

# ***STIHL FC 44***

**Instruction Manual  
Owner's Manual**

**Assembling  
Safety Precautions  
Operating Instructions  
Maintenance**

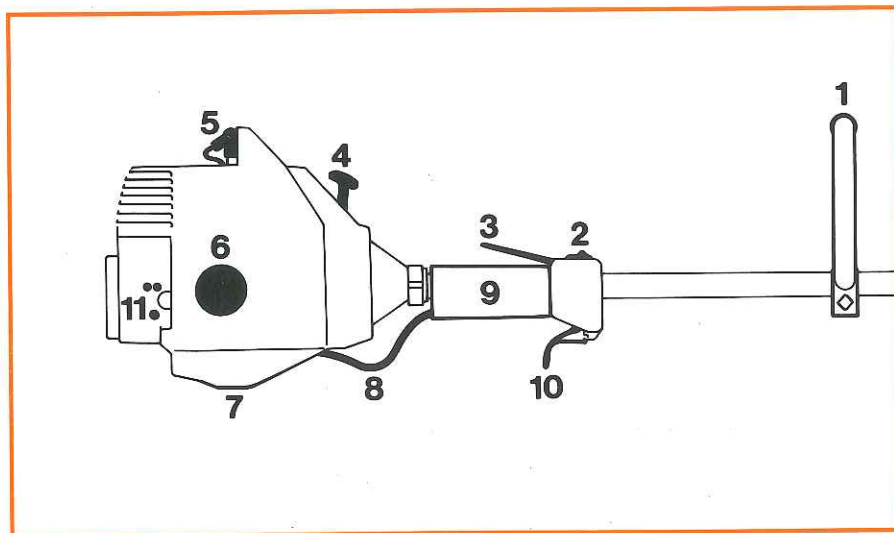


**Warning:**  
Always follow safety precautions in  
Owner's Manual – improper use  
can cause serious injury!

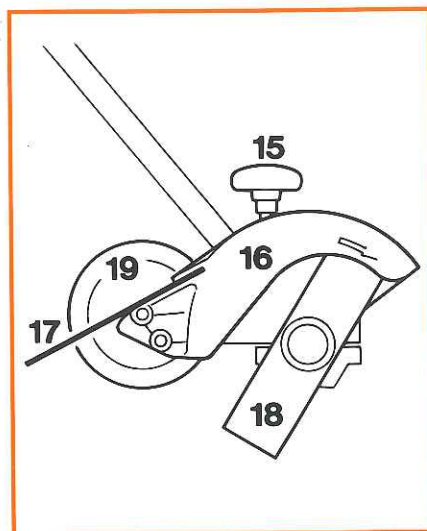
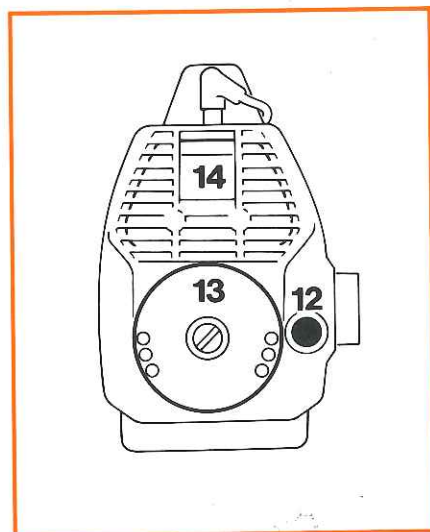
## Contents

Parts and Controls	2	Notes on Operation	24	STIHL's philosophy is to continually improve all of its products. As a result, engineering changes and improvements are made from time-to-time.
Safety Precautions	4	Cleaning the Air Filter	25	
Assembling the Edger		Adjusting the Carburetor	26	
- Mounting the loop handle	12	Checking the Spark Plug	28	
- Fitting the cutting blade	12	Lubricating Flexible Shaft	29	If the operating characteristics or the appearance of your power edger differ from those described in this manual, please contact your STIHL dealer for information and assistance.
Mounting Different Size Depth Wheel	14	Gearbox Lubrication	30	
Mounting Depth Wheel on Other Side of Deflector	15	Replacing the Cutting Blade	30	
Fuel Mix	16	Spark Arresting Screen	30	
Fueling	17	in Muffler	30	
Starting	18	Maintenance Chart	31	
Working Techniques		Specifications	32	
- Preparations	21	- Special accessories	32	
- Adjusting depth of cut	22			
- Edging	23			

## Parts and Controls



- 1 = Loop handle
- 2 = Slide control
- 3 = Throttle trigger interlock
- 4 = Starter grip
- 5 = Spark plug terminal
- 6 = Fuel filler cap
- 7 = Machine support
- 8 = Throttle cable / stop switch lead
- 9 = Control handle
- 10 = Throttle trigger
- 11 = Carburetor adjusting screws



- 12 = Fuel pump
- 13 = Choke lever / Air filter cover
- 14 = Muffler (with spark-arresting screen)
- 15 = Clamp screw
- 16 = Deflector
- 17 = Skirt
- 18 = Cutting blade
- 19 = Depth wheel

**Definition:**

1. **Loop handle.**  
For easy control of machine during cutting work.
2. **Stop slide.**  
Switches the engine's ignition system off and stops the running engine.
3. **Throttle trigger interlock.**  
Must be depressed before the throttle trigger can be activated.
4. **Starter grip.**  
The grip of the pull starter, which is the device to start the engine.
5. **Spark plug terminal.**  
Connects the spark plug to the ignition wire.
6. **Fuel filler cap.**  
For closing the fuel tank.
7. **Machine support.**  
For resting machine on the ground.
8. **Throttle cable / Stop switch lead.**  
Connect operator's control grip to the powerhead.
9. **Control handle.**  
For holding machine during starting and cutting work.
10. **Throttle trigger.**  
Controls the speed of the engine.
11. **Carburetor adjusting screws.**  
For tuning carburetor.
12. **Fuel pump.**  
Provides additional fuel feed for a cold start.
13. **Choke lever / Air filter cover.**  
Eases engine starting by enriching mixture. Covers the air filter element.
14. **Muffler.**  
**(with spark arresting screen)**  
Attenuates exhaust noises and diverts exhaust gases away from operator. The spark arresting screen is designed to reduce the risk of fire.
15. **Clamp screw.**  
Must be loosened to rotate the deflector to adjust the depth of cut.
16. **Deflector.**  
The deflector is designed to reduce the risk of injury from foreign objects flung backwards toward the operator by the cutting tool and from contact with the cutting tool.
17. **Skirt.**  
The skirt is designed to reduce the risk of injury from foreign objects flung backwards toward the operator by the cutting tool.
18. **Cutting blade.**  
Metal cutting blade for cutting grass, weeds and soft green plants.
19. **Depth wheel.**  
Deflector-mounted depth wheel rolls on ground and keeps edger's cutting blade at preset height for required depth of cut.



## Safety Precautions



### Warning!

Because an edger is a high-speed, fast-cutting power tool, special safety precautions must be observed to reduce the risk of personal injury.



It is important that you read, fully understand and observe the following safety precautions and

warnings. Save this owner's manual and read the safety instructions periodically. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and the proper use of the equipment. Know how to stop the unit and disengage the controls quickly.

Careless or improper use of any edger may cause serious or fatal injury. Have your STIHL dealer show you how to operate your edger. Observe all applicable local safety regulations, standards and ordinances.

### Warning!

The use of any edger may be hazardous. If the rotating cutting tool comes in contact with your body, it will cut you. When it comes in contact with solid foreign objects such as rocks or bits of metal, it may fling them directly or by ricochet in the direction of bystanders or the operator.

Striking such objects could damage the cutting attachment and may cause blades to crack, chip or break. Thrown objects or damaged blades may



result in serious or fatal injury to the operator or bystanders.

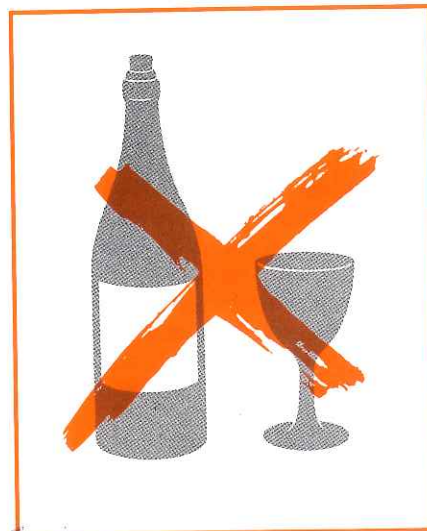
### Warning!

Minors should never be allowed to use an edger. Bystanders, especially children, and animals should not be allowed in the area where an edger is in use.

Never let the edger run unattended.

### Warning!

Do not lend or rent your edger without the owner's manual. Be sure that anyone using your edger understands the information contained in this manual.



Most of these safety precautions and warnings apply to the use of all STIHL edgers. Different models may have different parts and controls. See the appropriate section of your owner's manual for a description of the controls and function of the parts of your model edger.

Safe use of an edger involves

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

**Save these instructions!**

## THE OPERATOR!

### Physical Condition

You must be in good physical condition and mental health and not under the influence of any substance (drugs, alcohol, etc.) which might impair vision, dexterity or judgment. Do not operate an edger when you are fatigued.

Be alert - if you get tired while operating your edger, take a break. Tiredness may result in loss of control. Working with any edger can be strenuous. If you have any condition that might be aggravated by strenuous work, check with your doctor before operating an edger.

Prolonged use of an edger (or other machines) exposing the operator to vibrations may produce whitefinger disease (Raynaud's phenomenon) or carpal tunnel syndrome. These conditions reduce the hand's ability to feel and regulate temperature, produce numbness and burning sensations and may cause nerve and circulation damage and tissue necrosis.

### Warning!

Antivibration systems do not guarantee that you will not sustain whitefinger disease or carpal tunnel syndrome. Therefore, continual and regular users should monitor closely the condition of their hands and fingers. If any of the above symptoms appear, seek medical advice immediately.



### Proper Clothing

#### Warning!



Edger operation can cause serious injury to eyes, ears and person. The deflector and skirt provided with your edger may not protect the operator from all foreign objects (gravel, glass, wire, etc.) thrown by the rotating cutting attachment. Thrown objects may also ricochet and strike the operator. Therefore, to reduce the risk of injury to your eyes never operate an edger unless wearing goggles or properly fitted safety glasses with adequate top and side protection complying with ANSI Z 87.1 (or your applicable national standard).

To reduce the risk of injury to your face STIHL recommends that you also wear a face shield or face screen over your goggles or safety glasses.

### Warning!

Edger noise may damage your hearing. Wear sound barriers (ear plugs or ear muffs) to protect your hearing. Continual and regular users should have their hearing checked regularly.

Wear proper protective clothing.

Protect your hands with gloves when handling the edger and the cutting tool. Heavy-duty, nonslip gloves improve your grip and protect your hands.

Clothing must be sturdy and snug-fitting, but allow complete freedom of movement. Avoid loose-fitting jackets, scarfs, neckties, jewelry, flared or cuffed pants, unconfined long hair or anything that could become caught on branches, brush or moving parts of the unit. Wear long pants made of heavy material to protect your legs. Do not wear shorts.

Good footing is most important in edger work. Wear sturdy boots with nonslip soles. Do not operate edger when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Steel-toed safety boots are recommended. Wear an approved safety hard hat to reduce the risk of injury to your head when there is a danger of head injuries.

## THE EDGER

For illustrations and definitions of the edger parts see the chapter on „Parts and Controls“!

**Warning!** Never modify an edger in any way. Only attachments supplied by STIHL or expressly approved by STIHL for use with the specific STIHL edger models are authorized. Although certain unauthorized attachments are useable for the STIHL edger, their use may, in fact, be extremely dangerous.

## THE USE OF THE EDGER

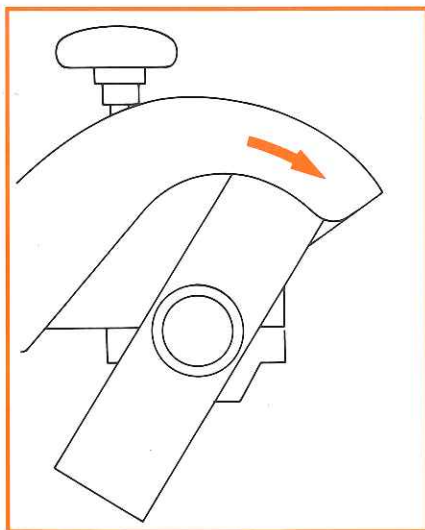
### Transporting the edger

#### Warning!

Always turn off the engine and make sure the cutting attachment has stop-ped before putting an edger down. When transporting your edger in a vehicle, properly secure it to prevent turnover, fuel spillage and damage to the edger.

### Preparation for the use of the edger

Adjust carrying harness and hand grip to suit your size before starting work. The machine should be properly balanced as specified in your owner's manual for proper control and less fatigue in operation. Always check your edger for proper condition and operation before starting, particularly the throttle trigger, throttle trigger interlock (and if applicable, stop switch, cutting tool, de-



flector and harness). An arrow on the deflector shows the correct direction of rotation of the cutting blade.

The deflector can be rotated to suit working conditions. The arrow on the deflector must always face away from you, so that cuttings and other debris will be diverted away from the machine and your position (see chapter „Working Techniques“).

The throttle trigger must move freely and always spring back to the idle position. The cutting tool must be properly tightened and in safe operating condition. Inspect for loose parts (nuts, screws, etc.) and for cracked, bent, warped or damaged blades.



## Fueling

Your STIHL edger uses an oil-gasoline mixture for fuel (see the chapter on „Fuel“ of your owner's manual).

### Warning!

Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. Use extreme caution when handling gasoline or fuel mix. Do not smoke or bring any fire or flame near the fuel.

## Fueling Instructions

Fuel your edger in well-ventilated areas, outdoors. Use a fuel container acceptable for the purpose.



## Warning!

Never attempt to fuel a running or hot engine. Gasoline vapor pressure may build up inside the gas tank of a two cycle engine depending on the fuel used, the weather conditions, and the venting system of the tank. In order to reduce the risk of burns or other personal injury from escaping gas vapor and fumes, remove the fuel filler cap on your edger carefully so as to allow any pressure build-up in the tank to release slowly. Never remove fuel filler cap while engine is running.

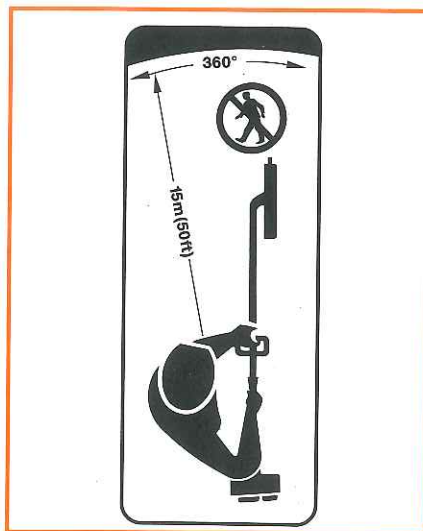
Select bare ground for fueling and move at least 10 feet (3 m) from the fueling spot before starting the engine.

Replace fuel filler cap securely and check for tightness.

Wipe off any spilled fuel before starting your edger 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.

Move at least 10 feet (3 m) from spot of leakage before starting. Take care not to get fuel on your clothing. If this happens, change your clothing immediately.



## Starting

### Warning!

Your edger is a one-person machine. Once started, it may fling foreign objects for a great distance. To reduce the risk of eye and other injury insure that bystanders are at least 50 feet (15 m) away. Stop the engine and cutting tool immediately if you are approached. Start and operate your edger without assistance. For specific starting instructions, see the appropriate section of your manual. Place the edger on firm ground or other solid surface in an open area. Maintain a good balance and secure footing. To reduce the risk of injury from loss of control, be absolutely sure that the cutting tool is clear of you and all other

obstructions and objects, including the ground, because when the engine starts at starting-throttle, engine speed will be fast enough for the clutch to engage and turn the cutting tool.

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





### Working Conditions

Operate and start your edger only outdoors in a well ventilated area. Do not operate edger indoors; exhaust fumes are dangerous. Operate the edger under good visibility and daylight conditions only. Work carefully.

Always hold the edger firmly with both hands. Wrap your fingers tightly around the handles, keeping the handles cradled between your thumb and forefinger. Keep your hands in this position to have your edger under control at all times. Make sure your edger handles and grip are in good condition and free of moisture, pitch, oil or grease.

### Warning!

Never attempt to operate any edger with one hand. Loss of control of the edger resulting in serious or fatal injury may result.

Special care must be taken in slippery conditions (wet ground, snow) and in difficult, over-grown terrain. Watch for hidden obstacles such as tree stumps, roots and ditches to avoid stumbling.

Stay alert for uneven side walks, holes in terrain or other similar conditions when using your edger. Always push slowly over rough ground. Do not abuse your edger.



### Warning!

Before cutting, inspect and clear the area of stones, glass, pieces of metal, trash or other solid objects. The cutting attachment could throw objects of this kind and cause personal injury.

Do not use edger on gravel surfaces.

### Warning!

Never divert discharge of material toward bystanders nor allow anyone near the area of operation. Use care in directing discharge to avoid glass enclosures, automobiles, and the like.



To reduce the risk of injury from thrown objects and blade contact, never operate an edger without a properly mounted deflector. Keep the skirt on the deflector adjusted properly at all times (see chapter on mounting the cutting tool of your owner's manual). Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.

### **Warning!**

Keep hands and feet away from cutting area.

### **Warning!**

This edger is normally to be used at ground level with the cutting attachment perpendicular to the ground. Use of an edger above ground level or with the cutting attachment parallel to the ground may increase the risk of injury, since the cutting attachment is more fully exposed and the edger may be more difficult to control.

Never use your edger as a hedge trimmer.

### **Warning!**

When using your edger, avoid cutting close to fences, sides of buildings, tree trunks, stones or other such objects that could cause the edger to kick out or could cause damage to the blade. In addition, be alert to an increased risk of ricochets in such situations.

If the edger strikes a foreign object, follow these steps: stop the engine, disconnect spark plug lead, inspect for damage and repair any damage before restarting and operating the product.

Do not operate using the starting throttle lock as you do not have control of the engine speed. See section of your owner's manual on the proper use of the slide control.

If the cutting tool or deflector becomes clogged or stuck, always turn off the engine, disconnect spark plug lead and make sure the cutting tool has stopped, before cleaning. Keep lead away from spark plug to reduce the risk of unintentional starting. Grass, weeds, etc. should be cleaned off the cutting tool at regular intervals.

### **Warning!**

During cutting, check the tightness and the condition of the cutting tool at regular intervals. If the behavior of the tool changes, stop the engine immediately, and check the nut securing the tool for tightness and the cutting tool for cracks and damage.

If the edger vibrates abnormally, immediately stop the engine and check for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble. Replace cracked, bent, warped, damaged, excessively worn or dull cutting tools immediately. Such tools may shatter at high speed and cause serious or fatal injury.

### **Warning!**

A loose blade may cause the blade to vibrate, crack, break or come off the edger, which may result in serious or fatal injury. Make sure that the blade is properly tightened. Use the wrench supplied or one of sufficient length to obtain the proper torque. If the blade loosens after being properly tightened, stop work immediately. The retaining nut may be worn or damaged and should be replaced. Never use unauthorized parts to secure the blade. Failure to use the proper parts may cause the blade to fly off and seriously injury the operator or bystanders. If the blade continues to loosen, see your STIHL dealer. Do not attach any blade to a unit without proper installation of all required parts. Never use an edger with a loose blade.

### **Warning!**

Never touch a rotating cutting tool with your hand or any part of your body.

The tool continues to rotate for a short period after the throttle trigger is released (flywheel effect).

### **Important adjustments**

#### **Warning!**

At correct idle speed, the cutting tool should not turn. For directions on how to adjust idle speed, see the appropriate section of your owner's manual.

Do not use an edger with incorrect idle speed adjustment. You may adjust the idle speed yourself according to the instructions in your manual. If you cannot set the correct idle speed, have your STIHL dealer check your edger and make proper adjustments or repairs.

### **Operating instructions**

Use only for edging in grass, weeds and soft green plants.

### **Warning!**

During operation, follow all safety precautions mentioned in the important safety precaution section of this manual. Improper use of any edger can cause serious or fatal personal injury. In order to reduce risk of eye injury always wear proper eye protection and operate product from position where guards or deflector blocks the line of sight to the cutting tool.

Stop the engine whenever you leave the operating position.

## **MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND STORING**

Use only identical STIHL replacement parts for maintenance and repair. Use of parts manufactured by others may cause serious or fatal injury.

Follow the maintenance and repair instructions in the appropriate section of your owner's manual.

### **Warning!**

Always stop the engine, disconnect the spark plug lead and make sure that the cutting tool is stopped before doing any maintenance or repair work or cleaning the edger. Keep lead away from spark plug to reduce the risk of unintentional starting. Never attempt to make any adjustments while the engine is running (except where specifically recommended in this manual). Do not attempt any maintenance or repair work not described in your owner's manual. Have such work performed at your STIHL service shop only. Do not modify the engine governor or overspeed the engine.

Never repair damaged cutting attachments by welding, straightening or modifying the shape. This may cause parts of the cutting tool to come off and result in serious or fatal injuries.

Check condition of cutting tool at regular short intervals. If behavior of tool changes, check it immediately for tight-

ness or any signs of cracks in particular. Replace damaged or dull cutting tools immediately, even if they have only superficial cracks.

Check fuel filler cap for leaks at regular intervals. Use the specified spark plug and make sure it and the ignition lead are always in good condition.

### **Warning!**

A worn or damaged muffler is a fire hazard and may cause loss of hearing. Check to see that the muffler is in good condition. The edger must not be operated if the muffler is not functioning properly or has been removed.

Remember that the risk of forest fires is greater in hot weather. Use the spark arresting muffler supplied with the unit. Never touch a hot muffler or burn will result.

### **Warning!**

In order to reduce the risk of fire, do not modify or remove any part of the muffler or spark arrestor.

Tighten all nuts, bolts and screws except the carburetor adjustment screws after each use.

Keep spark plug and wire connection tight and clean. The spark plug electrode

gap should be checked with a feeler gauge at least every 50 operating hours and reset if necessary. Fit a new spark plug if the electrodes are badly pitted.

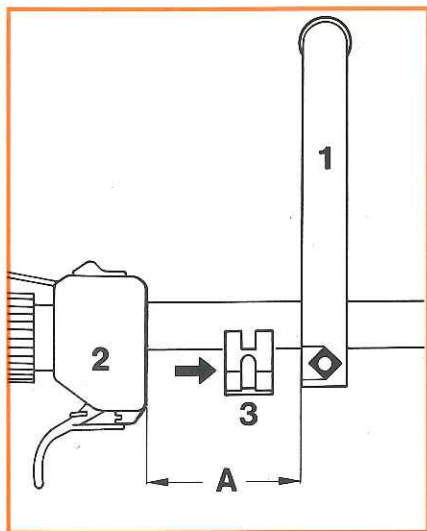
Store edger indoors in a dry, high or locked location and out of reach of children.

Before storing for longer than a few days, always empty the fuel tank.

Never store the machine with fuel in the fuel tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or sparks, or in a confined area such as a car trunk.

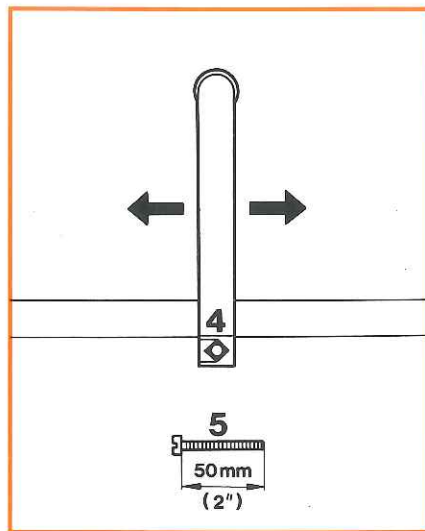


## Assembling the Edger



### Mounting the loop handle

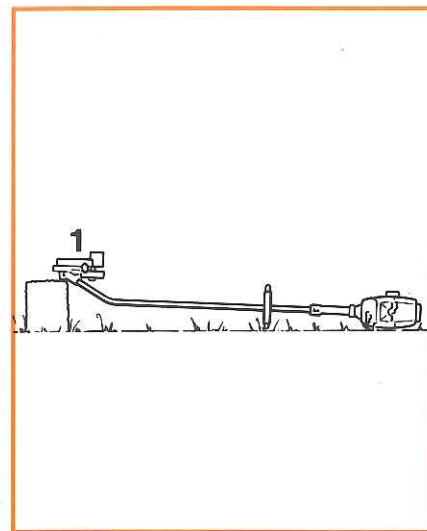
- Fit the loop handle (1) on the drive tube - 20 cm (8") (A) forward of the control handle (2)
- Position the clamp (3) against the drive tube and slide it into the loop handle.



- Fit square nut (4) in the loop handle, insert the clamp screw (5) from the other side and tighten down securely.

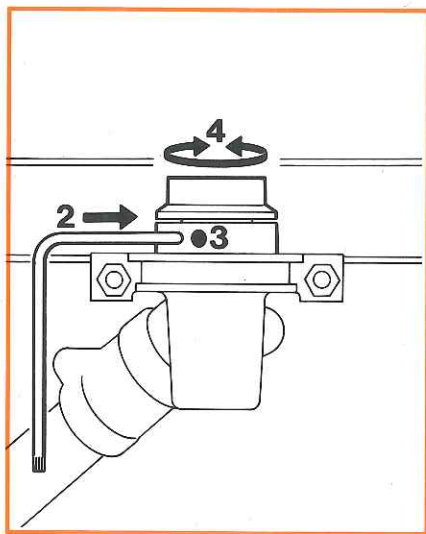
### Adjusting loop handle to most comfortable position:

- Release clamp screw (5).
- Move the loop handle along the drive tube as required - retighten the clamp screw.

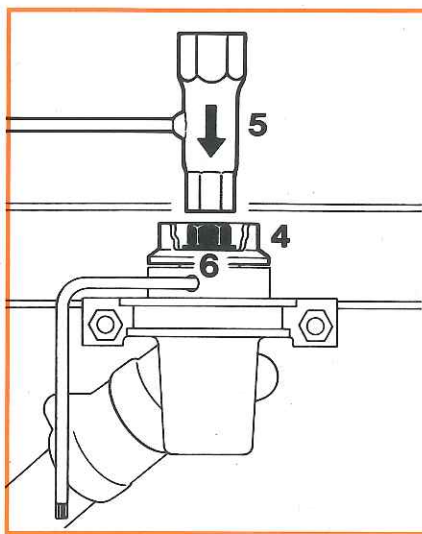


### Fitting the blade

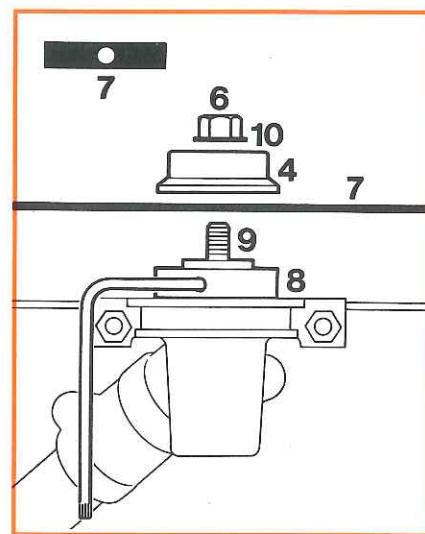
- Place your power edger on a suitable support so that the blade mounting (1) is facing up.



- Insert the Allen wrench (2) in the bore (3) - push it in as far as stop -
- Rotate thrust washer (4) and the Allen wrench until the wrench engages and blocks the output shaft.



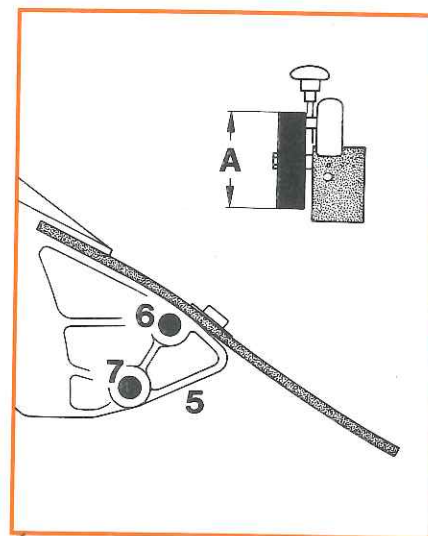
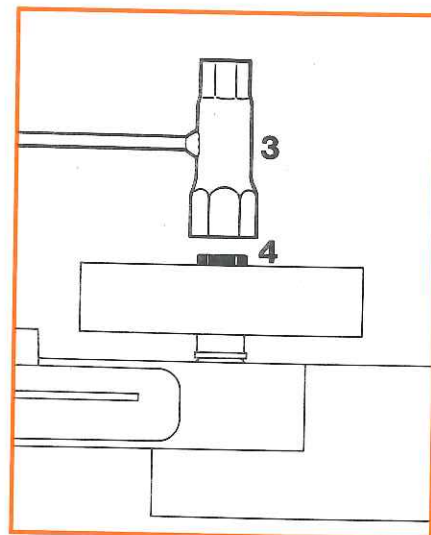
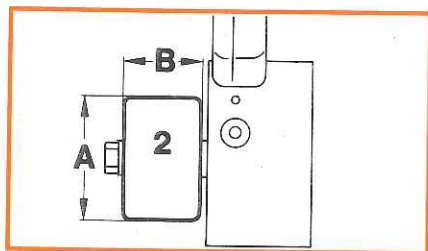
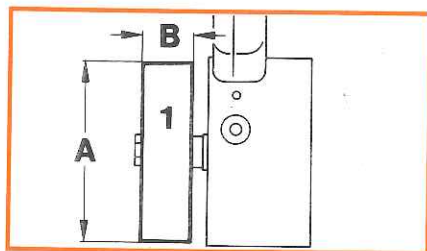
- Fit combination wrench (5) on the mounting nut (6).
- Release and unscrew the nut clockwise (left-hand thread).
- Remove the thrust washer (4).



- Position the blade (7) on the thrust plate (8).
- Fit the thrust washer (4) on the output shaft (9).
- Screw the mounting nut (6) onto the output shaft counterclockwise and tighten it down securely.

If the spring washer (10) on the mounting nut (6) loses its resilience after a prolonged period, fit a new nut.

## Mounting Different Size Depth Wheel



### Standard:

1 = Depth wheel

A = 127 mm (5") diameter

B = 32 mm (1 1/4") wide

### Option:

2 = Depth wheel

A = 76 mm (3") diameter

B = 50 mm (2") wide

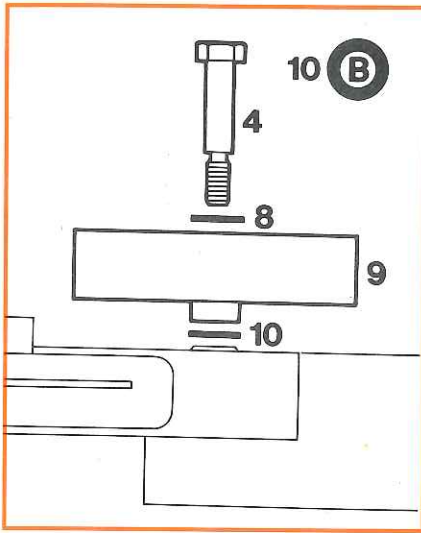
### Removing the depth wheel

- Apply combination wrench (3) to collar screw (4).
- Release and remove screw counterclockwise.
- Remove the collar screw, depth wheel and two washers.

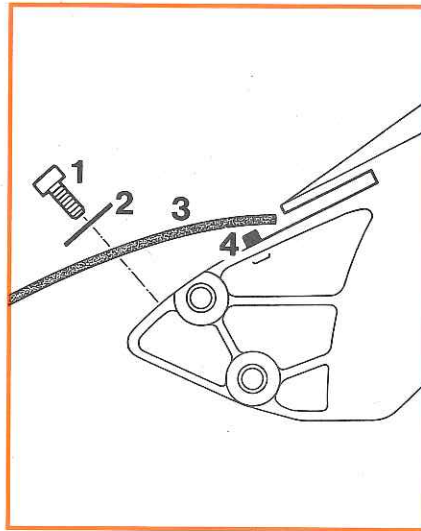
### Fitting the depth wheel

- There are two tapped holes on both sides of the deflector (5):
- 6 = Tapped hole for 127 mm (5") diameter depth wheel (A).
- 7 = Tapped hole for 76 mm (3") diameter depth wheel (A).

## Mounting Depth Wheel on Other Side of Deflector



- Fit the washer (8), wheel (9) and washer (10) with inside diameter **B** = 10 mm (13/32") on the collar screw (4).
- Fit the collar screw in the tapped hole, turn it clockwise as far as stop and tighten it down securely.



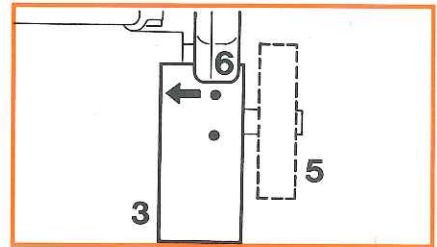
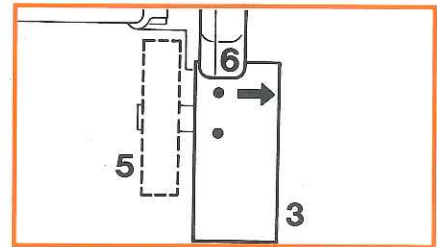
**Remove the depth wheel -**  
as described under "Mounting  
Different Size Depth Wheel".

### Removing the skirt

- Release and take out the screw (1).
- Remove the washer (2).
- Lift the skirt (3) off the lug (4) and pull it out of the deflector.

### Fitting wheel on other side of deflector

- as described under "Mounting  
Different Size Depth Wheel".

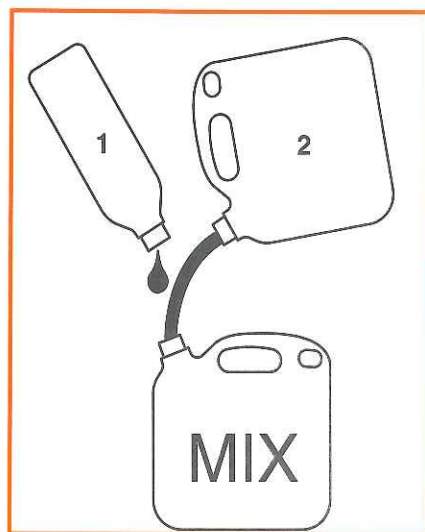


### Fitting the skirt

- Note correct position of skirt (3) relative to depth wheel (5).
- Push the skirt into the slot in the deflector (6) until it can be engaged on the lug (4).
- Fit the washer (2) on the screw (1).
- Insert and tighten down the screw.



## Fuel Mix



Your two-stroke engine requires a mixture of brand-name gasoline and quality two-stroke engine oil with the **classification TC**.

Use regular branded unleaded gasoline with a minimum octane number of 90 ROZ (U.S.A./Canada: pump octane min. 89!). If the octane number of the regular grade gasoline in your area is lower use premium unleaded fuel. Fuel with a lower octane number may result in preignition (causing "pinging") which is accompanied by an increase in engine temperature. This, in turn, increases the risk of the piston seizure and damage to the engine.

The chemical composition of the fuel is also important. Some fuel additives not

only detrimentally affect elastomers (carburetor diaphragms, oil seals, fuel lines etc.), but magnesium castings as well. This could cause running problems or even damage the engine. For this reason it is essential that you use only name branded fuels!

Use only STIHL two-stroke engine oil or equivalent branded two-stroke air-cooled engine oils with the classification TC for mixing.

We recommend STIHL 50:1 two-stroke engine oil since it is specially formulated for use in STIHL engines. The mix ratio with STIHL oil is 50:1 (50 parts gasoline to 1 part oil), or 25:1 (25 parts gasoline to 1 part oil) with other branded two-stroke air-cooled engine oils.

Do not use BIA or TCW (two-stroke water cooled) mix oils!

Take care when handling gasoline. Avoid direct contact with the skin and avoid inhaling fuel vapour.

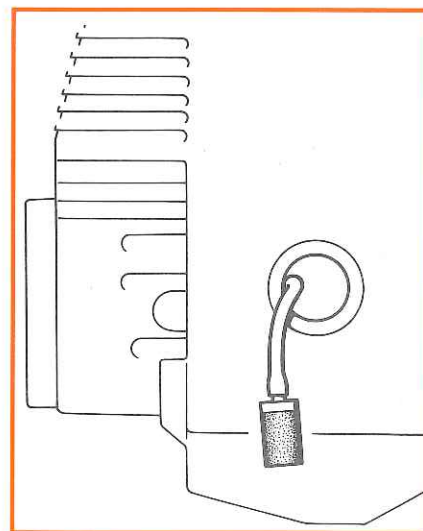
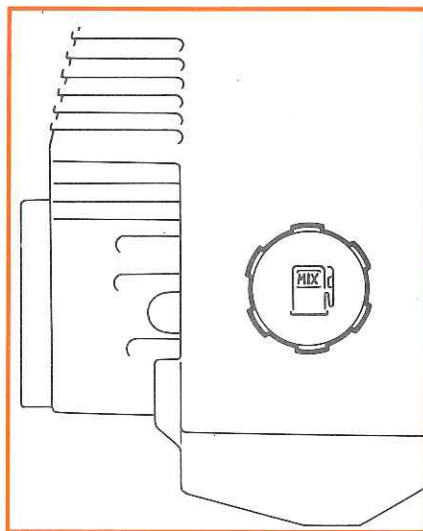
The canister should be kept tightly closed in order to avoid any moisture getting into the mixture.

The fuel tank and the canister in which fuel mix is stored should be cleaned from time to time.

### Fuel mix ages:

Only mix sufficient fuel for a few days work, not to exceed 30 days of storage. Store in approved safety fuel-canisters only. When mixing, pour oil into the canister first, and then add gasoline.

## Fueling



Gaso- line	STIHL engine oil 50:1		Other branded TC oils 25:1	
Liters	Liters	(cc)	Liters	(cc)
1	0.02	(20)	0.04	(40)
5	0.10	(100)	0.2	(200)
10	0.20	(200)	0.4	(400)
15	0.30	(300)	0.6	(600)
20	0.40	(400)	0.8	(800)
25	0.50	(500)	1.0	(1000)

Gaso- line	STIHL engine oil 50:1		Other branded TC oils 25:1	
US gal.	US fl.oz		US fl.oz	
1	2.6		5.1	
2 1/2	6.4		12.8	
5	12.8		25.6	

Before fueling, clean the filler cap and the area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the tank.

Always thoroughly shake the mixture in the canister before fueling your machine.

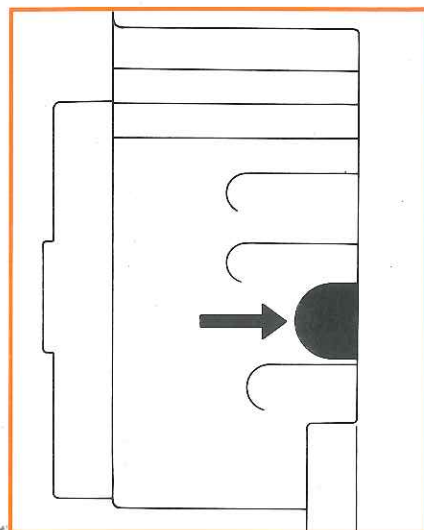
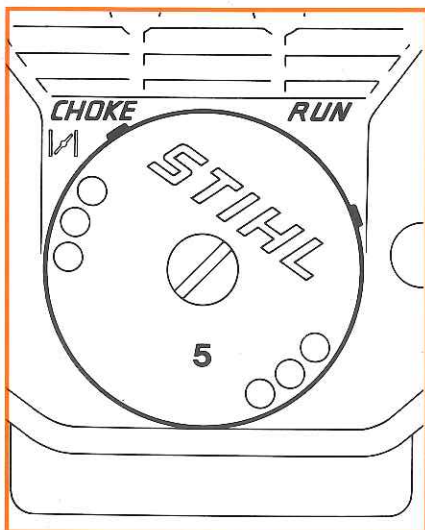
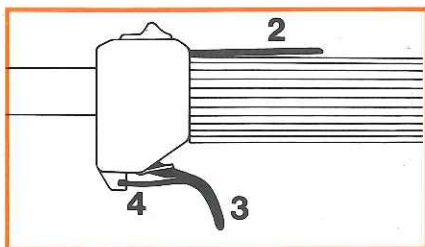
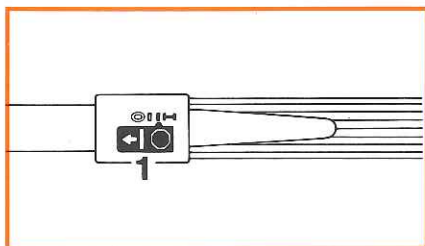
### Warning!

In order to reduce the risk of burns or other personal injury from escaping gas vapor and fumes, remove the fuel filler cap carefully so as to allow any pressure build-up in the tank to release slowly.

Change the fuel pick up body every year.

Before storing your machine for a long period, drain and clean the fuel tank and run engine until carburetor is dry.

## Starting



- Observe safety precautions - see chapter "Safety Precautions" in this manual.
- Move stop slide (1) to "I" position.
- Hold down the interlock lever (2), squeeze the throttle trigger (3) and engage the spring lock (4) in the notch (see arrow) on the throttle trigger retainer.
- Let go of the throttle trigger, spring lock and interlock lever in that order. The trigger is now in the starting throttle position.

### If engine is cold:

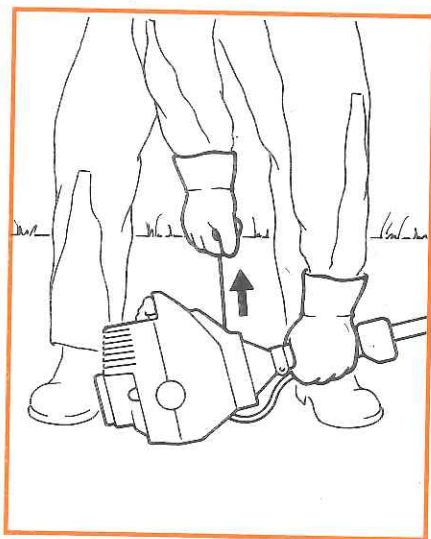
- Turn the filter cover (5) clockwise to "CHOKE".

### If engine is warm:

- Turn filter cover (5) counterclockwise to "RUN".

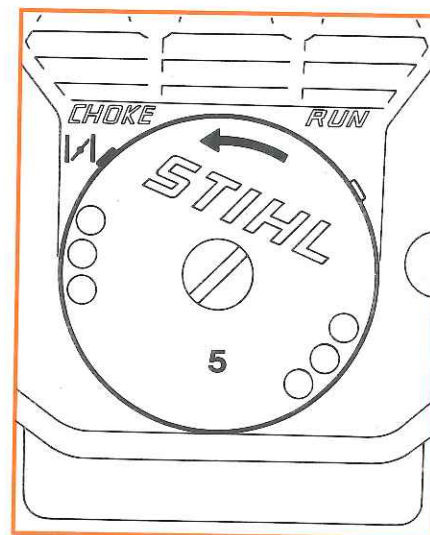
Also use this setting if engine has been running but is still cold.

- Press the transparent fuel pump bulb at least five times - it must be filled with fuel.




- Put the unit on the ground: It must rest securely on the engine support and depth wheel.
- Check that the cutting blade is not touching the ground or any other obstacles.
- Make sure you have a firm footing: Hold the unit with your left around the handle hose (thumb under the handle) and press it down firmly. Do not stand or kneel on the drive shaft.

- Pull the starter grip slowly with your right hand until you feel it engage - and then give it a brisk strong pull.
- Do not pull out the starter rope more than 70 cm (27") - it might break.
- Do not let the starter grip snap back - guide it back slowly so that the starter rope can rewind properly.



When engine begins to fire:

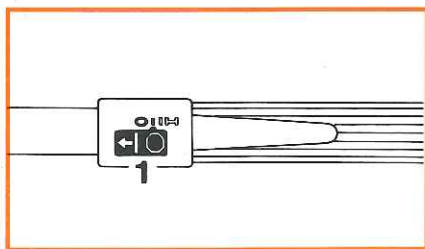
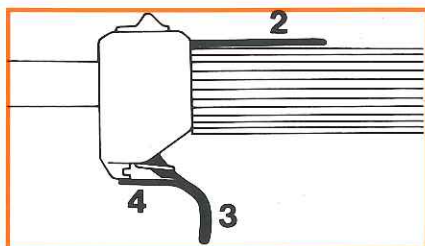
If engine is cold:

- Turn filter cover (5) counter-clockwise to  and continue cranking until the engine runs.

If engine is warm:

Continue cranking until the engine runs.





**If engine is cold:**

- Hold down interlock lever (2) and warm up engine for brief period at full throttle.
- Let go of throttle trigger (3) and turn filter cover to "RUN" so that engine returns to idle speed.

**If engine is warm:**

- Hold down interlock lever (2) and blip the throttle trigger (3) to disengage the spring lock (4) so that the engine can return to idle speed.

**To stop the engine:**

Move stop slide (1) to the "0" position.

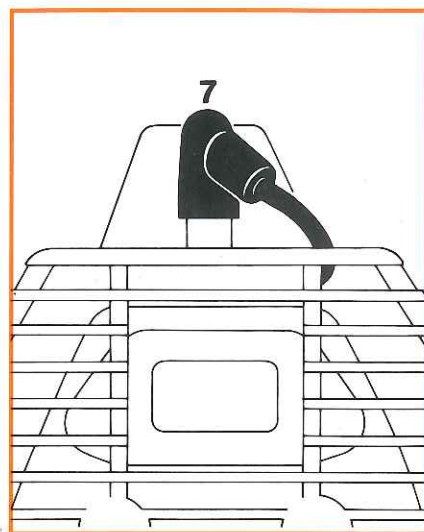
Make sure carburetor is correctly adjusted - cutting blade must not rotate when engine is idling.

**At very low outside temperatures:**

**Allow engine to warm up.**

As soon as engine runs:

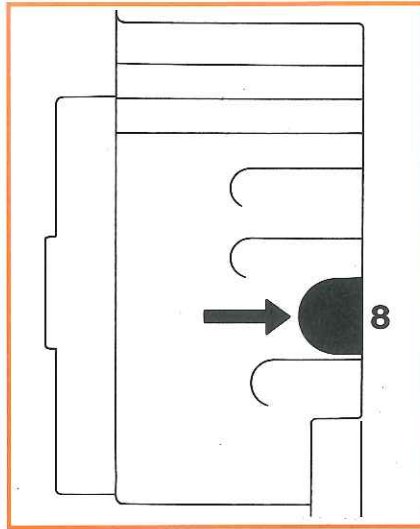
- Hold down interlock lever - warm up the engine by running it for about 1 minute at full throttle - Let go of the throttle trigger - Turn the filter cover to »RUN so that engine returns to idle speed.



**If the engine doesn't start:**

- If you did not turn the filter cover to "RUN" quickly enough after the engine began to fire, the combustion chamber has flooded.
- Remove spark plug terminal (7).
- Unscrew and dry off the spark plug.
- Move stop slide to "0" position.
- Hold down interlock lever and open the throttle fully.
- Pull the starter rope several times to clear the combustion chamber.

## Working Techniques



- Refit the spark plug and connect the spark plug terminal -
- Move stop slide to "I" position.
- Turn filter cover to "RUN" - even if engine is cold.
- Now start the engine.

### Fuel tank run until dry and then refueled

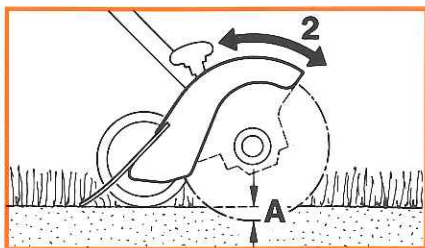
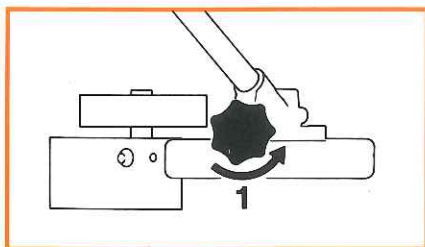
- Press transparent fuel pump bulb (8) several times - it must be filled with fuel.
- Now start the engine.

Your power edger is designed to produce sharp contoured borders around lawns and flower beds. It will cut almost all types of grass, weeds and green plants.

### Preparations

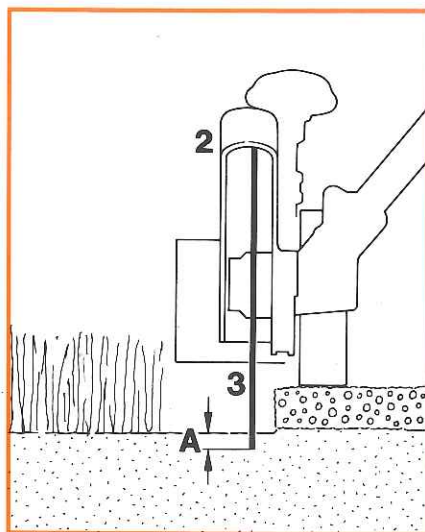
- If soil is very dry, spray it with water before you start work:  
This helps soften the soil a little and also reduces the amount of dust created. Slightly damp green plants are easier to cut.

- Inspect the work area and clear away any foreign objects to help avoid the risk of injury.
- Plan the best route for edging. Always hold and operate your edger at the right side of your body.



### Adjusting depth of cut

- Shut off the engine and wait for the cutting blade to come to a complete standstill.
- Loosen clamp screw (1) counter-clockwise.
- Rotate deflector (2):  
Clockwise to increase depth of cut (A).  
or counterclockwise to reduce depth of cut (A).



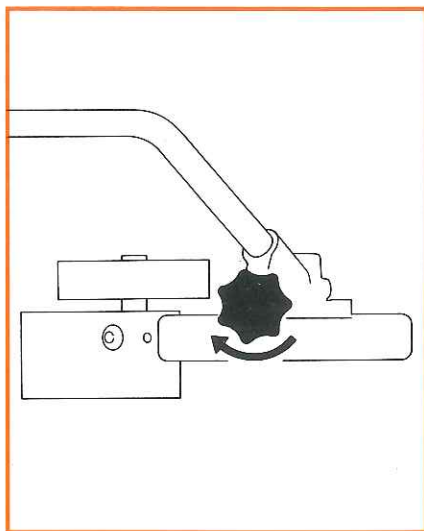
### Adjust correctly

The depth of cut varies according to unevenness of the ground, your height and the way you hold the edger. Use the following procedure:

- Rotate the deflector (2) so that the cutting blade (3) is just touching the top of the soil in the normal working position or breaks the surface of the soil no more than 5 mm (3/16") (A).

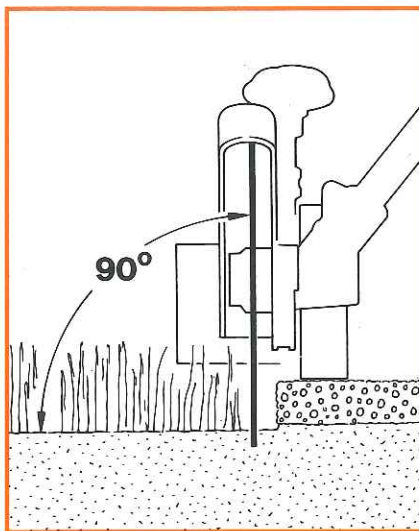


- Adjust cutting blade guard so that arrow on the open side of the guard faces away from you. This ensures that cuttings and other debris will be diverted away from the machine and your position.



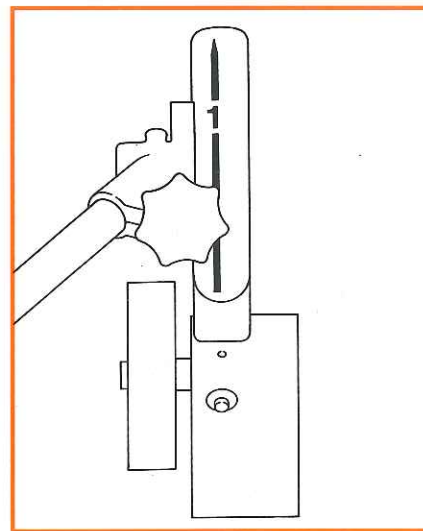
- Tighten down clamp screw clockwise.

Standing in the normal working position, check the depth of cut again and correct it if necessary.



### Edging

- Start the engine.
- Start the cut at half throttle and continue cutting at full throttle.
- Hold and guide the unit so that the blade is vertical.
- Cut at a steady pace to avoid having to make several passes.
- Walk forward and cut at a rate which suits the cutting performance of the blade - do not apply force!
- Do not push the blade into the ground.



1 = Gunning sight for cutting blade.



## Notes on Operation

### During break-in period

A factory new machine should not be run at high revs (full throttle off load) for the first three tank fillings. This avoids unnecessary high loads during the break-in period.

As all moving parts have to bed in during the break-in period, the frictional resistances in the engine are greater during this period. The engine develops its maximum power after about 5 to 15 tank fillings.

### During operation

After long period of full-throttle operation, allow engine to run for a while at idling speed so that the heat in the engine can be dissipated by flow of cooling air. This protects engine-mounted components (ignition, carburetor) from thermal overload.

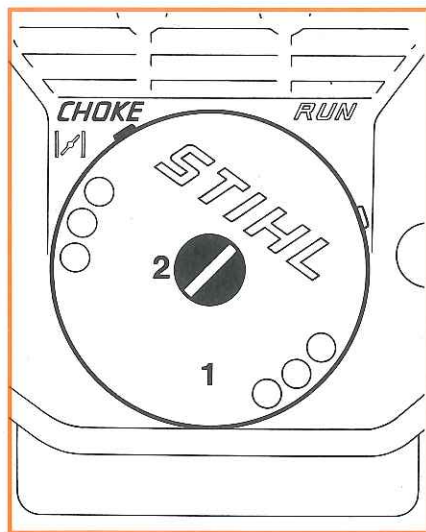
### After finishing work

Storing for short period:  
To avoid condensation, fill the fuel tank and keep the unit in a dry place until you need it again.

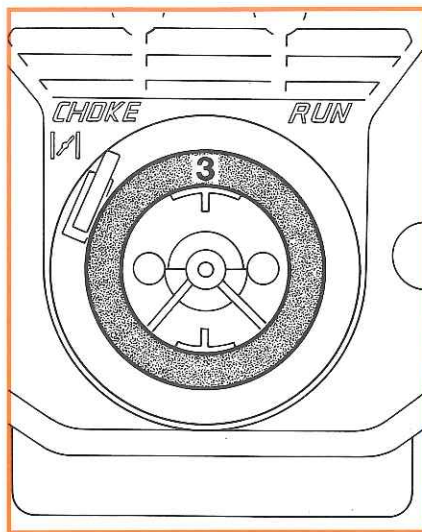
Storing for a long period:  
Drain and clean the fuel tank - run engine until carburetor is dry.

Check tightness of nuts and screws (not adjusting screws) at regular intervals and retighten as necessary.

## Cleaning the Air Filter

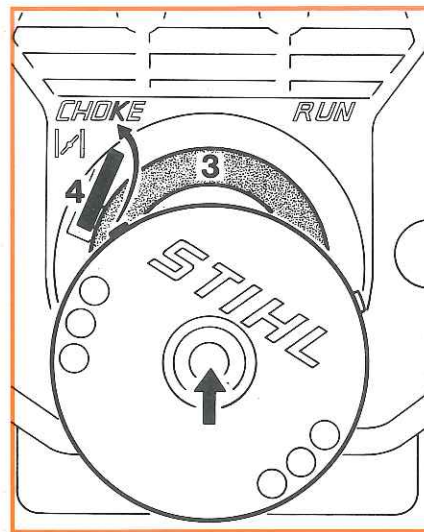


- If there is a noticeable loss of engine power
- Turn filter cover (1) to "CHOKE" - to prevent dirt falling into the carburetor.
- Take out the screw (2) and pull off the filter cover without turning it.



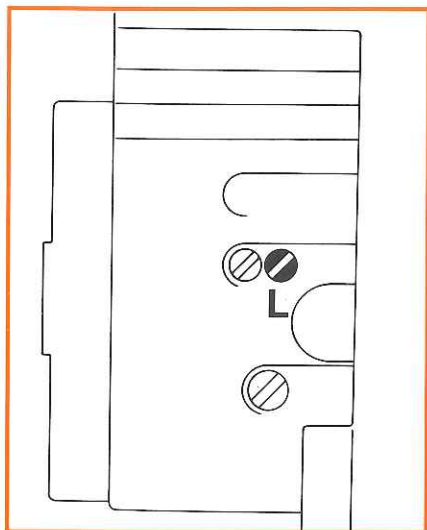
- Take the foam filter element (3) out of the filter housing.
- Wash the element in fresh, non-flammable cleaning solution (e.g. warm soapy water) and dry it off.

Always replace a damaged filter element.



- Install foam filter element (3).
- Fit the filter cover with the choke lever (4) in the closed position, i.e. choke lever must engage filter cover.
- Line up choke mark on filter cover with "K" of "CHOKE" on housing.
- Secure cover with screw (2).

## Adjusting the Carburetor

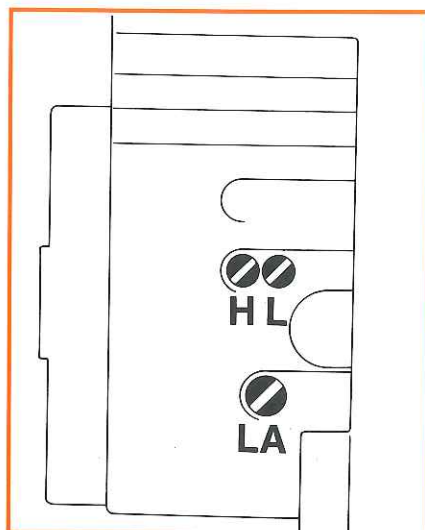


The carburetor has been adjusted for optimum performance under the barometric pressure and climatic conditions at the factory.

### Basic setting

This setting is the starting point for fine tuning:

- Check air filter and clean it if necessary.
- Carefully screw the low speed adjusting screw (**L**) down onto its seat (clockwise) and make the following adjustments:



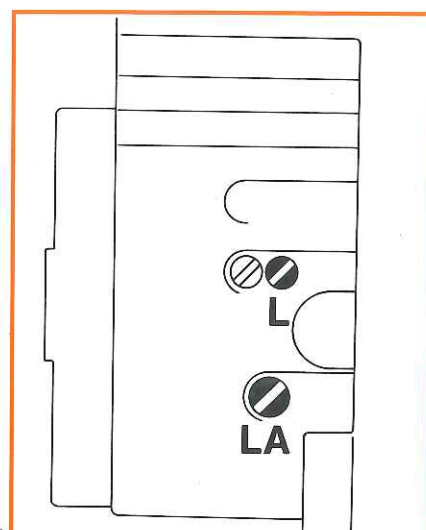
**L** = Open 1 full turn

**H** = Open 1 full turn

This setting must not be changed in any way.

- Start the engine and adjust idling speed with the idle speed adjusting screw (**LA**): cutting blade must not rotate.

This is the optimum setting to ensure that your machine will deliver maximum power, be fuel efficient and operate reliably.

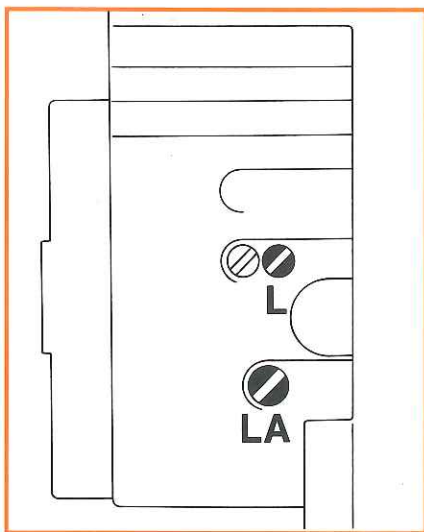


### Adjusting idle speed

It is usually necessary to change the setting of the idle speed adjusting screw (**LA**) after every correction to the low speed adjusting screw (**L**).

### Engine stops while idling

Turn the idle speed adjusting screw (**LA**) clockwise until engine runs smoothly - cutting blade must not rotate.

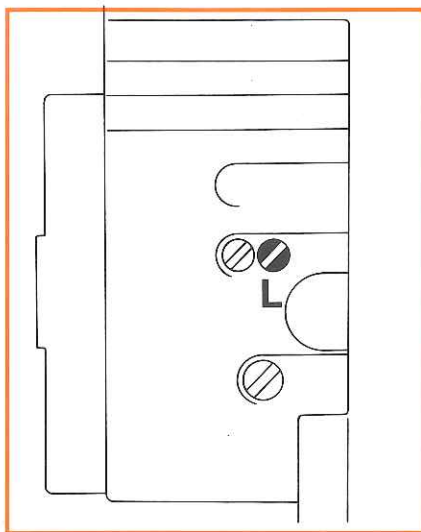


#### **Cutting blade rotates when engine is idling**

Turn the idle speed adjusting screw **(LA)** counterclockwise until cutting blade stops rotating - then back off screw about another one half turn from that position.

#### **Erratic idling behavior, poor acceleration**

Idle setting is too lean.  
Turn the low speed adjusting screw **(L)** counterclockwise until engine runs and accelerates smoothly.

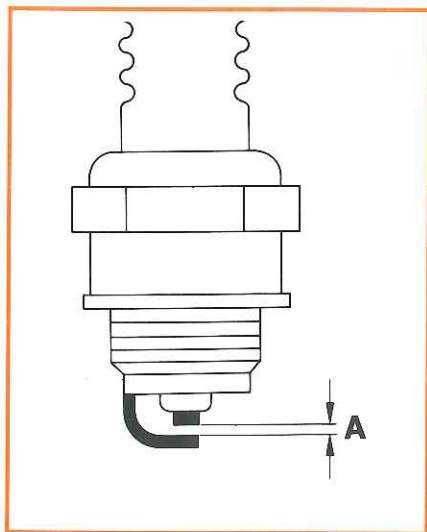


#### **Exhaust smokes at idle speed**

Idle setting is too rich.  
Turn the low speed adjusting screw **(L)** clockwise until engine speed drops. Then turn screw back one quarter turn and check that engine still accelerates smoothly when you open the throttle.



## Checking the Spark Plug



**If engine is down on power, difficult to start or runs poorly at idling speed, first check the spark plug.**

- Remove spark plug - see chapter "Starting".
- Clean dirty spark plug.
- Check electrode gap (A) -

**A =** It should be 0.7 - 0.8 mm (about 0.03") - readjust as necessary.

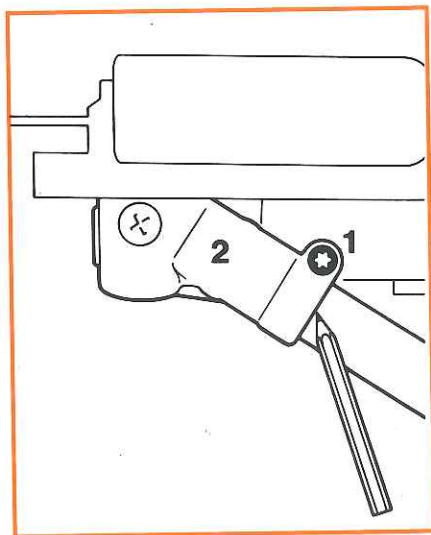
- Use only suppressed spark plugs of the approved type.

Rectify faults which have caused fouling of spark plug:

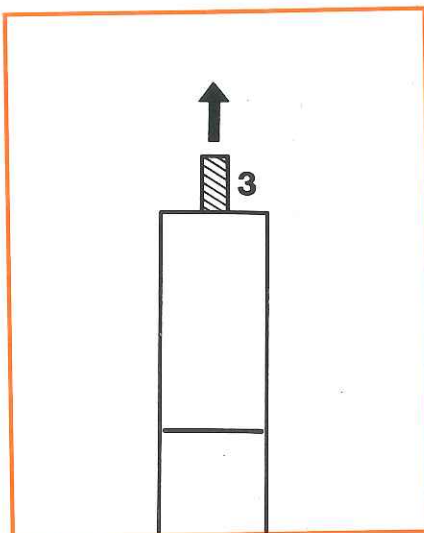
Incorrect carburetor setting, too much oil in fuel mix, dirty air filter, unfavorable running conditions, e.g. operating at part load.

- **Install a new spark plug after approx. 50 operating hours - or earlier if the electrodes are badly eroded.**

## Lubricating Flexible Shaft

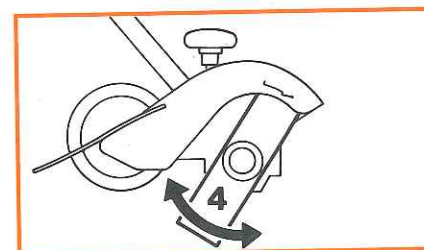
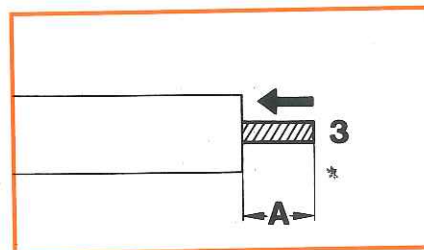


- Check film of lubricant at regular intervals - about every 50 hours of operation if you use your power edger daily or once a year if you are an occasional user.
- Use a pencil to mark the position of the gear head on the drive tube -
- Release the clamp screw (1).
- Pull the gear head (2) off the drive tube.



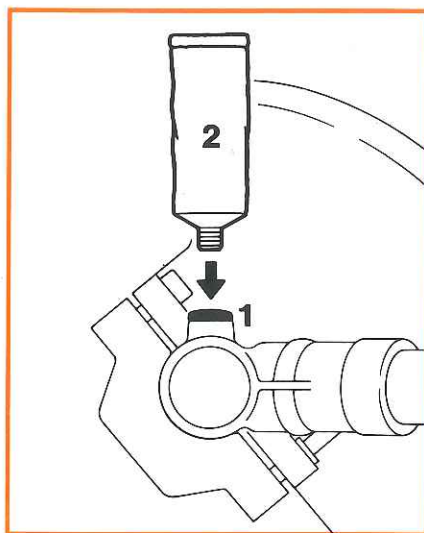
- Pull the flexible shaft (3) out of the drive tube.
- Use STIHL multipurpose grease 0781 120 1109 to coat dry areas of the shaft:  
Do not apply too much grease - never pump grease into the drive tube.

If shaft has turned blue, fit a new one.



- Push shaft (3) into the drive tube - turn it back and forth until distance A is less than 20 mm (3/4").
- Slide the drive tube into the gear head - turn the blade (4) back and forth until the mark is reached.
- Line up the gear head.
- Tighten down the clamp screw.

## Gearbox Lubrication

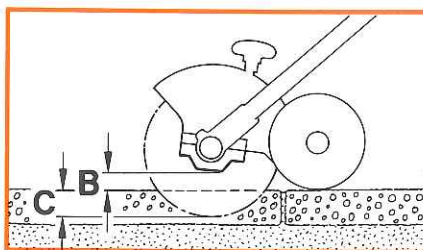
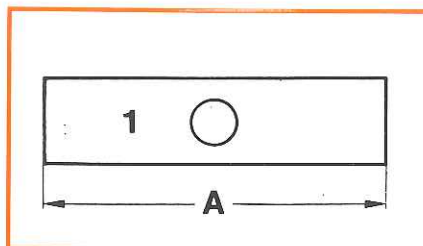


- Check grease level regularly - about every 50 hours of operation.
- Unscrew the filler plug (1). If no grease can be seen on the inside of the filler plug:  
Screw the tube (2) of STIHL gear lubricant 0781 120 1117 into the filler hole.
- Squeeze grease into the gear housing - about 5 - 10 g (1/4 oz).

Do not completely fill the gear housing with grease.

- Refit the filler plug and tighten it down firmly.

## Replacing the Cutting Blade

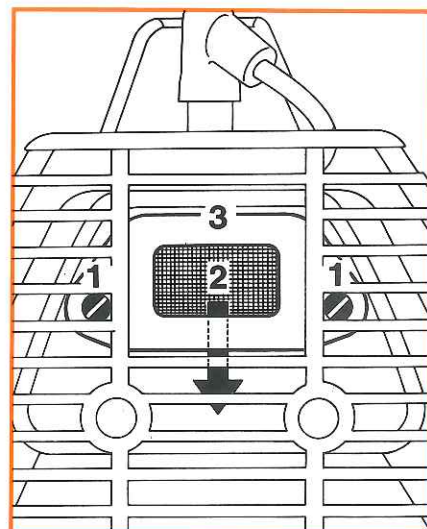


Never straighten or weld a bent or cracked cutting blade - it might shatter and cause serious or fatal injury. Do not sharpen the blade.

Replace the blade (1) - Part No. 4133 713 4101 - when its length (A) is no longer sufficient to obtain the required depth of cut (C) and maintain the necessary ground clearance (B).

- To avoid out-of-balance:  
Check cutting blade on STIHL balancer 5910 850 2600.

## Spark Arresting Screen in Muffler



If the engine is down on power, check the spark arresting screen inside the muffler.

- Slacken off but do not remove the screws (1).
- Pull out the spark arresting screen (2) from underneath the cover (3) in the direction of the arrow (see ill.).
- Clean spark arresting screen if necessary.
- If screen is damaged or coked up, fit a new one.
- Refit the spark arresting screen.
- Assemble in the reverse sequence.

## Maintenance Chart

Please note that the following maintenance intervals refer to normal operating conditions only. If your daily working time is longer than normal or cutting conditions are difficult, shorten the specified intervals accordingly.		before starting work	after finishing work or daily	after each refueling stop	weekly	monthly	if faulty	if damaged	as required	see page:
Complete machine	Visual inspection (condition, leaks)	x		x						
	Clean		x							
Throttle control, stop switch	Check operation	x		x						16-18
Air filter	Clean						x		x	23
	Replace							x		23
Filter in fuel tank	Inspect						x			15
	Replace filter							x	x	15
Fuel tank	Clean						x		x	15
Carburetor	Check idle adjustment - blade must not rotate	x		x						24-25
	Readjust idle								x	24-25
Spark plug	Readjust electrode gap						x			26
Cooling air intakes	Visual inspection		x							
	Clean								x	
Spark arresting screen in muffler	Inspect		x				x			28
	Clean or replace							x	x	28
All accessible screws and nuts (not adjusting screws)	Retighten								x	22
Cutting blade	Visual inspection	x		x						28
	Replace							x	x	28
	Check tightness of blade	x		x						28
Flexible drive shaft	Visual inspection					x				27
	Lubricate								x	27
Gearbox lubrication	Check	x								28
	Top up								x	28

The user of the power edger may carry out only the maintenance operations described in this manual. Other repair work may be performed only by an authorized STIHL service shop.

**Warranty claims following repairs will be accepted only if the repair has been carried out by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer using original STIHL parts.**

Original STIHL parts can be identified by the STIHL part number, the **STIHL** logo and the STIHL parts symbol . The symbol may appear alone on small parts.



## Specifications

### Engine

Single cylinder two-stroke engine

Displacement: 30.2 cm<sup>3</sup>  
(1.84 cu.in)

Bore: 34.8 mm (1.37 in)

Stroke: 31.8 mm (1.25 in)

Engine power: 0.7 kW (0.95 bhp)

Equivalent sound pressure level L<sub>p</sub>  
to ISO 6081<sup>1)</sup> 95 dB(A)

Equivalent sound power level L<sub>w</sub>  
to ISO 3744<sup>1)</sup> 101 dB(A)

1) Data takes into account idle, full  
load and maximum rpm operating  
modes in equal proportions

### Ignition System

Type:  
Electronic (breakerless)  
magneto ignition

Ignition timing: 1.3 - 1.9 mm  
(0.05 - 0.075 in)  
B.T.D.C. at  
6,000 rpm

Spark plug  
(suppressed): GM AC CSR 45  
or NGK BMR 6A;  
Heat range 200

Electrode gap: 0.7 - 0.8 mm  
(0.03 in)

Spark plug thread: M 14 x 1.25;  
9.5 mm (0.37 in)  
long

### Fuel System

Carburetor:  
All position diaphragm carburetor  
with integral fuel pump

Air filter:  
Foam element

Fuel tank capacity:  
0.51 L (1.1 US pt)

Fuel mixture:  
see chapter "Fuel Mix"

**Weight:** 6.2 kg (13.7 lb)

### Special Accessories

Cutting blade  
200 mm (8") 4133 713 4101

Skirt 4133 716 3200

#### Depth Wheels:

Ø 127 mm (5"),  
Width 32 mm (3 1/4") 4133 712 1001

Ø 76 mm (3"),  
Width 50 mm (5") 4133 712 1000

Safety goggles

STIHL multipurpose grease  
(80 g/3 oz tube) 0781 120 1109

STIHL gear lubricant  
(80 g/3 oz tube) 0781 120 1117

