



Chain Saw Safety Instructions



Safety precautions for chain saw operators

While operating the chain saw please observe the following rules:

- a) Contact of the guide bar nose with any object should be avoided.
- b) Tip contact may cause the guide bar to move suddenly upward and backward, which may cause serious or fatal injury.
- c) Always operate the chain saw with both hands.

WARNING!

Read and follow all safety precautions in the owner's manual. Failure to follow instructions could result in serious injury.

WARNING!

This chain saw is capable of severe kickback that could result in serious injury to the operator. Do not operate this chain saw unless you have extraordinary cutting needs and experience in and special training for dealing with kickback. Chain saws with significantly reduced kickback potential are available.

WARNING!

Kickback may occur when the nose or tip of the guide bar touches an object, or when the wood closes in and pinches the saw chain in the cut. This contact may abruptly stop the **saw chain** and in some cases may cause a lightning fast reverse **reaction**, kicking the guide bar up and back towards the user, or push the guide bar back towards the operator. **Kickback** may cause you to lose control of the saw.

As a chain saw user, you can take several steps to reduce the risk of a kickback and potential injury.

- A. With a basic understanding of kickback, you can reduce or eliminate the element of surprise. It is a sudden surprise that contributes to accidents.
- B. Keep a good firm grip on the saw with both hands, your right hand on the rear grip and your left hand on the tubular handle, when the engine is running. Use a firm grip with thumbs and fingers encircling the chain saw handles. A firm grip can neutralize kickback and help you maintain control of the saw. Don't let go!
- C. Make sure that the area in which you are cutting is free from obstructions. Do not let the nose of the guide bar contact the log, branch, or any other obstructions which could be hit while you are operating the saw.
- D. Do not overreach or cut above shoulder height.
- E. Follow manufacturer's sharpening and maintenance instructions for the saw chain.
- F. Only use replacement bars and chains specified by the manufacturer or the equivalent.

Additional safety precautions

The following additional safety precautions should be observed by all users of chain saws:

1. Do not operate a chain saw when you are fatigued.
2. Use safety footwear; snug-fitting clothing; protective gloves; and eye, hearing, and head protection devices.
3. Use caution when handling fuel. Move the chain saw at least 10 feet (3 m) from the fueling point before starting the engine.
4. Do not allow other persons to be near the chain saw when starting or cutting with the chain saw. Keep bystanders and animals out of the work area.
5. Do not start cutting until you have a clear work area, secure footing, and a planned retreat path from the falling tree.
6. Keep all parts of your body away from the saw chain when the engine is running.
7. Before you start the engine, make sure that the saw chain is not contacting anything.
8. Carry the chain saw with the engine stopped, the guide bar and saw chain to the rear, and the muffler away from your body.
9. Do not operate a chain saw that is damaged, is improperly adjusted, or is not completely and securely assembled. Be sure that the saw chain stops moving when the throttle control trigger is released.
10. Shut off the engine before setting it down.
11. Use extreme caution when cutting small size brush and saplings because slender material may catch the saw chain and be whipped toward you or pull you off balance.
12. When cutting a limb that is under tension be alert for springback so that you will not be struck when the tension on the wood fibers is released.
13. Keep the handles dry, clean, and free of oil or fuel mixture.
14. Operate the chain saw only in well-ventilated areas.
15. Do not operate a chain saw in a tree unless you have been specifically trained to do so.
16. All chain saw service, other than the items listed in the owner's manual maintenance instructions, should be performed by MAKITA. (For example, if improper tools are used to remove the flywheel or if an improper tool is used to hold the flywheel in order to remove the clutch structural damage to the flywheel could occur and could subsequently cause the flywheel to burst.)
17. When transporting your chain saw, use the chain protection cover.
18. Low kickback bars and low kickback chains are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury. Ask your MAKITA dealer about these devices.

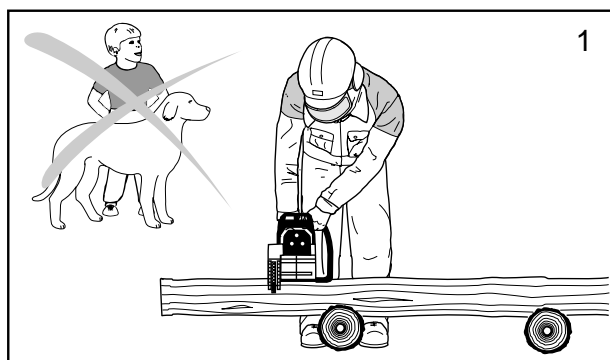
General Safety Precautions

The use of any chain saw may be hazardous. At full throttle chain speed can reach 45 mph (20 m/s). It is important that you read; fully understand and observe the following safety precautions and warnings. Read the owner's manual and the safety instructions periodically.

WARNING !

Reactive forces, including kickback, can be dangerous. Careless or improper use of any chain saw may cause serious or fatal injury.

Have your DOLMAR dealer show you how to operate your chain saw. Observe all applicable local safety regulations, standards and ordinances.



WARNING!

Minors should never be allowed to use a chain saw. Bystanders, especially children and animals should not be allowed in the area where a chain saw is in use (fig. 1).

Never let the saw run unattended.

Store it in a locked place away from children. Fill the fuel tank to 7/8 th full (see storing the saw).

Do not lend your chain saw without this owner's manual. Be sure that anyone using your saw understands the information given.

Proper use of a chain saw involves

1. the operator
2. the saw
3. the use of the saw.

Discription of symbols used on chain saws:



Z 62.1-95 and
Z 62.3-96
Class 1A

Compliance with
CSA -Standards

ANSI B175.1-1991

Compliance with
ANSI -Standards



45M6

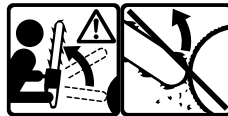
Chain Saw listed in accordance with American National Standard Safety Specifications for Gasoline Powered Chain Saws (ANSI B 175.1-1991).



Maximum Computed Kickback Angle (CKA)* without using the chain brake when using the recommended bar and chain combinations (In this example the CKA is 45°).



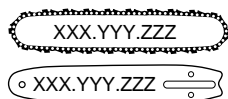
Maximum Computed Kickback Angle (CKA)* with using the chain brake when using the recommended bar and chain combinations (In this example the CKA is 40°).



Contact of the guide bar tip with any object should be avoided! Tip contact may cause the guide bar to move suddenly upward and backward, which may cause serious injury!



Always use two hands when operating the chain saw!



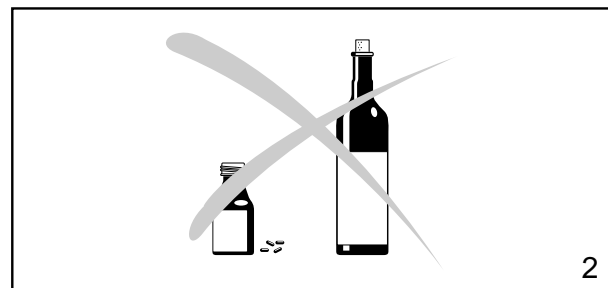
Reduced Kickback Bar and Chain combination that has been evaluated with the power head to achieve kickback protection (according to ANSI and CSA standards).

* The Computed Kickback Angle is a calculated value from energies measured on a test bench. It is not the angle of the guide bar moved upward in case of a KICKBACK.

The operator

Physical Condition

You must be in good physical condition and mental health and not under the influence of any substance (drugs, alcohol), which might impair vision, dexterity or judgment.



WARNING !

Prolonged use of chain saws exposing the operator to vibrations may produce Whitefinger disease (Raynaud's phenomenon). This phenomenon reduces the hand's ability to feel and regulate temperature, produces numbness and burning sensations and may cause nerve and circulation damage and tissue necrosis.

All MAKITA saws are therefore provided with an antivibration system which is essential for those using chain saws on a regular or sustained basis. Antivibration systems do not guarantee that you will not sustain Whitefinger disease, however, they reduce this danger considerably. Nevertheless, continual and regular users should observe their hands and fingers and in case of any abnormal symptoms, seek medical advice immediately.

Proper clothing

Clothing must be sturdy and snug-fitting, but allow complete freedom of movement. Avoid loose-fitting jackets, scarfs, neckties, jewelry, flared or cuffed pants, or anything that could become entangled with the saw or brush. Wear overalls or jeans with a reinforced cutting resistant insert (fig. 3).

Protect your hands with gloves when handling saw and saw chain. Heavy-duty, nonslip gloves improve your grip and protect your hands.



Good footing is most important in chain saw work. Wear sturdy boots with nonslip soles. Steel-toed safety boots are recommended.

Proper eye protection is a must. Non-fogging, vented goggles and a face screen is recommended. Their use reduces the risk of eye and facial injury.

Wear an approved safety hard hat to protect your head. Chain saw noise may damage your hearing. Always wear noise protection equipment (ear plugs or ear muffs) to protect your hearing.

Continual and regular users should have their hearing checked regularly.



The saw

Parts of the chain saw: illustrations and description of parts see page 16.

WARNING !

Never modify a chain saw in any way. Only attachments supplied by MAKITA or expressly approved by MAKITA for use with the specific saw are authorized.

WARNING !

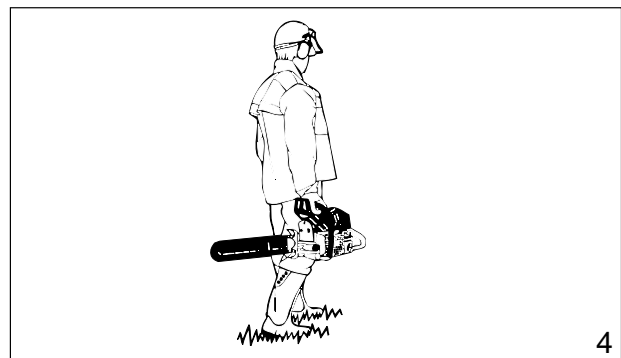
Bow guide bars substantially increase the potential for kickback and severe or fatal injury due to the greater kickback zone of the bow design. Bow guide bars are **not recommended** for use on MAKITA chain saws nor are they approved by the ANSI B 175.1-1991 chain saw safety standard.

The use of the saw

Transporting the chain saw

WARNING!

Always stop the engine before putting a chain saw down or carrying it. Carrying a chain saw with the engine running is extremely dangerous. Accidental acceleration of the engine can cause the chain to rotate. Avoid touching the hot muffler.



By hand: When carrying your saw by hand, the engine must be stopped and the saw must be in the proper position.

The chain protection cover should be over the chain and the guide bar must point backwards. When carrying your saw the bar should be behind you (fig. 4).

By vehicle: When transporting in a vehicle, keep chain and bar covered with the chain guard. Properly secure your saw to prevent turnover, fuel spillage and damage to the saw. Make sure the saw is not exposed to heat or sparks.

Chain saw operating instructions

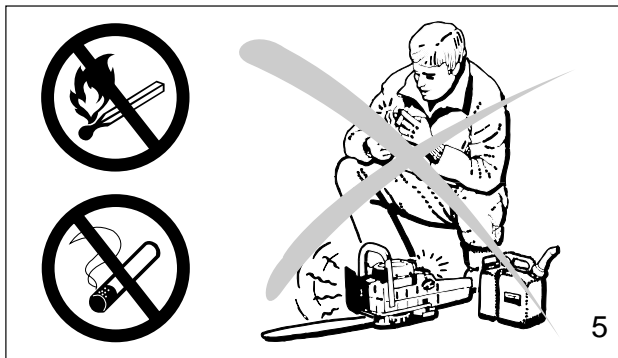
For assembly follow the procedure in the appropriate section "Mounting Guide Bar and Chain" of this manual. MAKITA chain, guide bar and sprocket must match each other (see the appropriate section in this manual).

WARNING!

Proper tension of the chain is extremely important. In order to avoid false setting the tensioning procedure must be followed as described in this manual. Always make sure the hexagonal nut(s) for the sprocket guard is (are) tightened securely after tensioning the chain. Check chain tension once more after having tightened the nuts and thereafter at regular intervals (always before starting to work). If the chain becomes loose while cutting, shut off the engine and then tighten. Never try to tighten the chain while the engine is running!

Fueling

Your MAKITA saw uses on oil-gasoline mixture for fuel (see chapter "Fuel" of this manual).



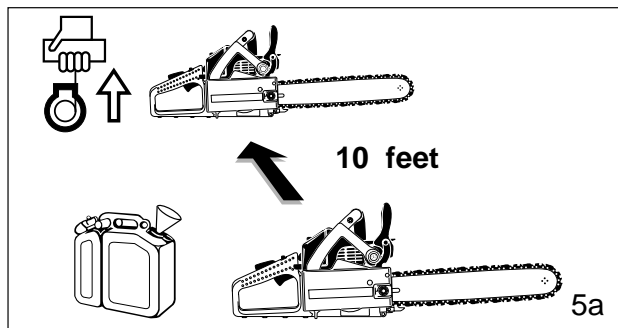
WARNING!

Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. Use extreme caution when handling gasoline or fuel mix. Do not smoke or bring any sparks or flame near the fuel (fig. 5).



Fueling instructions

Fuel your chain saw in well ventilated areas or outdoors. Always shut off the engine and allow it to cool before refueling. Select bare ground for fueling and move the chain saw at least 10 feet (3 m) from fueling spot before starting the engine (fig. 5a).

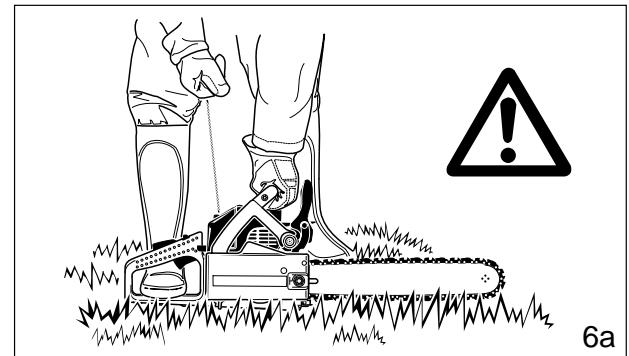
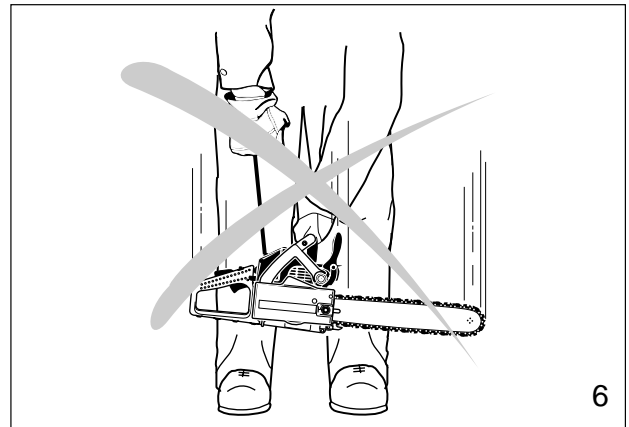


Wipe off any spilled fuel before starting your saw and check for leakage.

Check for fuel leakage while refueling and during operation. If fuel or oil leakage is found, do not start or run the engine until leak is fixed and spilled fuel has been wiped away. Clothing with fuel on it has to be changed immediately (this is a danger to your life!). Avoid skin contact with fuel. Never loosen or remove the cap of the fuel tank while the engine is running.

Starting

Do not drop start. This method is very dangerous because you may lose control of the saw (fig. 6).



Place the chain saw on firm ground or other solid surface in an open area. Maintain a good balance and secure footing. Place your right foot through the rear handle opening and firmly grasp the front handle with your left hand (fig. 6a).

Be absolutely sure that guide bar and chain are clear of you or all other obstructions and objects, including the ground, because when the engine starts in semi-throttle position, engine speed will be fast enough for the clutch to engage the sprocket and turn the chain which may cause a kickback.

Never attempt to start the saw when the guide bar is in a cut or kerf.

When you pull the starter grip, don't wrap the starter rope around your hands. Do not allow the grip to snap back, but guide the starter rope slowly back to permit the rope to rewind properly. Failure to follow this procedure may result in injury to hand or fingers and may damage the starter mechanism.