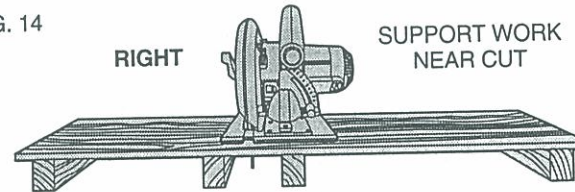


FIG. 15

WRONG

**MATERIAL BENDS ON
BLADE CAUSING HEAVY
LOADS OR KICKBACK.**

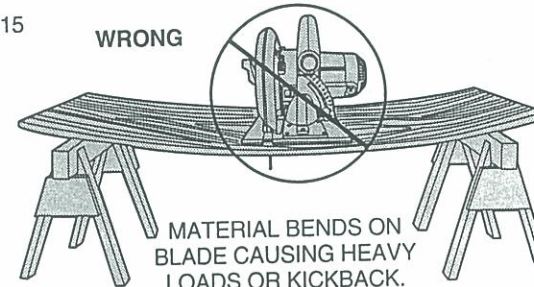


FIG. 16

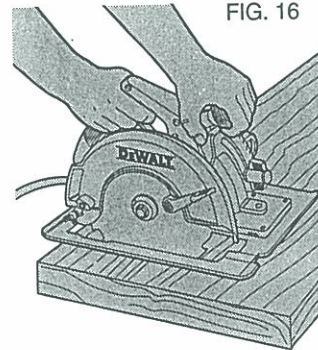
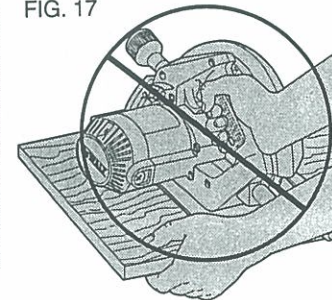


FIG. 17

WRONG



As you finish a cut, release the trigger and allow the blade to stop before lifting the saw from the work. As you lift the saw, the spring-tensioned telescoping guard will automatically close under the blade. Remember the blade is exposed until this occurs, never reach under the work for any reason whatsoever. When you have to retract the telescoping guard manually (as is necessary for starting pocket cuts) always use the retracting lever.

NOTE: When cutting thin strips, be careful to ensure that small cutoff pieces don't hang up on inside of lower guard.

Always use a fence or straight edge guide when ripping.

POCKET CUTTING

DISCONNECT PLUG FROM POWER SUPPLY. Adjust saw shoe so blade cuts at desired depth. Tilt saw forward and rest front of the shoe on material to be cut. Using the retracting lever, retract blade guard to an upward position. Lower rear of shoe until blade teeth almost touch cutting line. Now release the blade guard and its contact with the work will keep it in position to open freely as you start the cut (Figure 18).

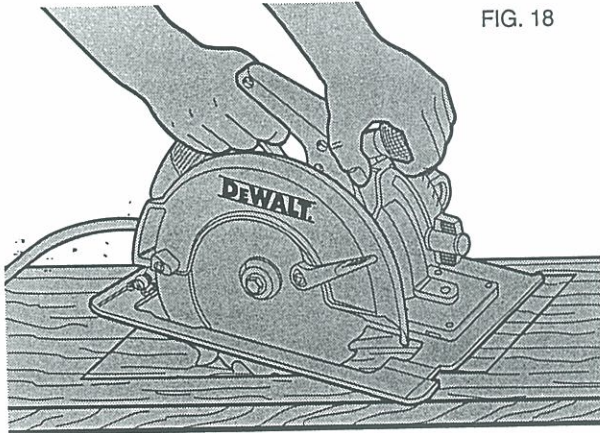


FIG. 18

Start the motor and gradually lower the saw until its shoe rests flat on the material to be cut. Advance saw along the cutting line until cut is completed. Release trigger and allow blade to stop completely before withdrawing the blade from the material. When starting each new cut, repeat as above. Never tie the blade guard in a raised position.

Kickback

When the saw blade becomes pinched or twisted in the cut, kickback can occur. The saw is thrust rapidly back toward the operator. When the blade is pinched or bound tightly by the kerf closing down, the blade stalls and the motor reaction drives the unit backward. When the blade becomes twisted or misaligned in the cut, the teeth at the back edge of the blade can dig into the top surface of the wood causing the blade to climb out of the kerf and jump back toward the operator.

Kickback is more likely to occur when any of the following conditions exist.

1. IMPROPER WORKPIECE SUPPORT

- A. Sagging or improper lifting of the cut off piece causing pinching of the blade.
- B. Cutting through material supported at the outer ends only (see Figure 15). As the material weakens it sags, closing down the kerf and pinching the blade.
- C. Cutting of a cantilevered or overhanging piece of material from the bottom up in a vertical direction. The falling cut off piece can pinch the blade.
- D. Cutting off long narrow strips (as in ripping). The cut off strip can sag or twist closing the kerf and pinching the blade.
- E. Snagging the lower guard on a surface below the material being cut momentarily reducing operator control. The saw can lift partially out of the cut increasing the chance of blade twist.

2. IMPROPER DEPTH OF CUT SETTING ON SAW

Using the saw with an excessive depth of cut setting increases loading on the unit and susceptibility to twisting of the blade in the kerf. It also increases the surface area of the blade available for pinching under conditions of kerf close down.

3. BLADE TWISTING (MISALIGNMENT IN CUT)

- A. Pushing harder to cut through a knot, a nail, or a hard grain area can cause the blade to twist.
- B. Trying to turn the saw in the cut (trying to get back on the marked line) can cause blade twist.
- C. Extended reach or operating saw with poor body control (out of balance), can result in twisting the blade.
- D. Changing hand grip or body position while cutting can result in blade twist.
- E. Backing unit up to clear blade can lead to twist if not done carefully.

4. MATERIALS THAT REQUIRE EXTRA ATTENTION

- A. Wet timber
- B. Green timber (material freshly cut or not kiln dried)
- C. Pressure treated timber (material treated with preservatives or anti-rot chemicals)

5. USE OF DULL OR DIRTY BLADES

Dull or dirty blades cause increased loading of the saw. To compensate, an operator will usually push harder which further loads the unit and promotes twisting of the blade in the kerf. Worn blades may also have reduced body clearance which increases the chance of binding and increased loading.

6. LIFTING THE SAW WHEN MAKING BEVEL CUTS

Bevel cuts require special operator attention to proper cutting techniques - especially guidance of the saw. Both blade angle to the shoe and greater blade surface in the material increase the chance for binding and misalignment (twist) to occur.

7. RESTARTING A CUT WITH THE BLADE TEETH JAMMED AGAINST THE MATERIAL

The saw should be brought up to full operating speed before starting a cut or restarting a cut after the unit has been stopped with the blade in the kerf. Failure to do so can cause stalling and kickback.

Any other conditions which could result in pinching, binding, twisting, or misalignment of the blade could cause kickback. Refer to the sections on "Adjustments And Set-Up" and "Operation" for procedures and techniques that will minimize the occurrence of kickback.

Blades

A dull blade will cause slow, inefficient cutting overload on the saw motor, excessive splintering and could increase the possibility of kickback. It is a good practice to keep extra blades on hand so that sharp blades are available while the dull ones are being sharpened (See "SAWS-SHARPENING" in the Yellow Pages). In fact, many lower priced blades can be replaced with new ones at very little cost over the sharpening price.

Hardened gum on the blade will slow down the cutting. This gum can best be removed with kerosene, turpentine or oven cleaner.

VISUALLY EXAMINE CARBIDE BLADES BEFORE USE. REPLACE IF DAMAGED.

Accessories

We recommend the use of Marlin power tool accessories.

Cleaning and Lubrication

Use only mild soap and a damp cloth to clean the tool. Never let any liquid get inside the tool; never immerse any part of the tool into a liquid.

Self lubricating ball and roller bearings are used in the tool and relubrication is not required. However, it is recommended that, once a year, you take or send the tool to a service centre for a thorough cleaning, inspection and lubrication of the gear case.

COMBINATION - For general purpose ripping and cutting
CROSS-CUT - For smoother, faster cross cutting
RIPPING - For fast rip cuts
PLYWOOD - For smooth cuts in plywood. Reduce splintering.
FRAMING / RIP - For facing, roofing, siding, sub-flooring, framing, form cutting.
PLANER - For very smooth ripping and cross-cutting.
FRICITION - For cutting corrugated, galvanized sheets.
METAL-CUTTING - For cutting aluminium, copper and other soft metals.
FLOORING - For sawing where nails may be occasionally encountered.
CARBIDE-TIPPED - For longest sawing without blade sharpening. Cuts wood, Formica, Masonite, and similar materials.

Important

To assure product SAFETY and RELIABILITY, repairs, maintenance, and adjustment should be performed by DeWALT certified service centres or other qualified service organizations. These service organizations service DeWALT tools always using DeWALT replacement parts.

Black & Decker (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. industrial tool service centres are certified for servicing DeWALT industrial tools.

Full Warranty

DeWALT heavy duty industrial tools are warranted for one year from date of purchase. We will repair, without charge, any defects due to faulty materials or workmanship. Arrangements have been made with the Industrial Tool Division of Black & Decker (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. to provide warranty repairs for DeWALT tools. Please return the complete unit, transportation prepaid, to your place of purchase or any Black & Decker (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. Industrial Service Centre or Authorised Service Agent listed in the Yellow Pages. The DeWALT warranty set forth in the previous paragraph above does not apply:

- To any defect or failure attributable to accident, misuse, abuse, negligence, non-observance of local regulations on the part of the user.
- If the tool has been serviced by a person not authorised by DeWALT to do so, or with non-approved parts.
- To loose accessories.

PURCHASERS STATUTORY RIGHTS

The supplementary warranty terms set out above do not exclude any conditions or warranties which may be mandatorily implied by law, and your attention is drawn to the provision of the Trade Practices Act, 1974 and State Legislation which confers rights upon consumers. The DeWALT Warranty supplements these rights.

30 DAY NO RISK SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

If you are not completely satisfied with the performance of your DeWALT heavy duty industrial tool, simply return it to the participating seller within 30 days for a full refund. Please return the complete unit, transportation prepaid. Proof of purchase is required.

For authorised service agencies please refer to your Telecom Yellow Pages section. Electric Tools—Retail and/or Repairs.

