

MS 151 TC

***STIHL***



**2 - 33**      Instruction Manual



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## 1 Introduction

Dear Customer,

Thank you for choosing a quality engineered STIHL product.

It has been built using modern production techniques and comprehensive quality assurance. Every effort has been made to ensure your satisfaction and trouble-free use of the product.

Please contact your dealer or our sales company if you have any queries concerning this product.

Your



Dr. Nikolas Stihl

## 2 Guide to Using this Manual

This Instruction Manual refers to a STIHL chain saw, also called a machine in this Instruction Manual.

### 2.1 Pictograms

Pictograms that appear on the machine are explained in this Instruction Manual.

Depending on the machine and equipment version, the following pictograms may appear on the machine.



Fuel tank; fuel mixture of gasoline and engine oil



Tank for chain oil; chain oil



Engage and release chain brake



Coasting brake



Direction of chain travel



Ematic; chain oil flow adjustment



Tension saw chain



Intake air baffle: winter operation



Intake air baffle: summer operation



Handle heating



Actuate decompression valve



Actuate manual fuel pump

## 2.2 Symbols in text



### WARNING

Warning where there is a risk of an accident or personal injury or serious damage to property.

### NOTICE

Caution where there is a risk of damaging the machine or its individual components.

## 2.3 Engineering improvements

STIHL's philosophy is to continually improve all of its products. For this reason we may modify the design, engineering and appearance of our products periodically.

Therefore, some changes, modifications and improvements may not be covered in this manual.

## 3 Safety Precautions



This **special chain saw** shall be used only by persons who are trained in special cutting and working techniques.



Due to the special **handle design** (closely spaced handles) there is an **increased risk of injury** using this kind of saw (cut injuries due to uncontrolled reactive forces of the chain saw). Special safety precautions must be observed to reduce the risk of personal injury when working with a chainsaw because of the very high chain speed and very sharp cutters.



It is important that you read the instruction manual before first use and keep it in a safe place for future reference. Non-observance of the instruction manual may result in serious or even fatal injury.

### 3.1 General

Observe all applicable local safety regulations, standards and ordinances.

The use of noise emitting power tools may be restricted to certain times by national or local regulations.

If you have not used this model before: Have your dealer or other experienced user show you how to operate your machine or attend a special course in its operation.

Minors should never be allowed to use a chainsaw. Exceptions to this rule are young persons

older than 16 who have been trained in special cutting techniques with the tree surgery saw.

Keep bystanders, especially children, and animals away from the work area.

The user is responsible for avoiding injury to third parties or damage to their property.

Do not lend or rent your chain saw without the instruction manual. All users must be specially trained in tree surgery work with a tree surgery saw and be familiar with this model and its operation.

To operate a chain saw you must be rested, in good physical condition and mental health. If you have any condition that might be aggravated by strenuous work, check with your doctor before operating a chainsaw.

Do not operate the chain saw if you are under the influence of any substance (drugs, alcohol) which might impair vision, dexterity or judgment.

To reduce the risk of accidents or injury, put off the work in poor weather conditions (rain, snow, ice, wind).

Persons with pacemakers only: The ignition system of your chainsaw produces an electromagnetic field of a very low intensity. This field may interfere with some pacemakers. To reduce health risks, STIHL recommends that persons with pacemakers consult their physician and the pacemaker manufacturer before operating this power tool.

### 3.2 Intended Use

Tree surgery chainsaws are special chainsaws with a handle on the top especially for tree surgery and cutting tasks in the crowns of living trees.

Tree maintenance tasks may only be carried out with appropriate safeguards (e. g. lift bucket, personal protective equipment, fall arrest system).

The chainsaw may be used for cutting wood and wooden objects only.

The ring serves to secure the chainsaw on a chainsaw stop featuring overload protection and to transport the saw into the tree at the strap or using a rope.

Do not use the chainsaw for any other purpose – risk of accidents!

They are not for typical tree felling or cutting firewood. Conventional chainsaws with wider spaced handles must be used for these tasks.

Never attempt to modify your chainsaw in any way since this may increase the risk of personal injury. STIHL excludes all liability for personal injury and damage to property caused while using unauthorized attachments.

This chainsaw is designed for tree maintenance work, e.g. pruning small branches. It is therefore equipped as standard without the spiked bumper. A spiked bumper (available as special accessory) may be mounted if required.

### 3.3 Clothing and Equipment

Wear proper protective clothing and equipment.



Clothing must be sturdy and snug-fitting, but allow complete freedom of movement. Wear snug-fitting clothing with **cut-retardant pads** for feet, legs, hands and forearms – an overall, not a loose-fitting jacket.

Avoid clothing that could get caught on branches, brush or moving parts of the machine. Do not wear a scarf, necktie or jewelry. Tie up and confine long hair (headscarf, cap, hard hat, etc.).



Wear suitable **safety shoes** – with cut-retardant material, non-slip soles and steel toe caps.



#### WARNING



To reduce the risk of eye injuries, wear tight-fitting safety goggles conforming to standard EN 166. Make sure that the safety goggles fit correctly.

Wear a face shield and make sure it fits correctly.

Wear "personal" hearing protection – for example, ear defenders.

Wear a hard hat with a chin strap wherever there is any risk of falling objects.



Wear sturdy protective gloves made of a resistant material (e.g. leather) – with cut-retardant material.

STIHL can supply a comprehensive range of personal protective clothing and equipment.

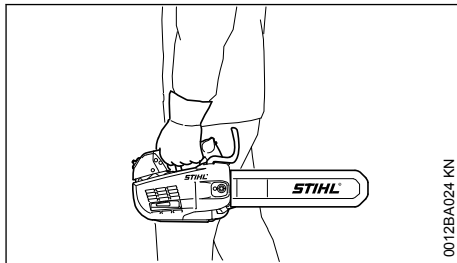
Use a personal fall arrest system.

Use only certified equipment that is suitable for the application concerned.

Check the condition of the equipment before use and replace broken parts.

### 3.4 Transporting

Always stop the engine, engage the chain brake and fit the chain guard (scabbard) before carrying the saw short distances. This avoids the risk of the chain running unintentionally.



Always carry the saw by the control handle – with the hot muffler away from your body – the guide bar must point to the rear. To reduce the risk of serious burn injuries, avoid touching hot parts of the machine, especially the surface of the muffler.

In vehicles: Properly secure your saw to prevent turnover, fuel spillage and damage.

### 3.5 Cleaning

Clean plastic parts with a cloth. Harsh detergents can damage the plastic.

Clean the dust and dirt off the machine – do not use any grease solvents for this purpose.

Clean the ventilation slots if necessary.

Do not use a high-pressure cleaner to clean the machine. The hard jet of water can damage parts of the machine.

### 3.6 Accessories

Only use those tools, guide bars, chains, chain sprockets, accessories or technically equivalent components that have been approved by STIHL for this machine. If you have any questions in this respect, consult a servicing dealer. Use only high quality tools and accessories. Otherwise, there may be a risk of accidents and damage to the machine.

STIHL recommends the use of genuine STIHL tools, guide bars, chains, chain sprockets and accessories. They are specifically designed to match your model and meet your performance requirements.

### 3.7 Refuelling



**Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel** – keep clear of naked flames and fire – do not spill any fuel – no smoking.

Switch off the engine before refuelling.

Never refuel the machine while the engine is still hot – the fuel may spill over – **risk of fire!**

Open the fuel filler cap carefully so that any excess pressure is relieved gradually and fuel does not splash out.

The machine may only be refuelled in a well ventilated place. Clean the machine immediately if fuel is spilled. Do not spill fuel over your clothing – contaminated clothing must be changed immediately.

The machines can be equipped with the following filler caps as standard:

#### Cliplock filler cap (bayonet-type)



Place the cliplock filler cap (bayonet-type) in position, turn as far as stop and fold the cliplock down.

This helps reduce the risk of unit vibrations causing an incorrectly tightened filler cap to loosen or come off and spill quantities of fuel.



Look out for leaks! Never start the engine if fuel has been spilled or is leaking – **Fatal burns may result!**

### 3.8 Before Starting Work

Check that your chainsaw is properly assembled and in good condition – refer to appropriate chapters in the User Manual.

- Check the fuel system for leaks, paying special attention to visible parts such as the fuel cap, hose connections and the manual fuel pump (on chainsaws with manual fuel pump). Do not start the engine if there are leaks or damage – **risk of fire!** Have your chainsaw repaired by an authorized dealer before using it again.
- Functional chain brake, front hand guard
- Correctly mounted guide bar
- Correctly tensioned saw chain
- Ring is not damaged
- Throttle trigger and throttle trigger lockout must move easily – throttle trigger must return to initial position when released
- Master control lever can be easily set to **STOP, 0** or  $\curvearrowright$

- Check that the spark plug boot is secure – a loose boot may cause sparking that could ignite combustible fumes **and cause a fire!**
- Never attempt to modify the controls or safety devices.
- Keep the handles dry and clean – free from oil and dirt – important for safely guiding the chainsaw.
- Use chainsaw with an undamaged ring
- Make sure there is sufficient fuel and chain lubricant in the tanks

Exclusively use the chainsaw in a safe condition – **risk of accident!**

### 3.9 Starting the Saw

Start the saw on level ground only. Make sure you have a firm footing. Hold the saw firmly. To reduce the risk of injury from the rotating chain, check that the cutting attachment is not touching any object or the ground.

The chainsaw is a one-person saw. Do not allow other persons in the work area – even when starting.

Do not attempt to start the saw when the saw chain is in a cut.

Starting the saw in a tree is very dangerous since the user may lose control of the machine – **risk of injury.**

The tree surgery saw should be checked, fueled, started and warmed up by an assistant on the ground before it is transported up to the operator in the tree.

Start the engine at least 3 meters from the fueling spot, outdoors only.

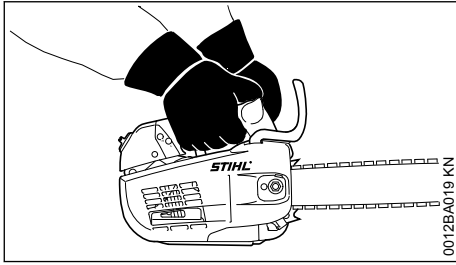
**To reduce risk of chain rotation and personal injury,** lock the chain with the chain brake before starting.

Do not drop start the power tool – start the engine as described in the instruction manual.

### 3.10 While Working

When working in a tree, always secure the tree surgery chainsaw with a rope (tie to hinged ring) and attach it to the lifeline. Always engage the chain brake before releasing the chainsaw and allowing it to hang on the rope.

Secure chainsaw with a chainsaw stop installed using the ring. Chainsaw stop must be equipped with overload protection. Suitable accessories are available from authorized dealers



**Hold chainsaw with both hands – increased risk of accident:** right hand on control handle – even if you are left-handed. To ensure safe control, wrap your fingers tightly around both handles.



One-handed operation is particularly dangerous, e.g. when cutting dry, knotty and dead wood, the chain may not enter the cut properly. The resultant reactive forces may cause the saw to skate or bounce on the limb and slide out of control. **Increased risk of kickback – risk of fatal injury!**

Use the tree surgery chainsaw with one hand only:

- if two-handed cutting is not possible and
- if one hand is required for support during the cut and
- if the chainsaw is held firmly and
- if all parts of your body are clear of the extended swiveling range of the chainsaw.

During one-handed cutting:

- never support yourself on the limb being cut
- never cut with the bar nose
- Do not try to hold falling branches

Make sure you always have a firm and secure footing. Take special care when the bark is wet – **danger of slipping!**

In the event of impending danger or in an emergency, switch off the engine immediately by moving the master control lever/stop switch to **STOP**, 0 or 0.

Do not let the chainsaw run unattended.

Exercise caution with slippery surfaces, water, snow, ice, steep slopes, uneven ground or green wood that has just been stripped of its bark – **danger of slipping!**

Exercise caution with tree stumps, roots and ditches – **tripping hazard!**

Do not work alone – keep within calling distance of others who are trained in emergency procedures and can provide help in an emergency.

Helpers at the cutting site must also wear protective clothing (hard hat) and stand well clear of the branches being cut.

Be particularly alert and cautious when wearing hearing protection because your ability to hear warnings (shouts, alarms, etc.) is restricted.

Take breaks when you start getting tired or feeling fatigue – **risk of accidents!**

Dust (e. g., sawdust), fumes and smoke produced while using the machine may be hazardous to health. Wear a dust mask in case of dust production.

When the engine is running: Note that the saw chain continues to rotate for a short period after you let go of the throttle trigger – coasting effect.

**No smoking** when working with or near the chainsaw – **risk of fire!** Combustible fuel vapor may escape from the fuel system.

Check the saw chain at regular short intervals during operation or immediately if there is a noticeable change in cutting behavior:

- Shut off the engine and wait until the saw chain comes to a complete standstill.
- Check condition and proper mounting.
- Ensure that the cutting blades are sharp

Do not touch the saw chain while the engine is running. If the saw chain becomes jammed by an obstruction, switch off the engine immediately before attempting to remove the obstruction – **risk of injury.**

Always turn off the engine before leaving the chainsaw unattended.

Switch off the engine to change the saw chain.

**Risk of injury** from the motor starting unintentionally!

Keep highly flammable materials (e. g. wood chips, bark, dry grass, fuel) away from hot exhaust gases and hot mufflers – **risk of fire!** Mufflers with catalytic converters can become especially hot.

Never work without chain lubrication – monitor the oil level in the oil tank. Stop work immediately if the oil level in the oil tank is too low and top up with chain oil – see also "Topping up with chain oil" and "Checking chain lubricant".

If the chainsaw is subjected to unusually high loads for which it was not designed (e. g. heavy impact or a fall), always check that it is in good condition before continuing work – see also "Before starting work".

Check in particular that the fuel system has no leaks and the safety equipment is fully operative. Do not continue using a chainsaw that is not in perfect working order. In case of doubt, contact a dealer.

Make sure the idle speed setting is correct. The saw chain must not run when the engine is idling with the throttle trigger released. Check and correct the idle speed setting at regular intervals. If the saw chain still moves, have your dealer check your machine and make proper adjustments or repairs.



The chain saw produces poisonous exhaust gases as soon as the engine starts. These gases may be colourless and odourless and may contain unburnt hydrocarbons and benzene. Never work with the machine indoors or in poorly ventilated areas, even if your machine is equipped with a catalytic converter.

Ensure proper ventilation when working in trenches, hollows or other confined locations – **risk of fatal injury from breathing toxic fumes!**

If you feel sick, have a headache, vision problems (e. g., your field of vision gets smaller), hearing problems, dizziness or inability to concentrate, stop work immediately. Such symptoms may be caused by an excessively high concentration of exhaust emissions – **risk of accident!**

### 3.11 After finishing work

Switch off the motor, engage the chain brake and attach the chain scabbard.

### 3.12 Storage

When the machine is not in use, it should be stored in such a way that no-one is endangered. Secure the machine against unauthorised use.

Store the machine in a safe, dry room.

### 3.13 Vibrations

Prolonged use of the power tool may result in vibration-induced circulation problems in the hands (whitefinger disease).

No general recommendation can be given for the length of usage because it depends on several factors.

The period of usage is prolonged by:

- Hand protection (wearing warm gloves)
- Work breaks

The period of usage is shortened by:

- Any personal tendency to suffer from poor circulation (symptoms: frequently cold fingers, tingling sensations).
- Low outside temperatures.
- The force with which the handles are held (a tight grip restricts circulation).

Continual and regular users should monitor closely the condition of their hands and fingers. If any of the above symptoms appear (e.g. tingling sensation in fingers), seek medical advice.

## 3.14 Maintenance and repairs

Always switch off the engine before any repair, cleaning or maintenance work and any work on the chain. **Risk of injury** if the engine starts inadvertently!

Exception: adjustment of carburettor and idle speed.

The machine must be serviced regularly. Do not attempt any maintenance or repair work not described in the Instruction Manual. All other work should be carried out by a servicing dealer.

STIHL recommends that maintenance and repair work be carried out only by authorised STIHL dealers. STIHL dealers receive regular training and are supplied with technical information.

Use only high-quality spare parts. Otherwise, there may be a risk of accidents and damage to the machine. If you have any questions in this respect, consult a servicing dealer.

Do not modify the machine in any way – this may increase the risk of personal injury – **risk of accidents!**

To reduce the **risk of fire** due to ignition outside the cylinder, move the master control level to **STOP, 0** or **⬆** before turning the engine over on the starter when the spark plug boot is removed or the spark plug is unscrewed!

Do not service or store the machine near a naked flame – **risk of fire** due to the fuel.

Check fuel cap regularly for tightness.

Use only spark plugs that are in perfect condition and have been approved by STIHL – see "Specifications".

Check ignition lead (insulation in good condition, secure connection).

Check that the muffler is in perfect working condition.

Do not use the machine if the muffler is damaged or missing – **risk of fire, damage to hearing!**



Never touch a hot muffler – **risk of burns!**

The condition of the anti-vibration elements influences vibration behaviour – inspect anti-vibration elements periodically.

**Inspect chain catcher** – replace if damaged.

#### Switch off the engine

- To check the chain tension
- To retension the chain
- To replace the chain
- For remedying malfunctions

**Observe sharpening instructions** – for safe and proper handling, always keep the chain and guide bar in flawless condition. Keep the chain properly sharpened, tensioned and well lubricated.

Change chain, guide bar and chain sprocket in due time.

Regularly check that the clutch drum is in perfect working condition.

Always store fuel and chain lubricant only in the specified type of containers and ensure they are correctly labelled. Store in a dry, cool and secure place protected against light and sunlight.

In the event of a chain brake malfunction, switch off the machine immediately – **risk of injury!** Consult a servicing dealer – do not use the machine until the malfunction has been remedied, see "Chain brake".

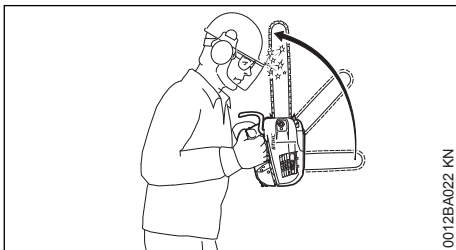
## 4 Reactive Forces

The most common reactive forces that occur during cutting are: kickback, pushback and pull-in.

### 4.1 Dangers of kickback

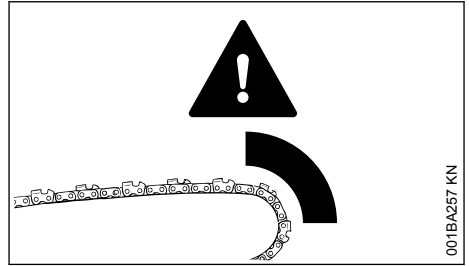


**Kickback can result in serious or fatal injury.**



(Kickback) occurs when the saw is suddenly thrown up and back in an uncontrolled arc towards the operator.

### 4.2 Kickback occurs if, e. g.,



- when the upper quadrant of the bar nose unintentionally contacts wood or another solid object, e.g. when another limb is touched accidentally during limbing.
- when the chain at the nose of the guide bar is pinched in the cut.

### 4.3 Quickstop chain brake:

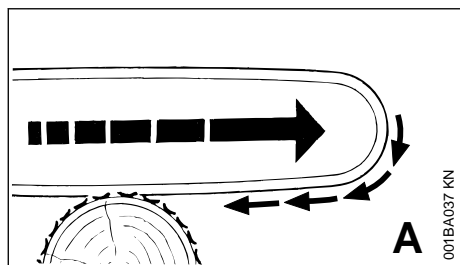
This device reduces the risk of injury in certain situations – it cannot prevent kickback. When activated, the chain brake stops the saw chain within a fraction of a second – see the section "Saw chain" in this Instruction Manual.

### 4.4 To reduce the risk of kickback

- Work cautiously and avoid situations which could cause kickback.
- Hold the saw firmly with both hands and maintain a secure grip.
- always cut at full throttle.
- Be aware of the location of the guide bar nose at all times.
- do not cut with the bar nose.
- Take special care with small, tough limbs, they may catch the chain.
- never cut several limbs at once.
- do not overreach.
- never cut above shoulder height.
- Use extreme caution when re-entering a previous cut.
- Do not attempt plunge cuts if you are not experienced in this cutting technique.
- be alert for shifting of the log or other forces that may cause the cut to close and pinch the chain.
- always cut with a correctly sharpened, properly tensioned chain – the depth gauge setting must not be too large.
- Use a low kickback chain and a narrow radius guide bar.

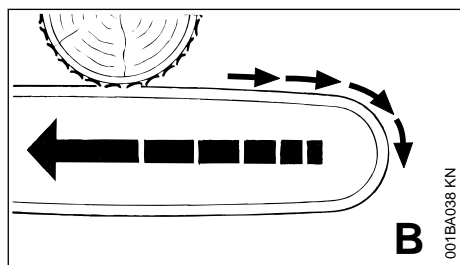


## 4.5 Pull-in (A)



Pull-in may occur when the chain on the bottom of the bar is suddenly pinched, caught or encounters a foreign object in the wood. The reaction of the chain pulls the saw forward – **STIHL recommends retrofitting the spiked bumper when working on impervious wood and thus to securely engage the motor saw.**

## 4.6 Pushback (B)



Pushback occurs when the chain on the top of the bar is suddenly pinched, caught or encounters a foreign object in the wood. The reaction of the chain drives the saw straight back toward the operator – **to avoid this risk:**

- Be alert to situations that may cause the top of the guide bar to be pinched
- Do not twist the guide bar in the cut

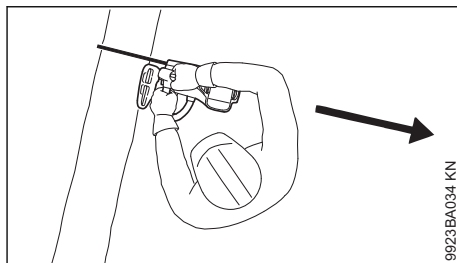
# 5 Working Techniques

## 5.1 Sawing

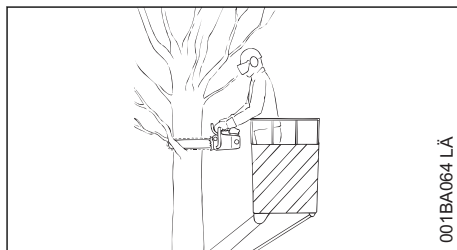
Do not operate your saw in the starting throttle position. Engine speed cannot be controlled with the throttle trigger in this position.

Work calmly and carefully – in daylight conditions and only when visibility is good. Ensure you do not endanger others – stay alert at all times.

Use the shortest possible guide bar: The chain, guide bar and chain sprocket must match each other and your saw.



Position the saw so that your body is **clear of the cutting attachment.**



If conditions allow, work from a **lift bucket.**

Never work on a ladder or on any other insecure support, do not work above shoulder height.

Cordon off the work area in order to reduce the risk of injuries and damage to bystanders or property (e. g. motor vehicles) from falling branches.

When working with a lifeline there is a risk of cutting through the rope – **to reduce the risk of fall injuries, always use double lifelines.**

Take special care when cutting through a limb. Hold the machine firmly to control and counteract the feed force. At the end of the cut, the chain saw is no longer supported by the cutting attachment in the cut. You have to take the full weight of the chainsaw **since it might otherwise go out of control!**

Make sure your saw does not touch any foreign materials: Stones, nails, etc. may be flung off and damage the saw chain. The chain saw may kick back unexpectedly – **risk of accident!**

If a rotating saw chain hits a stone or another hard object, sparks may be generated which may ignite easily flammable materials under certain conditions. Also dried-out plants and brushwood are combustible, above all in hot and dry weather. If there is a risk of fire, do not use the chain saw in the vicinity of easily combustible materials, dry plants or scrub. It is mandatory

that you ask the responsible forestry office about the current fire hazard.



**Caution! To avoid risk of electrocution**, take extra precautions when cutting near power lines. Have the power switched off before starting cutting work in the immediate vicinity of power lines.

Do not underbuck freely hanging limbs because the chain **may get pinched and cause kickback and loss of control**.

Be careful when cutting scrub and young trees. Thin shoots can be scooped up by the chain saw and hurled towards the user.

Be careful when cutting splintered wood – **Risk of injury from ejected pieces of wood!**

After finishing a cut, activate the chain brake to lock the chain or shut down the engine before moving the saw to another position in the tree.

### Cutting techniques:

Begin cutting with the chain saw at full throttle.

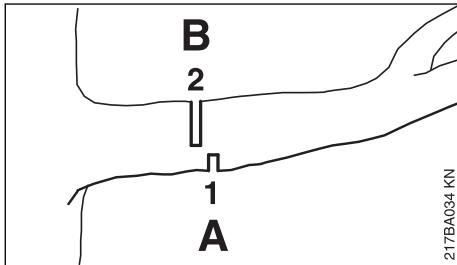
Always pull the saw out of the cut with the chain running.

- Cut straight through thin limbs
- In case of thick limbs, first perform relieving cut from below (approx. 1/5 of diameter), then buck from above
- Support and secure heavy branches with ropes.

If the saw gets pinched in the cut:

- Shut off the engine and secure the saw to the tree – in direction of trunk.
- Carefully free the saw from the cut, using another saw if necessary.

### Limbs under tension:



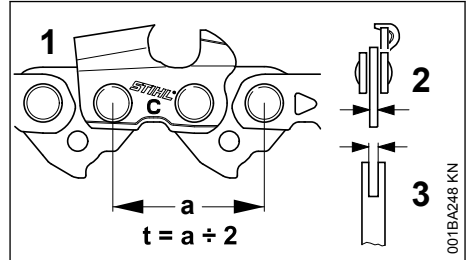
- ▶ Always start relieving cut (1) at compression side (A)
- ▶ Then make bucking cut (2) at the tension side (B) into the direction of the log – otherwise the chain saw may pinch or kick back

If not otherwise possible, make the bucking cut from the bottom upwards (underbuck) – **be wary of pushback**.

## 6 Cutting Attachment

A cutting attachment consists of the saw chain, guide bar and chain sprocket.

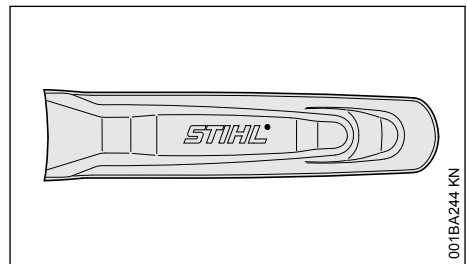
The cutting attachment that comes standard is designed to exactly match the chain saw.



- The pitch (t) of the saw chain (1), chain sprocket and the nose sprocket of the Rolo-matic guide bar must match.
- The drive link gauge (2) of the saw chain (1) must match the groove width of the guide bar (3).

If non-matching components are used, the cutting attachment may be damaged beyond repair after a short period of operation.

### 6.1 Chain Scabbard



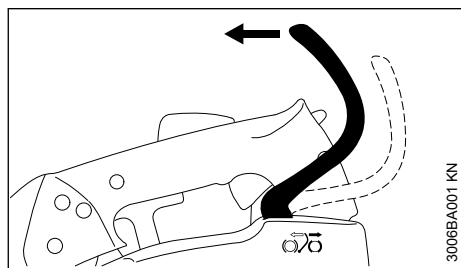
Your saw comes standard with a chain scabbard that matches the cutting attachment.

If guide bars of different lengths are mounted to the saw, always use a chain scabbard of the correct length which covers the complete guide bar.

The length of the matching guide bars is marked on the side of the chain scabbard.

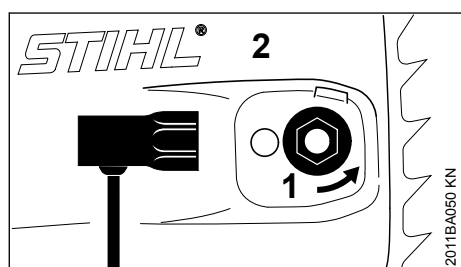
## 7 Mounting the Bar and Chain

### 7.1 Disengage the chain brake



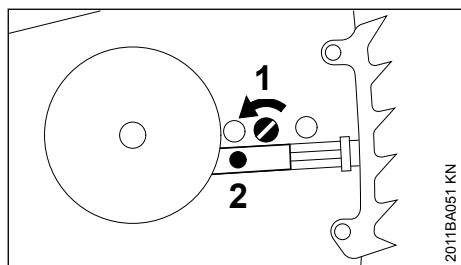
- Pull the hand guard towards the front handle until there is an audible click – the chain brake is disengaged.

### 7.2 Removing the chain sprocket cover

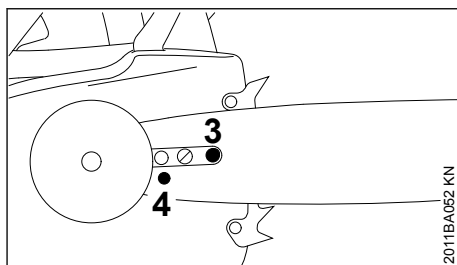


- Unscrew the nut (1) and remove the chain sprocket cover (2)

### 7.3 Mounting the Guide Bar

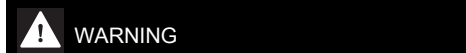


- Turn the screw (1) to the left until the tensioner slide (2) butts against the left end of the housing slot



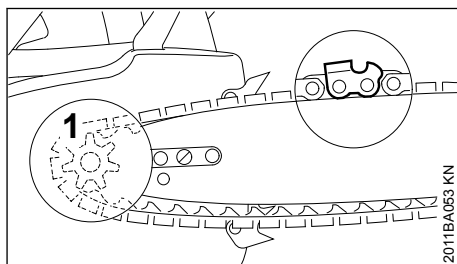
- Fit the guide bar over the stud (3) and engage the peg of the tensioner slide in the hole (4)

### 7.4 Fitting the saw chain

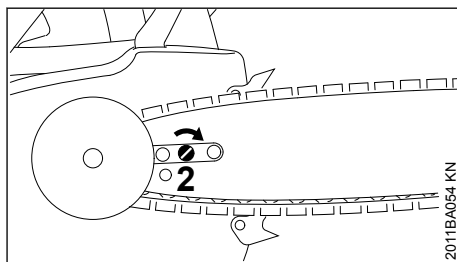


#### WARNING

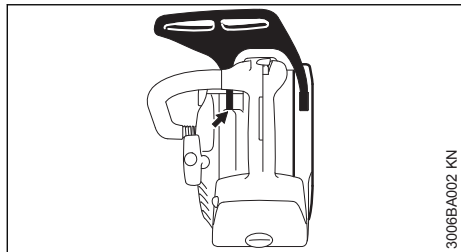
Wear work gloves to protect your hands from the sharp cutters!



- Fit chain around the sprocket (1) and over the guide bar – the cutting edges on top of the bar must point to the bar nose

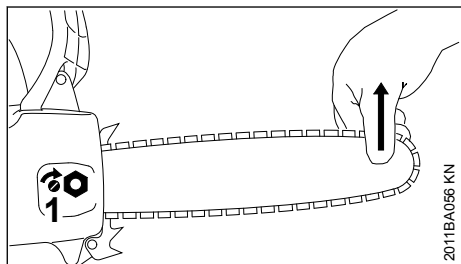


- Turn the screw (2) clockwise until there is very little chain sag on the underside of the bar – and the drive link tangs are engaged in the bar groove



- ▶ Refit the sprocket cover – the pivot pin on the hand guard must engage the guard on the engine housing – and then screw the nut onto the stud fingertight
- ▶ go to chapter "Tensioning the Chain"

## 8 Tensioning the Saw Chain (side chain tensioner)



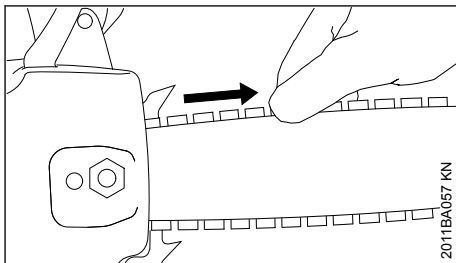
Retensioning during cutting work:

- ▶ Shut off the engine.
- ▶ Loosen the nut.
- ▶ Hold the bar nose up.
- ▶ Use a screwdriver to turn the tensioning screw (1) clockwise until the chain fits snugly against the underside of the bar.
- ▶ While still holding the bar nose up, tighten down the nut firmly.
- ▶ Go to "Checking Chain Tension".

A new chain has to be retensioned more often than one that has been in use for some time.

- ▶ Check chain tension frequently – see chapter on "Operating Instructions".

## 9 Checking Chain Tension



- ▶ Shut off the engine.
- ▶ Wear work gloves to protect your hands.
- ▶ The chain must fit snugly against the underside of the bar and it must still be possible to pull the chain along the bar by hand when the chain brake is released.
- ▶ If necessary, retension the chain.

A new chain has to be retensioned more often than one that has been in use for some time.

- ▶ Check chain tension frequently – see chapter on "Operating Instructions".

## 10 Fuel

The engine requires a mixture of gasoline and engine oil.



### WARNING

Avoid direct skin contact with fuel and breathing in of gasoline fumes.

### 10.1 STIHL MotoMix

STIHL recommends using STIHL MotoMix. This pre-blended fuel is free of benzene and lead, is distinguished by a high octane rating, and always provides the proper mixing ratio.

STIHL MotoMix uses STIHL HP Ultra two-stroke engine oil for optimum engine life.

MotoMix is not available in all markets.

10.2 Mixing fuel

*NOTICE*

Unsuitable fuels or a mixing ratio that deviates from the specification can lead to severe engine damage. The engine, seals, fuel lines and fuel tank may be damaged if low-quality gasoline or engine oil is used.

10.2.1 Gasoline

Use only **high-quality gasoline** with an octane rating of at least 90 ROC – leaded or unleaded.

Gasoline with an alcohol component exceeding 10% can cause impaired engine performance in engines with manually adjustable carburetors and thus should not be used in these engines.

Engines with M-Tronic deliver full engine performance using gasoline with an alcohol component of up to 27% (E27).

10.2.2 Engine oil

If you mix the fuel yourself, use only STIHL two-stroke engine oil or another high-performance engine oil classified as JASO FB, JASO FC, JASO FD, ISO-L-EGB, ISO-L-EGC or ISO-L-EGD.

STIHL specifies STIHL HP Ultra two-stroke engine oil or an equivalent high-performance engine oil in order to maintain emission limits over the machine's service life.

10.2.3 Mixing ratio

with STIHL two-stroke engine oil 1:50; 1:50 = 1 part oil + 50 parts gasoline

10.2.4 Examples

Quantity of gasoline	STIHL two-stroke engine oil 1:50
Liters	Liters (ml)
1	0.02 (20)
5	0.10 (100)
10	0.20 (200)
15	0.30 (300)
20	0.40 (400)
25	0.50 (500)

- Pour oil into an approved safety fuel canister first, then add gasoline and mix thoroughly


10.3 Storing fuel mixture

Store in approved safety fuel canisters only in a dry, cool and secure place protected against light and sunlight.

**Fuel mixture deteriorates with age** – mix only as much as needed for a few weeks. Do not store fuel mixture for longer than 30 days. The fuel mixture can become unusable more quickly if exposed to light, sunlight or low or high temperatures.

STIHL MotoMix however can be stored for up to 5 years without any problems.

- Shake the canister containing the fuel mixture thoroughly before refueling

 **WARNING**

Pressure may have built up in the canister – open it carefully.

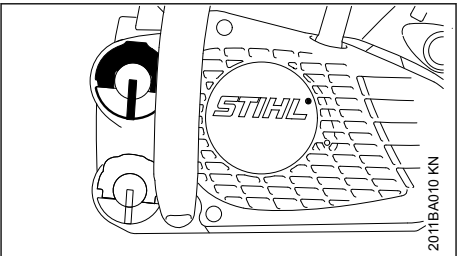
- The fuel tank and the canister in which fuel mixture is stored should be cleaned thoroughly from time to time

Residual fuel and the liquid used for cleaning must be disposed of in accordance with regulations and without harming the environment!

11 Fueling

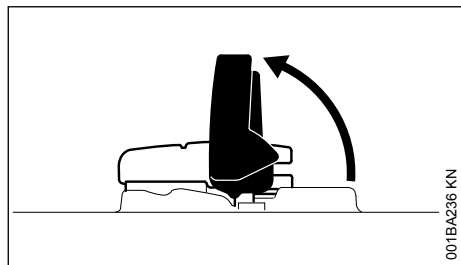


11.1 Preparations



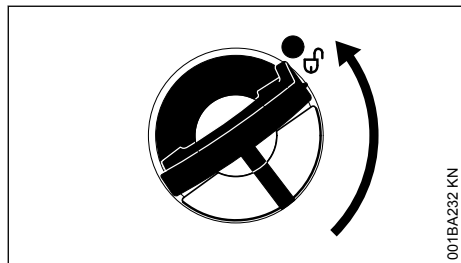
- Before fueling, clean the filler cap and the area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the fuel tank.
- Position the machine so that the filler cap faces up.

## 11.2 Opening



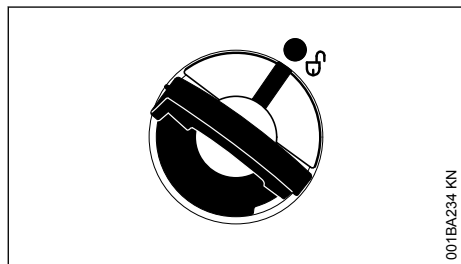
001BA236 KN

- Raise grip to vertical position.



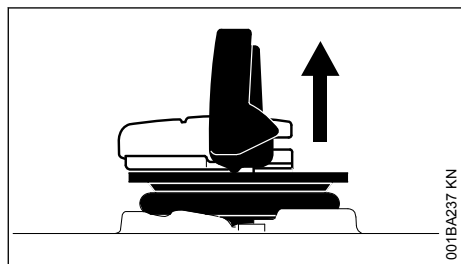
001BA232 KN

- Turn the cap counterclockwise (about a quarter turn).



001BA234 KN

Marks on tank cap and fuel tank must line up.



001BA237 KN

- Remove the tank cap.

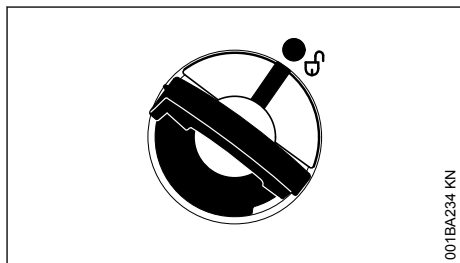
## 11.3 Filling Up with Fuel

Take care not to spill fuel while fueling and do not overfill the tank.

STIHL recommends you use the STIHL filler nozzle for fuel (special accessory).

- Fill the fuel tank.

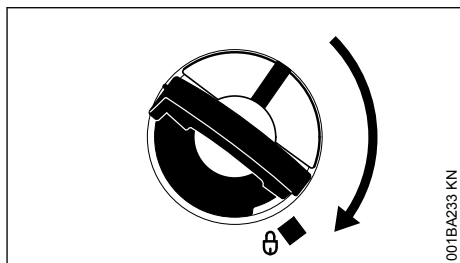
## 11.4 Closing



001BA234 KN

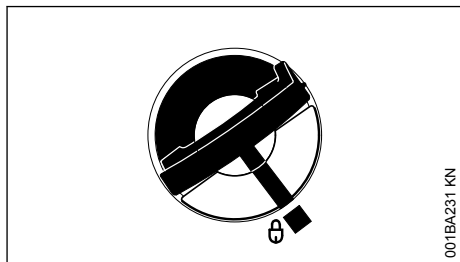
Grip must be vertical:

- Fit the cap – marks on tank cap and fuel tank must line up.
- Press the cap down as far as stop.



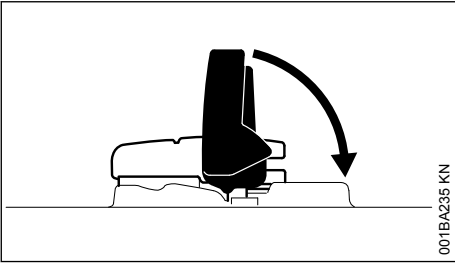
001BA233 KN

- While holding the cap depressed, turn it clockwise until it engages in position.

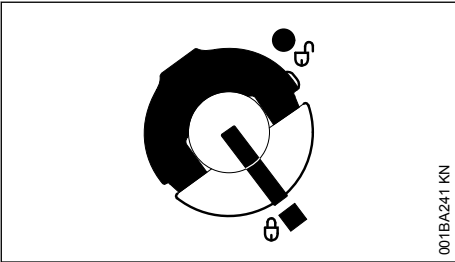


001BA231 KN

The marks on the tank cap and fuel tank are then in alignment.



- Fold the grip down.

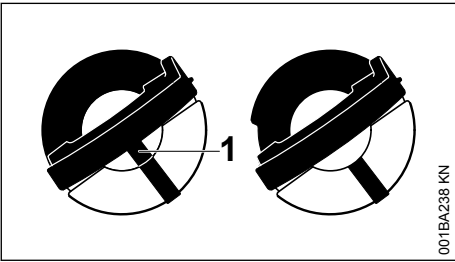


Tank cap is locked.

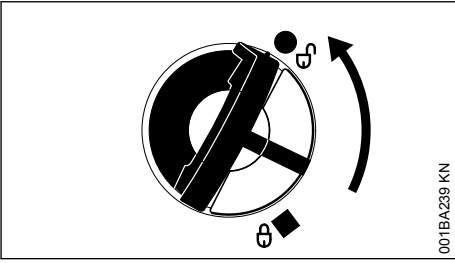
### 11.5 If the tank cap cannot be locked in the fuel tank opening

Bottom of cap is twisted in relation to top.

- Remove the cap from the fuel tank and check it from above.



Left:	Bottom of cap is twisted – inner mark (1) in line with outer mark.
Right:	Bottom of cap in correct position – inner mark is under the grip. It is not in line with the outer mark.



- Place the cap on the opening and rotate it counterclockwise until it engages the filler neck.
- Continue rotating the cap counterclockwise (about a quarter turn) – this causes the bottom of the cap to be turned to the correct position.
- Turn the cap clockwise and lock it in position – see section on "Closing".

## 12 Chain Lubricant

For automatic and reliable lubrication of the chain and guide bar – use only an environmentally compatible quality chain and bar lubricant. Rapidly biodegradable STIHL BioPlus is recommended.

### NOTICE

Biological chain oil must be resistant to aging (e.g. STIHL BioPlus), since it will otherwise quickly turn to resin. This results in hard deposits that are difficult to remove, especially in the area of the chain drive and chain. It may even cause the oil pump to seize.

The service life of the chain and guide bar depends on the quality of the lubricant. It is therefore essential to use only a specially formulated chain lubricant.



**WARNING**

Do not use waste oil. Renewed contact with waste oil can cause skin cancer. Moreover, waste oil is environmentally harmful.

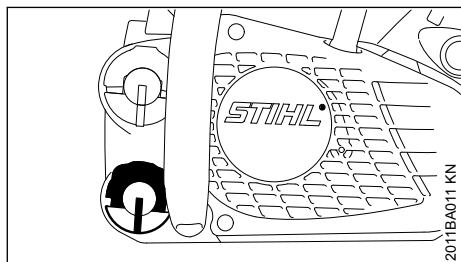
**NOTICE**

Waste oil does not have the necessary lubricating properties and is unsuitable for chain lubrication.

## 13 Filling Chain Oil Tank



### 13.1 Preparations



- ▶ Thoroughly clean the oil filler cap and the area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the tank.
- ▶ Position the machine so that the filler cap faces up.
- ▶ Open the filler cap.

### 13.2 Filling up with chain oil

- ▶ Refill the chain oil tank every time you refuel.

Take care not to spill chain oil while refilling and do not overfill the tank.

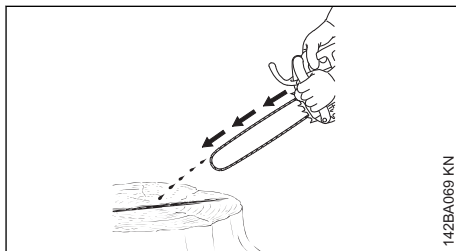
STIHL recommends you use the STIHL filler nozzle for chain oil (special accessory).

- ▶ Closing the Tank Cap

There must still be a small amount of oil in the oil tank when the fuel tank is empty.

If the oil level in the tank does not go down, the reason may be a fault in the oil supply system: Check chain lubrication, clean the oilways, contact your dealer for assistance if necessary. STIHL recommends that you have servicing and repair work carried out exclusively by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.

## 14 Checking Chain Lubrication



The saw chain must always spin off a small amount of oil.

**NOTICE**

Never operate your machine without chain lubrication. If the saw chain runs dry, the cutting attachment may very quickly be damaged beyond repair. Before starting work, always check the chain lubrication and oil level in the tank.

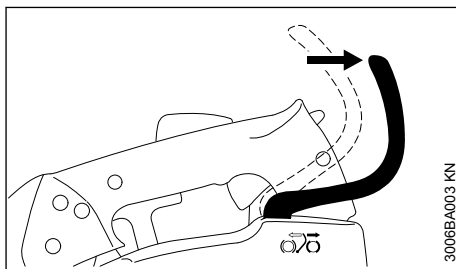
Every new saw chain needs a run-in time of 2 to 3 minutes.

After the saw chain has run in, check the tension of the chain and correct if necessary – see "Checking the chain tension".

## 15 Chain Brake



### 15.1 Locking the Chain

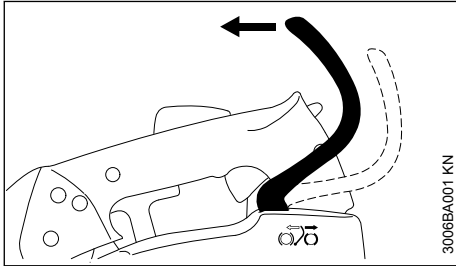


- in an emergency
- when starting
- at idling speed

The chain brake is activated by pushing the hand guard toward the bar nose with your left hand –

or by inertia in certain kickback situations: The chain is stopped and locked.

## 15.2 Disengaging the Chain Brake



- Pull the hand guard towards the front handle until there is an audible click – the chain brake is disengaged.

### NOTICE

Always disengage chain brake before accelerating the engine (except when checking its operation) and before starting cutting work.

High revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the powerhead and chain drive (clutch, chain brake).

The chain brake is also activated by the inertia of the front hand guard if the kickback force of the saw is high enough: The hand guard is accelerated toward the bar nose.

The chain brake will operate only if the hand guard has not been modified in any way.

## 15.3 Checking Operation of the Chain Brake

Before starting work: Run engine at idle speed, engage the chain brake (push hand guard towards bar nose) and open the throttle wide for no more than 3 seconds – the chain must not rotate. The hand guard must be free from dirt and move freely.

## 15.4 Chain Brake Maintenance

The chain brake is subject to normal wear. It is necessary to have it serviced and maintained regularly by trained personnel. STIHL recommends that you have servicing and repair work carried out exclusively by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer. Maintain the following servicing intervals:

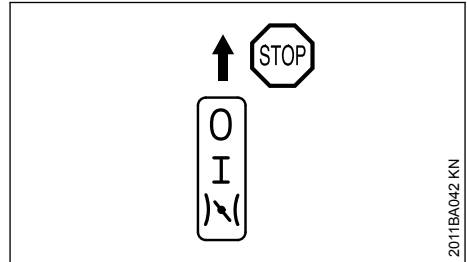
Full-time usage: every 3 months

Part-time usage:

every 6 months

## 16 Starting / Stopping the Engine

### 16.1 Positions of the Master Control lever

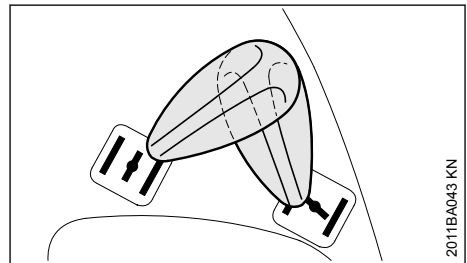


**Stop 0** – engine off – the ignition is switched off

**Normal run position (I)** – engine runs or can fire.

**Starting throttle** |↘| – for starting the engine

### 16.2 Positions of Choke Shutter



**Choke shutter closed** |↘| – for starting the engine

- if the engine is cold
- if the engine stalls during opening of throttle after starting
- If the fuel tank was run until empty (engine stopped).

**Choke shutter open** |+| – for starting the engine

- if engine is warm (once the engine has been running for approx. one minute)
- When Engine Begins to Fire
- after ventilation of the combustion chamber, if the engine was flooded

### 16.3 Adjust Master Control lever

To move the Master Control lever from the normal run position (I) to starting throttle (|↘|), press down the throttle trigger lockout and squeeze the

throttle trigger at the same time and hold them in that position – now set the Master Control lever.

The Master Control lever moves from the starting throttle position (I) to the run position (II) when you press down the throttle trigger lockout and blip the throttle trigger at the same time.

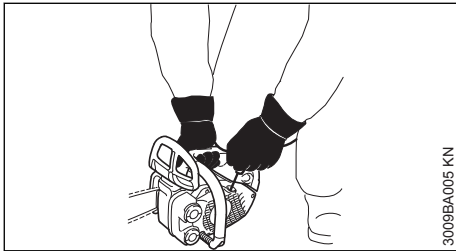
To switch off the engine, set the master control lever to Stop 0.

## 16.4 Manual fuel pump

The manual fuel pump bulb must be pressed:

- When starting for the first time
- If the fuel tank was run until empty (engine stopped).

## 16.5 Holding the Chain Saw



- ▶ Place your saw on the ground. Make sure you have a firm footing – check that the chain is not touching any object or the ground.
- ▶ Hold the control handle of the chain saw firmly in the right hand
- ▶ Support the right knee on the carburetor cover

## 16.6 Actuating

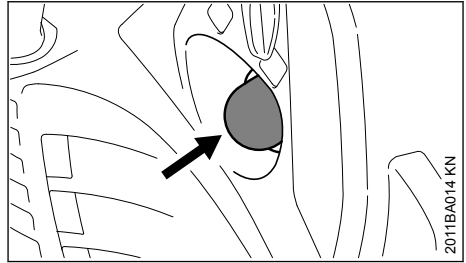
- ▶ Pull the starter grip slowly with your right hand until you feel it engage – and then give it a brisk strong pull and push down the control handle at the same time. Do not pull out the starter rope to full length – **it might otherwise break**. Do not let the starter grip snap back. Guide it slowly back into the housing so that the starter rope can rewind properly.

## 16.7 Starting the Chainsaw

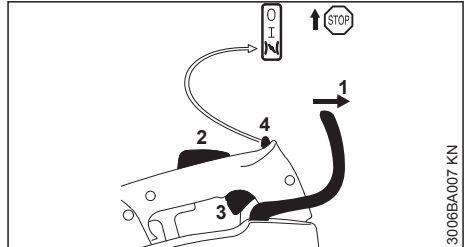


**WARNING**

Bystanders must be well clear of the general work area of the saw.

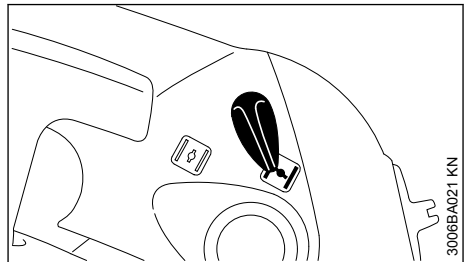


- ▶ Press the manual fuel pump bulb at least 9 times - even when bulb is filled with fuel

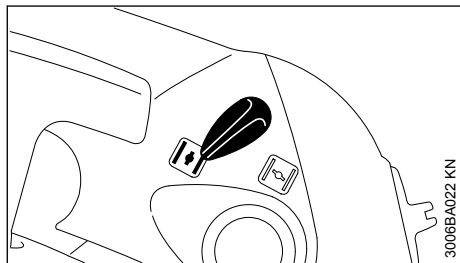


- ▶ Push the hand guard (1) forward – the chain is locked.
- ▶ Press down the trigger lockout (2) and pull the throttle trigger (3) at the same time. Set Master Control lever (4) to starting throttle position (I).
- ▶ Set choke lever to required position.

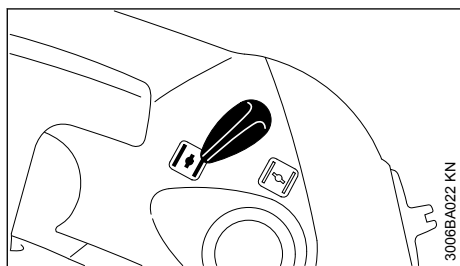
**Position choke shutter closed**



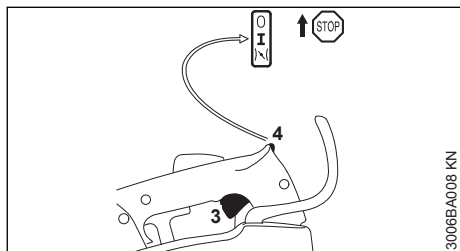
- if engine is cold (even if the engine has stalled during opening of throttle after starting)

**Choke shutter open (I+I)**

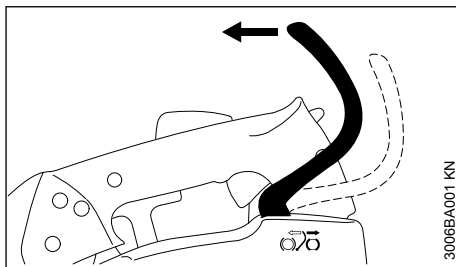
- if engine is warm (once the engine has been running for approx. one minute)
- ▶ Hold and start your saw as described.

**16.8 When Engine Begins to Fire**

- ▶ Move the choke lever to the open position (I+I).
- ▶ Hold and start your saw as described.

**16.9 As Soon As the Engine Runs**

- ▶ Press down the trigger lockout and blip the throttle trigger (3) – the Master Control lever (4) moves to the run position (I) and the engine settles down to idling speed.



- ▶ Pull the hand guard toward the control handle to disengage the chain brake.

**NOTICE**

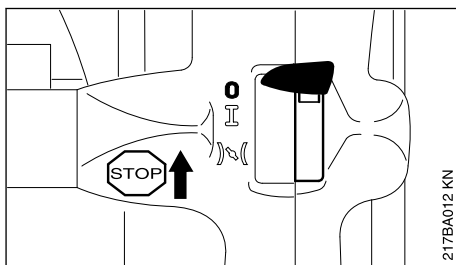
Open the throttle only when the chain brake is off. Increased engine speeds with the chain brake on (saw chain is stationary) will quickly damage the clutch and chain brake.

- ▶ After a cold start, warm up the engine at varying speeds – your saw is ready for operation.

**16.10 At Very Low Outside Temperatures**

In case of erratic idling behaviour or poor acceleration

- ▶ Readjust carburetor if necessary, see "Adjusting the Carburetor".
- ▶ If your saw is very cold (frost or ice on machine), start the engine and keep it at a high idle speed (with chain brake disengaged) until it reaches normal operating temperature.


**16.11 Shut off the engine**

- ▶ Move Master Control lever to Stop 0.




**16.12 If Engine Does Not Start**

If you did not move the Master Control lever from the choke closed position (I+I) to the choke open position (I+I) quickly enough after the engine began to fire, the engine is probably flooded.

- ▶ Move Master Control lever to Stop 0.
- ▶ Remove the spark plug – see "Spark Plug".

- Dry the spark plug
- Crank the engine several times with the starter to clear the combustion chamber.
- Refit the spark plug – see "Spark Plug".
- Set the master control lever to starting acceleration  – even if the engine is cold
- Restart the engine

### 16.13 If Fuel Tank Has Been Run Completely Dry and Then Refueled

- Press the bellows of the manual fuel pump at least 9x
- Set the Master Control lever to the starting throttle position ()
- Move the choke lever to the closed position ()
- Continue cranking 2x
- Move the choke lever to the open position ()
- Restart the engine

## 17 Operating Instructions

### 17.1 During the 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 unnecessarily 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 shortblock are greater during this period. The engine develops its maximum power after about 5 to 15 tank fillings.

### 17.2 During work

#### NOTICE

Do not make the mixture leaner to achieve an apparent increase in power – this could damage the engine – see "Adjusting the Carburetor".

#### NOTICE

Open the throttle only when the chain brake is off. Running the engine at high revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the shortblock and chain drive (clutch, chain brake).

#### 17.2.1 Check chain tension frequently

A new saw chain must be retensioned more frequently than one that has been in use already for an extended period.

#### 17.2.2 Chain cold

Tension is correct when the chain fits snugly against the underside of the bar but can still be pulled along the bar by hand. Retension if necessary – see "Tensioning the Saw Chain".

#### 17.2.3 Chain at operating temperature

The chain stretches and begins to sag. The drive links must not come out of the bar groove on the underside of the bar – the chain may otherwise jump off the bar. Retension the chain – see "Tensioning the Saw Chain".

#### NOTICE

The chain contracts as it cools down. If it is not slackened off, it can damage the crankshaft and bearings.

#### 17.2.4 After a long period of full-throttle operation

After a long period of full-throttle operation, allow engine to run for a while at idle 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.

### 17.3 After finishing work

- Slacken off the chain if you have retensioned it at operating temperature during work.

#### NOTICE

Always slacken off the chain again after finishing work. The chain contracts as it cools down. If it is not slackened off, it can damage the crankshaft and bearings.

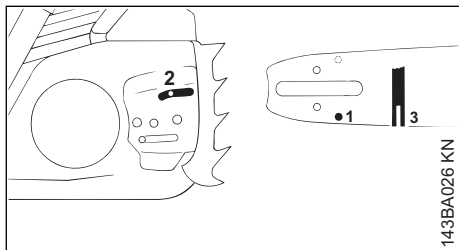
#### 17.3.1 Short-term storage

Wait for engine to cool down. Keep the machine with a full tank of fuel in a dry place, well away from sources of ignition, until you need it again.

#### 17.3.2 Long-term storage

See "Storing the machine"

## 18 Taking Care of the Guide Bar



- ▶ Turn the guide bar over – every time you sharpen the chain and every time you replace the chain – this helps avoid one-sided wear, especially at the nose and underside of the bar.
- ▶ Regularly clean the oil inlet hole (1), the oil-way (2) and the bar groove (3)
- ▶ Measure the groove depth – with the scale on the filing gauge (special accessory) – in the area used most for cutting

Chain type	Chain pitch	Minimum groove depth
Picco	1/4" P	4.0 mm
Rapid	1/4"	4.0 mm
Picco	3/8" P	5.0 mm
Rapid	3/8"; 0.325"	6.0 mm
Rapid	0.404"	7.0 mm

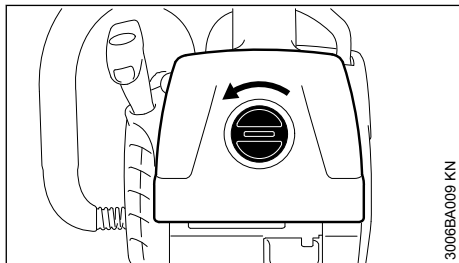
If groove depth is less than specified:

- ▶ Replace the guide bar

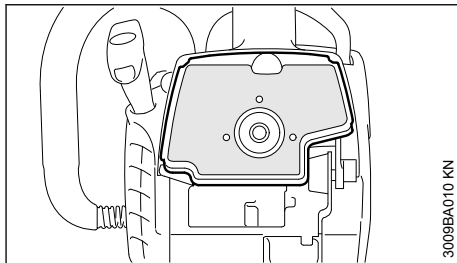
The drive link tangs will otherwise scrape along the bottom of the groove – the cutters and tie straps will not ride on the bar rails.

## 19 Cleaning the Air Filter

### 19.1 If there is a noticeable loss of engine power



- ▶ Turn the twist lock 90° counterclockwise.
- ▶ Remove the shroud upwards.



- ▶ Remove the air filter upwards.
- ▶ Wash the filter in STIHL special cleaner (special accessory) or a clean, non-flammable solution (e.g. warm soapy water) and then dry.

### NOTICE

Do not use a brush to clean the filter.

Always replace a damaged filter.

## 20 Adjusting the Carburetor

### 20.1 Basic information

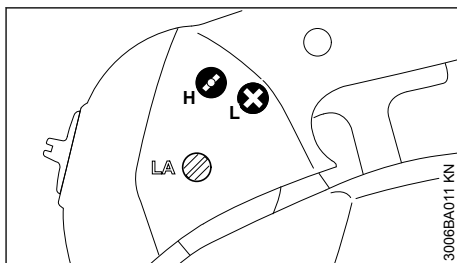
The carburetor is equipped with a factory-installed standard setting.

The carburetor has been adjusted for optimum performance and fuel efficiency in all operating conditions.

### 20.2 Preparations

- ▶ Shut off the engine
- ▶ Check the air filter – clean or replace it if necessary
- ▶ Check the spark arresting screen in the muffler (available only in some countries) – clean or replace it if necessary

### 20.3 Default setting

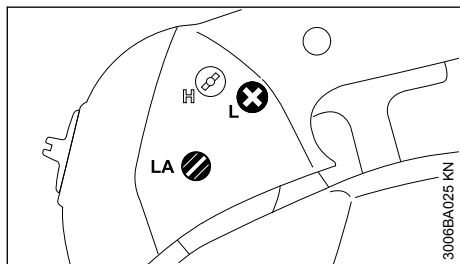


- ▶ Turn the high speed adjusting screw (H) counterclockwise as far as it will go
- ▶ Turn the low speed screw (L) clockwise as far as it will go, then turn it back 1/4 turn

## 20.4 Adjusting the idle speed

- Carry out the standard setting
- Start the engine

To set the idle speed, warm up the engine. Allow the engine to idle for 10 seconds before adjusting the idle speed.



### The engine stops while idling

- Turn the idle speed screw (LA) clockwise until the saw chain begins to run – then turn it back by 4 turns.

### Saw chain runs while idling

- Turn the idle speed screw (LA) counterclockwise until the chain stops moving – allow engine to run at idle speed for 10 seconds.
- Turn the idle speed screw (LA) clockwise until the saw chain begins to run – then turn it back 4 turns.



### WARNING

If the saw chain continues to rotate while idling even after adjustment, have the chainsaw repaired by an authorized dealer.

### Speed erratic when idling; poor acceleration (despite standard setting of low speed adjusting screw)

Idle setting is too lean.

- Carefully turn the low speed adjusting screw (L) counterclockwise until the engine runs and accelerates smoothly – up to the limit stop

Whenever the low speed adjusting screw (L) has been adjusted, it is usually also necessary to readjust the idle speed adjusting screw (LA).

## 20.5 Fine tuning for operation at high altitude

A slight correction of the setting may be necessary if the engine does not run satisfactorily:

- Carry out the standard setting
- Allow the engine to warm up

- Turn the high speed adjusting screw (H) slightly clockwise (leaner) – do not turn it beyond the stop point

### NOTICE

When the machine is no longer operated at a high altitude, restore the carburetor setting to the standard setting.

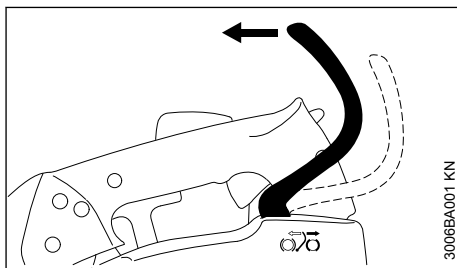
If you make the setting too lean, it will increase the risk of engine damage through lack of lubrication and overheating!

## 21 Spark Plug

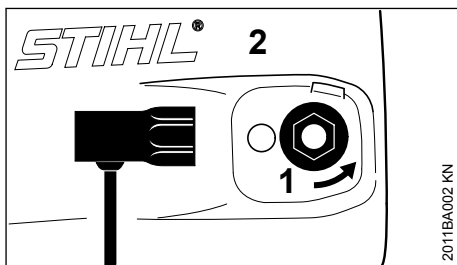
- If the engine is down on power, difficult to start or runs poorly at idle speed, first check the spark plug.
- Fit a new spark plug after about 100 operating hours – or sooner if the electrodes are badly eroded. Install only suppressed spark plugs of the type approved by STIHL – see "Specifications".

### 21.1 Removing the Spark Plug

- Move the Master Control lever to 0 or STOP.

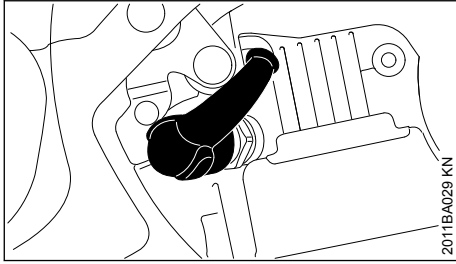


- Disengage the chain brake.



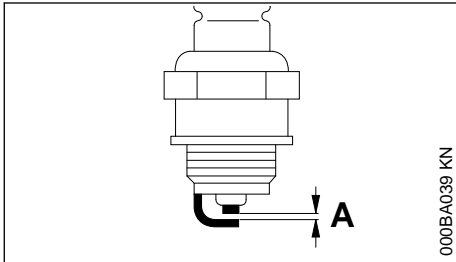
- Unscrew the nut (1) and remove the sprocket cover (2).





- Pull off the spark plug boot.
- Unscrew the spark plug.

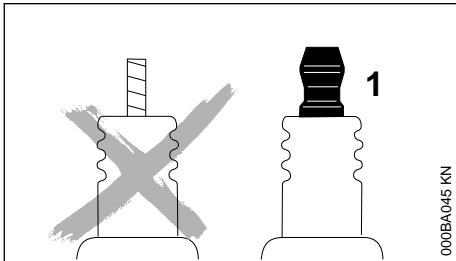
## 21.2 Checking the Spark Plug



- Clean dirty spark plug.
- Check electrode gap (A) and readjust if necessary – see "Specifications".
- Rectify the problems which have caused fouling of the spark plug.

Possible causes are:

- Too much oil in fuel mix.
- Dirty air filter.
- Unfavorable running conditions.



### WARNING

Arcing may occur if the adapter nut (1) is loose or missing. Working in an easily combustible or explosive atmosphere may cause a fire or an explosion. This can result in serious injuries or damage to property.

- Use resistor type spark plugs with a properly tightened adapter nut.

## 21.3 Installing the spark plug

- Install the spark plug and connect the spark plug boot (press it down firmly) – reassembly all other parts in the reverse sequence.

## 22 Storing the Machine

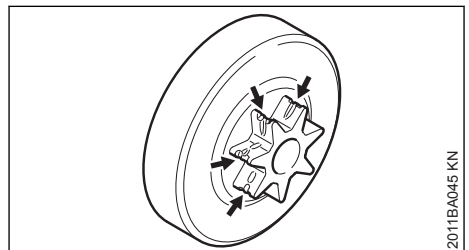
For periods of about 30 days or longer

- Drain and clean the fuel tank in a well-ventilated area.
- Dispose of fuel properly in accordance with local environmental requirements.
- If a manual fuel pump is fitted: Press the manual fuel pump at least 5 times.
- Start the engine and run it at idling speed until it stops.
- Remove saw chain and guide bar; clean and spray with protective oil
- Thoroughly clean the machine - pay special attention to the cylinder fins and air filter
- When using biological chain oil (e.g. STIHL BioPlus), fill the lubricant oil tank
- Store the machine in a dry and secure location. Keep out of the reach of children and other unauthorized persons

## 23 Checking the Chain Sprocket

- Disengage the chain brake: Pull the hand guard toward the front handle.
- Remove chain sprocket cover, saw chain and guide bar

### 23.1 Replace the chain sprocket



- replace after using two saw chains or sooner

- if the wear marks (arrows) on the sprocket are deeper than approx. 0.5 mm since this would reduce the life of the chain. You can use a gauge (special accessory) to check the depth of the wear marks.

Using two saw chains in alternation helps preserve the chain sprocket.

STIHL recommends use of original STIHL chain sprockets in order to ensure optimal functioning of the chain brake.

Have the chain sprocket replaced by an authorized dealer. STIHL recommends that maintenance and repair work be carried out only by authorised STIHL dealers.

## 24 Maintaining and Sharpening the Saw Chain

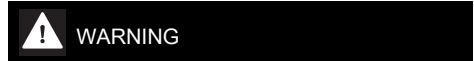
### 24.1 Sawing effortlessly with a properly sharpened saw chain

A properly sharpened saw chain cuts through wood effortlessly even with very little pushing.

Never use a dull or damaged saw chain – this leads to increased physical strain, increased vibration load, unsatisfactory cutting results and increased wear.

- Clean the saw chain
- Check the saw chain for cracks and damaged rivets
- Replace damaged or worn chain components and adapt these parts to the remaining parts in terms of shape and level of wear – rework accordingly

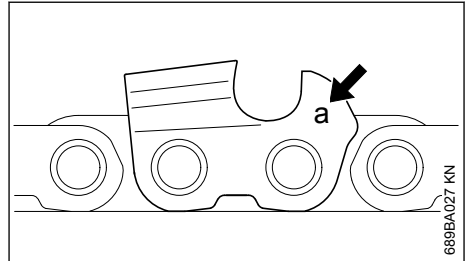
Carbide-tipped (Duro) saw chains are especially wear-resistant. For an optimal sharpening result, STIHL recommends STIHL servicing dealers.



#### WARNING

Compliance with the angles and dimensions listed below is absolutely necessary. An improperly sharpened saw chain – especially depth gauges that are too low – can lead to increased kickback tendency of the chain saw – **risk of injury!**

### 24.2 Chain pitch



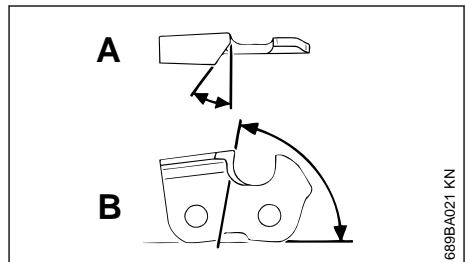
The chain pitch marking (a) is embossed in the area of the depth gauge of each cutter.

Marking (a)	Chain pitch	
	Inches	mm
7	1/4 P	6.35
1 or 1/4	1/4	6.35
6, P or PM	3/8 P	9.32
2 or 325	0.325	8.25
3 or 3/8	3/8	9.32
4 or 404	0.404	10.26

The diameter of file to be used depends on the chain pitch – see table "Sharpening tools".

The angles of the cutter must be maintained during reshaping.

### 24.3 Sharpening and side plate angles



#### A Sharpening angle

STIHL saw chains are sharpened with a 30° sharpening angle. Ripping chains, which are sharpened with a 10° sharpening angle, are

exceptions. Ripping chains have an X in the designation.

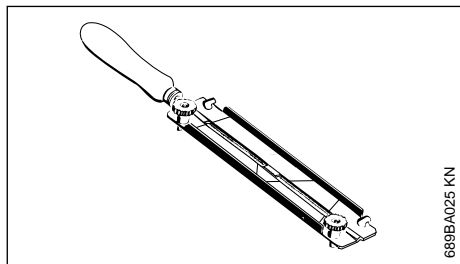
### B Side plate angle

The correct side plate angle results automatically when the specified file holder and file diameter are used.

Tooth shapes	Angle (°)	
	A	B
Micro = semi-chisel tooth, e. g., 63 PM3, 26 RM3, 36 RM	30	75
Super = full chisel tooth, e. g., 63 PS3, 26 RS, 36 RS3	30	60
Ripping chain, e. g., 63 PMX, 36 RMX	10	75

The angles must be identical for all cutters in the saw chain. Varying angles: Rough, uneven running of the saw chain, increased wear – even to the point of saw chain breakage.

## 24.4 File holder



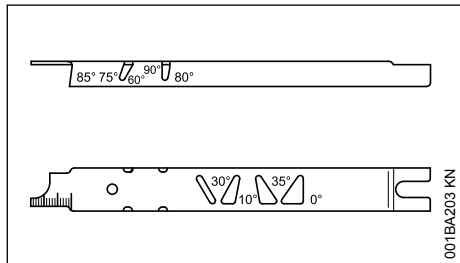
689BA025 KN

### ► Use a file holder

Always use a file holder (special accessory, see table "Sharpening tools") when sharpening saw chains by hand. File holders have markings for the sharpening angle.

**Use only special saw chain files!** Other files are unsuitable in terms of shape and type of cutting.

## 24.5 To check the angles



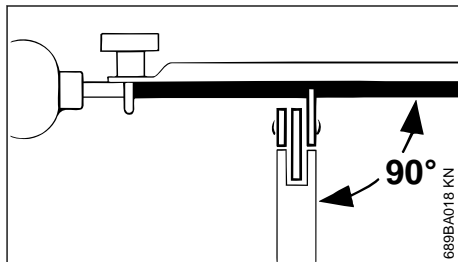
001BA203 KN

STIHL filing gauge (special accessory, see table "Sharpening tools") – a universal tool for check-

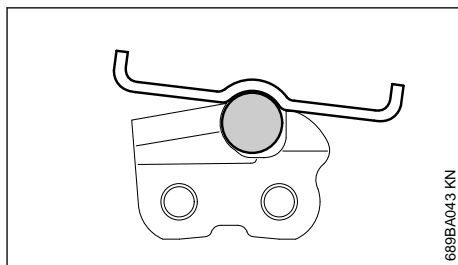
ing sharpening and side plate angles, depth gauge setting, and tooth length, as well as cleaning grooves and oil inlet holes.

## 24.6 Proper sharpening

- Select sharpening tools in accordance with chain pitch
- Clamp guide bar if necessary
- Block saw chain – push the hand guard forward
- To advance the saw chain, pull the hand guard toward the handlebar: The chain brake is disengaged. With the Quickstop Super chain brake system, additionally press the throttle trigger lockout
- Sharpen frequently, removing little material – two or three strokes of the file are usually sufficient for simple resharpening



689BA018 KN



689BA043 KN

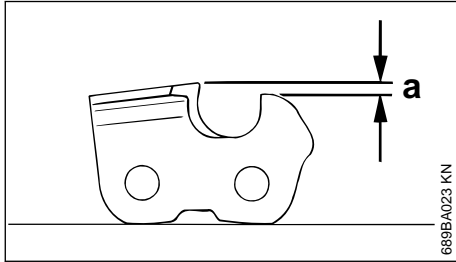
- Guide the file: **horizontally** (at a right angle to the side surface of the guide bar) in accordance with the specified angle – according to the markings on the file holder – rest the file holder on the tooth head and the depth gauge
- File only from the inside outward
- The file only sharpens on the forward stroke – lift the file on the backstroke
- Do not file tie straps and drive links
- Rotate the file a little periodically in order to avoid uneven wear
- To remove file burr, use a piece of hardwood
- Check angle with file gauge

All cutters must be equally long.

With varying cutter lengths, the cutter heights also vary and cause rough running of the saw chain and chain breakage.

- All cutters must be filed down equal to the length of the shortest cutter – ideally, one should have this done by a servicing dealer using an electric sharpener

## 24.7 Depth gauge setting



The depth gauge determines the depth to which the cutter penetrates the wood and thus the chip thickness.

### a Required distance between depth gauge and cutting edge

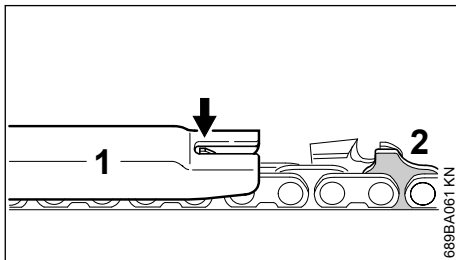
When cutting softwood outside of the frost season, the distance can be increased by up to 0.2 mm (0.008").

Chain pitch		Depth gauge Distance (a)	
Inches	(mm)	mm	(Inches)
1/4 P	(6.35)	0.45	(0.018)
1/4	(6.35)	0.65	(0.026)
3/8 P	(9.32)	0.65	(0.026)
0.325	(8.25)	0.65	(0.026)
3/8	(9.32)	0.65	(0.026)
0.404	(10.26)	0.80	(0.031)

## 24.8 Lowering the depth gauges

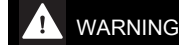
The depth gauge setting is lowered when the cutter is sharpened.

- Check the depth gauge setting after each sharpening



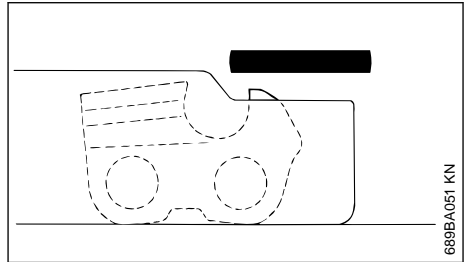
- Lay the appropriate file gauge (1) for the chain pitch on the saw chain and press it against the cutter to be checked – if the depth gauge protrudes past the file gauge, the depth gauge must be reworked

Saw chains with humped drive link (2) – upper part of the humped drive link (2) (with service mark) is lowered at the same time as the depth gauge of the cutter.

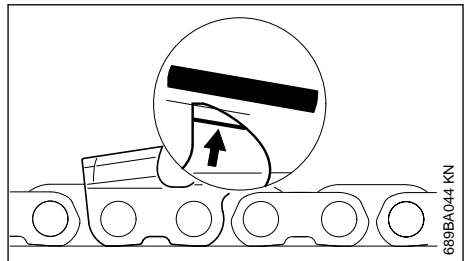


**WARNING**


The rest of the humped drive link must not be filed; otherwise, this could increase the tendency of the chain saw to kick back.



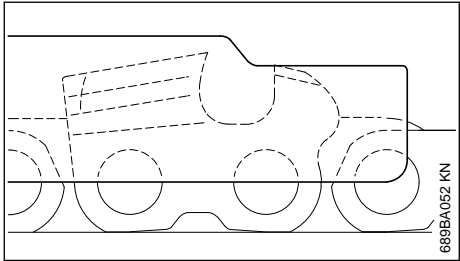
- Rework the depth gauge so that it is flush with the file gauge



- Afterwards, dress the leading edge of the depth gauge parallel to the service mark (see arrow) – when doing this, be careful not to further lower the highest point of the depth gauge

**WARNING**

Depth gauges that are too low increase the kick-back tendency of the chain saw.



- Lay the file gauge on the saw chain – the highest point of the depth gauge must be flush with the file gauge
- After sharpening, clean the saw chain thoroughly, removing any filings or grinding dust – lubricate the saw chain thoroughly
- In the event of extended periods of disuse, store saw chains in cleaned and oiled condition

Sharpening tools (special accessories)								
Chain pitch		Round file		Round file	File holder	File gauge	Taper square file	Sharpening set <sup>1)</sup>
Inches	(mm)	mm	(Inches)	Part number	Part number	Part number	Part number	Part number
1/4P	(6.35)	3.2	(1/8)	5605 771 3206	5605 750 4300	0000 893 4005	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1000
1/4	(6.35)	4.0	(5/32)	5605 772 4006	5605 750 4327	1110 893 4000	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1027
3/8 P	(9.32)	4.0	(5/32)	5605 772 4006	5605 750 4327	1110 893 4000	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1027
0.325	(8.25)	4.8	(3/16)	5605 772 4806	5605 750 4328	1110 893 4000	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1028
3/8	(9.32)	5.2	(13/64)	5605 772 5206	5605 750 4329	1110 893 4000	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1029
0.404	(10.26)	5.5	(7/32)	5605 772 5506	5605 750 4330	1106 893 4000	0814 252 3356	5605 007 1030
<sup>1)</sup> consisting of file holder with round file, taper square file and file gauge								

## 25 Maintenance and Care

The following maintenance intervals apply for normal operating conditions only. When working under difficult conditions (high accumulation of dust, highly resinous lumber, lumber from tropical trees, etc.) or longer than normal each day, the specified intervals must be shortened accordingly. If you only use the tool occasionally, extend the intervals accordingly.		Before starting work	At the end of work and/or daily	Whenever tank is refilled	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	If faulty	If damaged	As required
Complete machine	Visual inspection (condition, leaks)	X		X						
	Clean		X							
Throttle trigger, throttle trigger lockout, choke lever, stop switch, master control lever (dependent on equipment)	Function test	X		X						
Chain brake	Function test	X		X						
	Have checked by dealer <sup>1)</sup>									X
Manual fuel pump (if present)	check	X								
	Have repaired by a specialist dealer <sup>1)</sup>							X		
Fuel pick-up body / filter in fuel tank	check					X				
	Clean, replace filter insert					X		X		
	replace						X		X	X
Fuel tank	Clean					X				
Lubricating oil tank	Clean					X				
Chain lubrication	check	X								
Saw chain	Check, pay attention to sharpness	X		X						
	Checking the chain tension	X		X						
	sharpen									X
Guide bar	Check (wear, damage)	X								
	Clean and turn over									X
	Deburr				X					
	replace								X	X
Chain sprocket	check				X					
Air filter	Clean							X		X
	replace								X	
Anti-vibration elements	check	X						X		
	Have replaced by servicing dealer <sup>1)</sup>								X	

<sup>1)</sup> STIHL recommends STIHL servicing dealer

<sup>2)</sup> When using professional chainsaws (with a power output of 3.4 kW or more) for the first time, tighten the cylinder block screws after 10 to 20 hours of operation

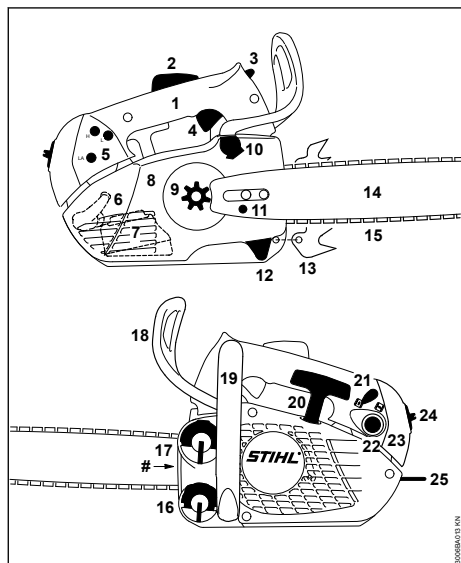
The following maintenance intervals apply for normal operating conditions only. When working under difficult conditions (high accumulation of dust, highly resinous lumber, lumber from tropical trees, etc.) or longer than normal each day, the specified intervals must be shortened accordingly. If you only use the tool occasionally, extend the intervals accordingly.		Before starting work	At the end of work and/or daily	Whenever tank is refilled	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	If faulty	If damaged	As required
Air intake on fan housing	Clean		X		X					X
Cylinder fins	Clean		X			X				
Carburetor	Check idle adjustment – saw chain must not rotate	X		X						
	Set the idle speed; if required have the chainsaw repaired by a specialist dealer <sup>1)</sup>									X
Spark plug	Adjust electrode gap							X		
	Replace after 100 hours of operation									
Accessible screws and nuts (except adjusting screws)	Tighten <sup>2)</sup>									X
Spark arresting screen in muffler	Check if installed	X								
	Check or replace <sup>1)</sup>						X			
Chain catcher	check	X								
	replace								X	
Safety information label	replace								X	

<sup>1)</sup> STIHL recommends STIHL servicing dealer

<sup>2)</sup> When using professional chainsaws (with a power output of 3.4 kW or more) for the first time, tighten the cylinder block screws after 10 to 20 hours of operation



## 26 Main Parts



- 1 Control handle
- 2 Throttle trigger lockout
- 3 Master Control lever
- 4 Throttle trigger
- 5 Carburetor adjusting screws
- 6 Spark plug boot
- 7 Muffler
- 8 Chain sprocket cover
- 9 Chain sprocket
- 10 Chain brake
- 11 Chain tensioner
- 12 Chain catcher
- 13 Spiked bumper <sup>1)</sup>
- 14 Guide bar
- 15 Oilomatic chain
- 16 Oil filler cap
- 17 Fuel filler cap
- 18 Hand guard
- 19 Handlebar
- 20 Starter grip

- 21 Choke lever
- 22 Manual fuel pump
- 23 Carburetor box cover
- 24 Carburetor box cover twist lock
- 25 Ring for rope
- # Serial number

## 27 Specifications

### 27.1 Engine

Single-cylinder two-stroke engine

Displacement:	23.6cm <sup>3</sup>
Cylinder bore:	34 mm
Piston stroke:	26 mm
Engine power:	1.1 kW (1.5 bhp) at 10000 rpm
Idling speed: <sup>1</sup>	3000 rpm

### 27.2 Ignition system

Electronic magneto ignition

Spark plug (suppressed):	NGK CMR 6 H, BOSCH USR 4AC
Electrode gap:	0.5 mm

### 27.3 Fuel system

All-position diaphragm carburetor with integral fuel pump

Fuel tank capacity:	200 cm <sup>3</sup> (0.2 l)
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### 27.4 Chain lubrication

Fully automatic, speed-controlled oil pump

Oil tank capacity:	150 cm <sup>3</sup> (0.15 l)
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### 27.5 Weight

dry, without cutting attachment	
MS 151 TC:	2.6 kg

### 27.6 Cutting attachment

The actual cutting length may be less than the specified cutting length.

#### 27.6.1 Rollomatic E Mini guide bars

Cutting lengths:	25, 30 cm
Pitch:	1/4" P (6.35 mm)
Groove width:	1.1 mm
Sprocket nose:	8-tooth

<sup>1)</sup> available as special accessory

<sup>1)</sup> according to ISO 11681 +/- 50 1/min

### 27.6.2 Carving E guide bars

Cutting lengths: 30 cm  
Pitch: 1/4" P (6.35 mm)  
Groove width: 1.1 mm

### 27.6.3 Saw chains 1/4" P

#### Picco Micro 3 (71 PM3) Type 3670

Pitch: 1/4" P (6.35 mm)  
Drive link gauge: 1.1 mm

### 27.6.4 Chain sprocket

8-tooth for 1/4" (spur chain sprocket)  
Max. chain speed according to ISO 11681: 22.5 m/s  
Chain speed at maximum power: 16.9 m/s

## 27.7 Noise and vibration values

For further details on compliance with Vibration Directive 2002/44/EC, see

[www.stihl.com/vib](http://www.stihl.com/vib)

### 27.7.1 Sound pressure level $L_{peq}$ in accordance with ISO 22868

96 dB(A)

### 27.7.2 Sound power level $L_{w eq}$ to ISO 22868

107 dB(A)

### 27.7.3 Vibration measurement $a_{hv, eq}$ in accordance with ISO 22867

Handle, left: 4.9 m/s<sup>2</sup>  
Handle, right: 4.9 m/s<sup>2</sup>

The K-factor in accordance with Directive 2006/42/EC is 2.0 dB(A) for the sound pressure level and sound power level; the K-factor in accordance with Directive 2006/42/EC is 2.0 m/s<sup>2</sup> for the vibration level.

## 27.8 REACH

REACH is an EC regulation and stands for the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemical substances.

For information on compliance with the REACH regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 see

[www.stihl.com/reach](http://www.stihl.com/reach)

## 27.9 Exhaust Emissions

The CO<sub>2</sub> value measured in the EU type approval procedure is specified at

[www.stihl.com/co2](http://www.stihl.com/co2)

in the product-specific technical data.

The measured CO<sub>2</sub> value was determined on a representative engine in accordance with a standardized test procedure under laboratory conditions and does not represent either an explicit or implied guarantee of the performance of a specific engine.

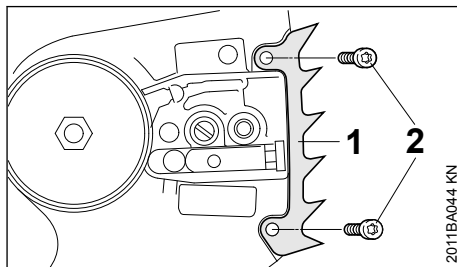
The applicable exhaust emission requirements are fulfilled by the intended usage and maintenance described in this User Manual. The operating license shall be void if the engine is modified in any way.

## 28 Special Accessories

- Spiked bumper
- File holder with round file
- Filing gauge
- Reference gauges
- STIHL lubricating grease
- STIHL filler nozzle for fuel – helps avoid spills and overfilling during refueling
- STIHL filler nozzle for chain oil – helps avoid spills and overfilling

Contact your STIHL dealer for more information on these and other special accessories.

### 28.1 Mounting the Spiked Bumper



- Secure the spiked bumper (1) to the engine housing with the two screws (2).

## 29 Ordering Spare Parts

Please enter your saw model, serial number as well as the part numbers of the guide bar and saw chain in the spaces provided. This will make re-ordering simpler.

The guide bar and saw chain are subject to normal wear and tear. When purchasing these parts, always quote the saw model, the part numbers and names of the parts.

Model

Serial number

Guide bar part number

Chain part number


## 30 Maintenance and Repairs

Users of this machine may only carry out the maintenance and service work described in this user manual. All other repairs must be carried out by a servicing dealer.

STIHL recommends that you have servicing and repair work carried out exclusively by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer. STIHL dealers are regularly given the opportunity to attend training courses and are supplied with the necessary technical information.

When repairing the machine, only use replacement parts which have been approved by STIHL for this power tool or are technically identical. Only use high-quality replacement parts in order to avoid the risk of accidents and damage to the machine.

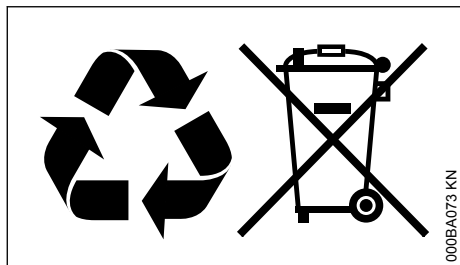
STIHL recommends the use of original STIHL replacement parts.

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).

## 31 Disposal

Contact the local authorities or your STIHL servicing dealer for information on disposal.

Improper disposal can be harmful to health and pollute the environment.



- Take STIHL products including packaging to a suitable collection point for recycling in accordance with local regulations.
- Do not dispose with domestic waste.

## 32 EC Declaration of Conformity

ANDREAS STIHL AG & Co. KG  
Badstr. 115  
D-71336 Waiblingen

Germany

declares under its sole responsibility that

Designation:	Chainsaw
Make:	STIHL
Series:	MS 151 TC
Serial identification	1146
Displacement:	23.6 cm <sup>3</sup>

conforms to the relevant provisions of Directives 2011/65/EU, 2006/42/EC, 2014/30/EU and 2000/14/EC and has been developed and manufactured in compliance with the following standards in the versions valid on the date of production:

EN ISO 11681-2, EN 61000-6-1, EN 55012.

The measured and the guaranteed sound power level have been determined in accordance with Directive 2000/14/EC, Annex V, and standard ISO 9207.

### Measured sound power level

MS 151 TC 109 dB(A)

### Guaranteed sound power level

MS 151 TC 111 dB(A)

The EC type examination was carried out by

KWF Services GmbH (NB 0363)  
Spremberger Straße 1  
D-64823 Groß-Umstadt

### Certification No.:

K-EG 2023/8636

Technical documents deposited at:

ANDREAS STIHL AG & Co. KG  
Produktzulassung

The year of manufacture and serial number are indicated on the power tool.

Waiblingen, 2024-03-20

ANDREAS STIHL AG & Co. KG

pp



Robert Olma, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
& Global Governmental Relations







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