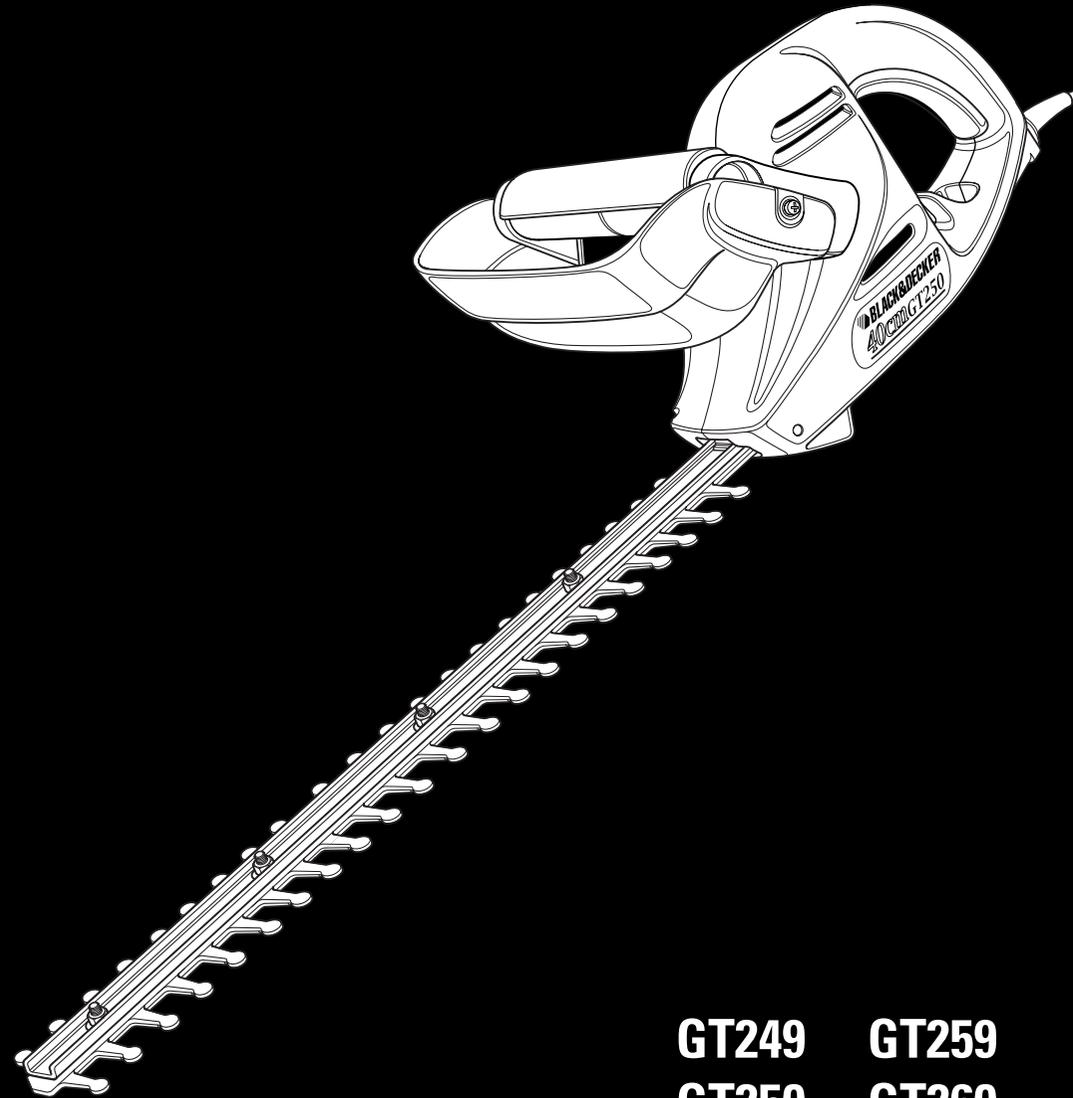
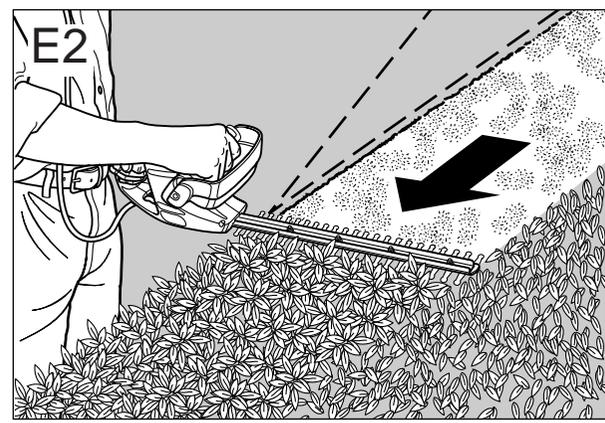
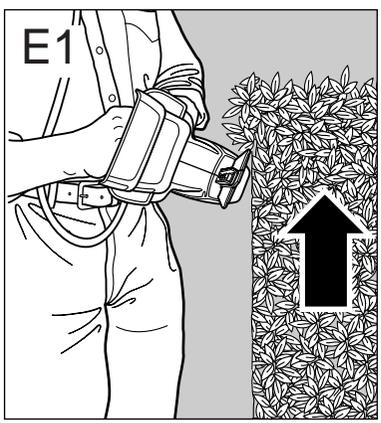
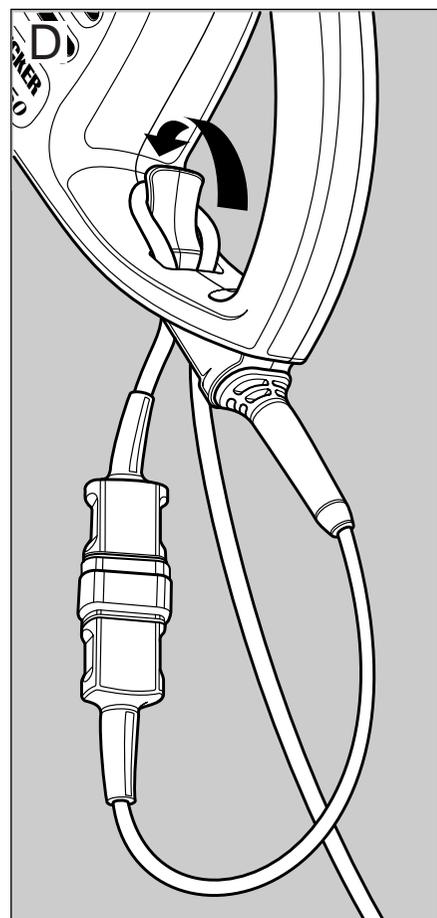
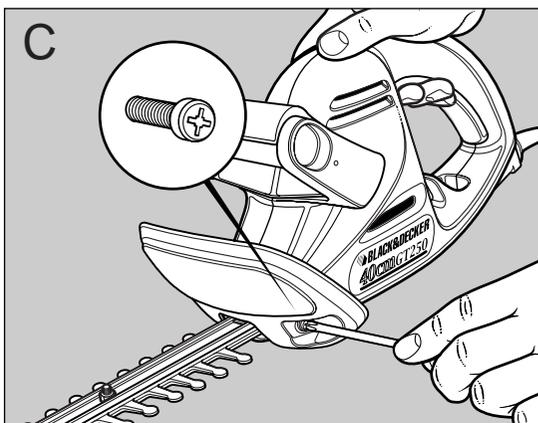
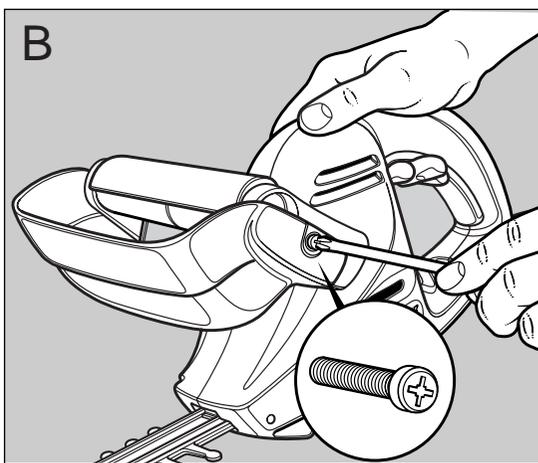
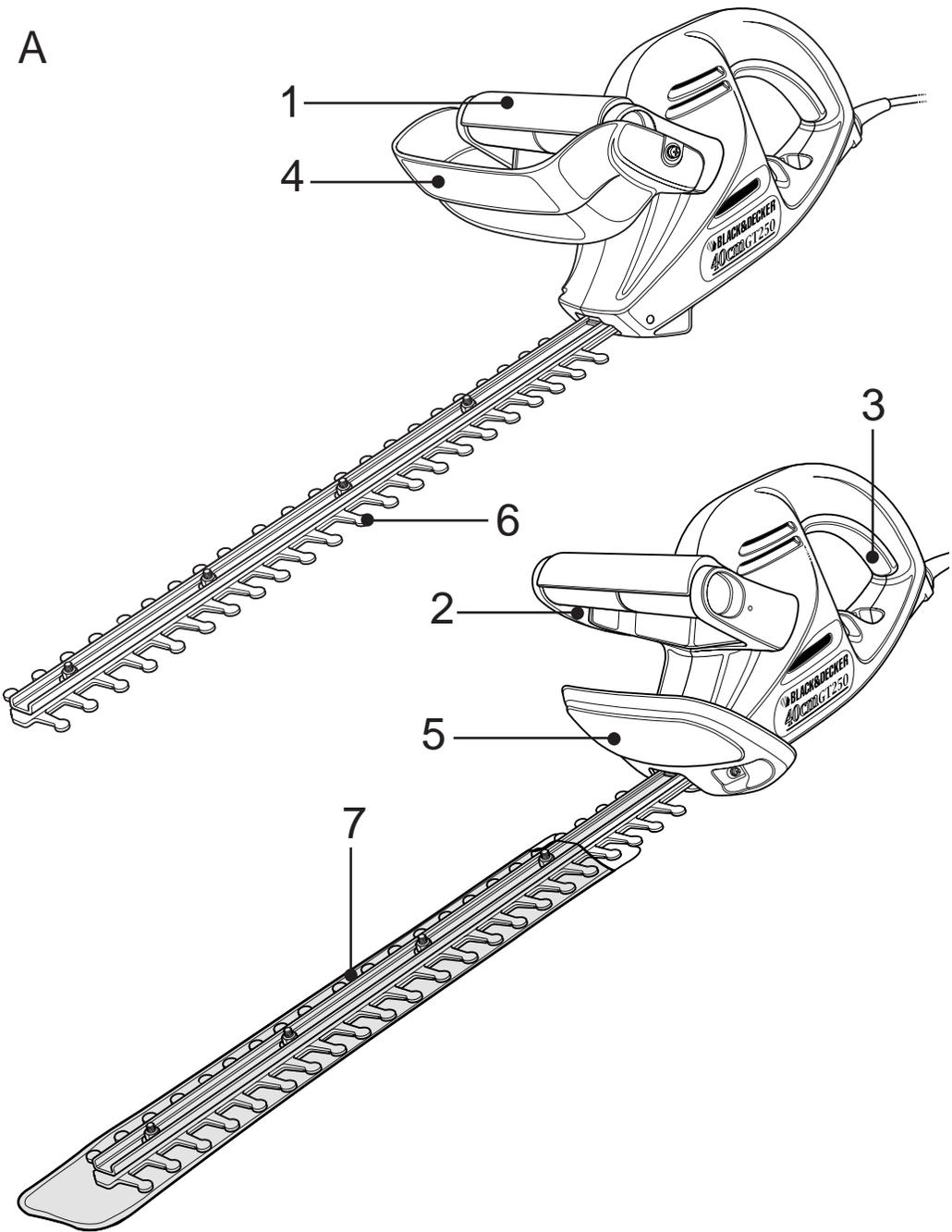


 **BLACK &
DECKER®**



GT249 GT259
GT250 GT260
GT251 GT261



English

Hedgetrimmer

GT249/250/251/259/260/261

User manual

Introduction

This manual provides operating and maintenance instructions for all of the hedgetrimmers in the Black & Decker GT250/260 range including the GT249/259.

Description (Fig. A)

- A**
1. Front handle switch
 2. Front handle
 3. Rear switch
 4. Handle guard (GT251C & GT261C)
 5. Front guard (GT249C, GT250C, GT259C & GT260C)
 6. Blade
 7. Blade sheath

Know your machine



Warning! When using electric tools, basic safety precautions should always be taken to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock and personal injury.



Read this manual carefully, observing all of the recommended safety instructions before, during and after using your machine. Maintain your machine in good working order.

Familiarise yourself with the controls on your machine before attempting to operate it, but above all, be sure you know how to stop the machine in an emergency.

Retain this manual and all other literature supplied for future reference.

Safety instructions

Preparation

- **Dress properly.** Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery which could get caught in moving parts. Always wear stout, non-skid footwear and gloves when operating your machine and make sure that long hair is kept away from the blades.
- **Protect your eyes/ears.** Use safety glasses or goggles while operating your



machine. If the sound level seems uncomfortable, use ear protection.

- **Use outdoor extension cords.** Never use an indoor extension cable for use with this machine.
- **Do not abuse the cord.** Never carry the hedgetrimmer by its cord or yank the cord to disconnect it from the socket. Keep the cord away from heat, oil and sharp edges.
- **Remove the plug from the mains immediately if the cable is damaged or cut.**
- **Inspect hedge.** Ensure that the hedge has nothing lying on top of it or beside it, e.g. barbed wire or railings which may damage your machine.
- **Consider the work environment.** Do not use the machine in the rain or allow it to get wet or damp. Keep the work area well lit. Do not use in the presence of flammable liquids or gases.



Operation

- **Avoid unintentional starting.** Do not carry a plugged-in tool with a finger on the switch.
- **Before using the machine.** Disconnect it from the electrical supply and visually check that the blade fixings are secure. A damaged blade or loose blade nuts are a major hazard and must be replaced. Always be sure that your machine is in a safe operating condition.
- **Guard against electric shock.** Avoid touching grounded surfaces (e.g. railings, lamp posts etc.) while using your machine.
- **Keep people away while the machine is in use.** Do not allow children, other people or animals near your machine while you are using it - always keep them at least 6m (20ft) away from the cutting area and never let anyone touch the machine or the extension cord.
- **Do not force the tool.** It will do the job better and more safely at the rate for which it was intended.



- **Use the right tool.** Never force small tools or attachments to do the job of a heavy duty tool. Do not use tools for purposes not intended: e.g, do not use the hedgetrimmer as a chain saw.
- **Do not overreach.** Keep proper footing and balance at all times, especially while working on a slope.
- **Stay alert.** Watch what you are doing. Use common sense. Do not operate when you are tired.
- **Use the correct electrical supply.** Your machine is designed for use on AC (mains) electrical supplies only - do not attempt to use on any other supply. Be sure to plug the machine into a power point, never a lighting socket.
- **Always turn off and unplug the machine.** Whenever you leave the machine unattended. Before checking, cleaning, adjusting, unjamming the blades or carrying out work on the machine. If the machine starts to vibrate abnormally, check immediately. After striking a foreign object- inspect for damage and make repairs as necessary.
- **Always keep the power supply cable away from the blades.** Be aware of its position at all times.
- **Do not put your hands or feet near the blades and never attempt to stop the blades - they will stop on their own.**
- **Never operate your machine with a broken or missing guard.**
- Remember that the operator/user is responsible for accidents or hazards occurring to other people or their property. A first time user should get some practical instruction on how to use a hedgetrimmer as well as reading this manual.



Maintenance and storage

- **Always disconnect the machine before carrying out any adjustment, servicing or maintenance.**
- **Always lubricate the blades with light machine oil after use to prevent corrosion damage.**
- **Maintain tools with care.** Always keep tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories. Inspect tool cords periodically and if damaged have repaired by an authorised service facility. Inspect extension cords periodically and replace if damaged. Keep handles dry, clean and free from oil and grease.

- **Check damaged parts.** Before further use of the tool, a guard or other part that is damaged should be carefully checked to determine whether it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, mounting and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorised service agent unless otherwise indicated in this instruction manual. Have defective switches replaced by an authorised service agent. Do not use the tool if the switch does not turn it on and off.



Warning! The use of any accessory or attachment, other than recommended in this instruction manual, may present a risk of personal injury.

Double insulation



Your machine is double insulated. This means that all external metal parts are electrically isolated from the power supply. This is achieved by placing an extra insulation barrier between the electrical and mechanical parts. Double insulation means greater electrical safety and obviates the necessity of having the machine earthed.

Electrical safety

Your machine should always be switched off at the mains before disconnecting any plug and socket connector or extension cables.

Fuse replacement (UK only)

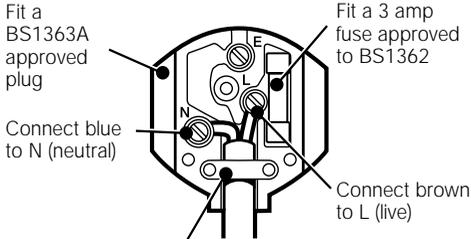
If your machine is supplied with cable fitted with a non-re-wireable plug.

- The plug is fitted with a 3 amp fuse which is the recommended fuse for your machine.
- Only use replacement fuses which are approved to BS1362.
- When changing the fuse in your plug, always ensure the fuse cover is refitted. If the fuse cover is missing or damaged do not use the plug.

Note: Fuses do not give personal protection against electric shock.

Plug replacement (UK only)

- Disconnect the plug from the supply.
- Cut off the plug and dispose of it immediately. Insertion of a detached plug into a 13 amp socket outlet may result in electric shock.
- Only fit BS1363A approved plugs fitted with the correctly rated fuse.



Make sure that the outer sheath of the cable is held firmly by the clamp



240 volts AC only.
Never use a light socket

- The cable wire colours, or a letter, will be marked at the connection points of most good quality plugs. Attach the wires to their respective points in the plug (see above). Brown is for "Live" (L) and blue is for "Neutral" (N).
- Before replacing the top cover of the mains plug ensure that the cable restraint is holding the outer sheath on the cable firmly and that the two leads are correctly fixed at the terminal screws.

Replacement of the supply cord (Australia & New Zealand only)

If the supply cord is damaged, it must be replaced by the manufacturer or its service agent or similarly qualified person in order to avoid a hazard.



Warning! Never connect live or neutral wires to the earth pin marked "E" or \perp .

Note: Do not wire an extension cable directly into your machine yourself. Instead, take your machine to your nearest Black & Decker service agent.

Increased safety can be obtained by having a qualified electrician install a high sensitivity (30mA 30mS) circuit breaker in the house wiring. If you do not wish to have one installed, then we strongly recommend that the electrical power to the machine be supplied through a high sensitivity residual current device (RCD). The RCD is designed to provide a high degree of personal protection against harmful electric current should fault conditions occur.



Warning! The use of an RCD or other circuit breaker unit does not release the operator of the machine from the safety instructions and safe working practices given in this manual.

We recommend that if your mains cable is cut or requires replacement that you return your machine to a Black & Decker service agent. When repaired, your machine will be tested for electrical safety.

Cable connection system (UK only)

Black & Decker continually make every effort to achieve the highest standards in performance, quality and reliability and recommend the use of a new outdoor cable connection system.

The new system gives additional protection against the possibility of water or moisture entering into the cable connector during normal use.

Note: The new connection system does not release the operator of the machine from the safety precautions and safe working practices given in the instruction leaflet. Particular attention is drawn to the coupler system as being 'weather resistant' and not suitable for immersion, submersion or being subjected to water jets. Care should be taken to prevent the cable from lying or trailing through pools of water or from splashing with hose pipes.

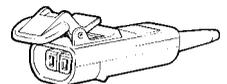
- A6615 20m cable, socket, 13 amp plug
- A6616 20m cable, socket, 13 amp plug and cable tidy frame
- A6617 30m cable, socket, 13 amp plug and cable tidy frame
- A6613 40m cable, socket, 13 amp plug and cable tidy reel

Existing cable systems (UK only)

Your hedge trimmer comes with either, 12 metre cable attached (Cat. number ends with a C), or a male connector built into the product. If you already own an outdoor cable system, we recommend that you replace the existing 'female' cable connector with the new 'female' connector which is available as an accessory from most major DIY retail outlets and from Black & Decker service agents (cat. no. A6624S).



old 'female' connector

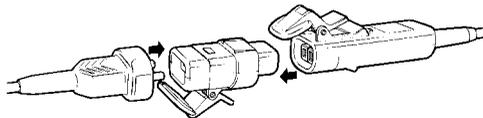


new 'female' connector

When fitting the connector, follow the instructions which are supplied with it. If in doubt, consult a qualified electrician.

Existing powered garden tools (UK only)

To connect existing Black & Decker garden power tools to the new system you will require an adaptor (see below). This is available as an accessory from most major DIY retail outlets (cat. no. A6623S).



Warning! This adaptor is only suitable for products rated up to 500W. It is not recommended for use with the following: Hover mowers, rotary mowers with grass collection, chainsaws, shredders and blower vacs. Please contact your local service agent should you require further advice.

Fitting your own extension cable (UK only)

- When making your own extension cable, fit a 13 amp plug (see “fitting the mains plug”) to one end of the cable and a ‘female’ connector to the other end (see below). For wiring instructions see those supplied with the female connector.
- A ‘male’ connector is already attached to the electrical supply cable on your machine and is designed to be non-rewireable (see below). *This should not be removed.* Should the plug become damaged or need replacing, please return the machine to your Black & Decker service agent.



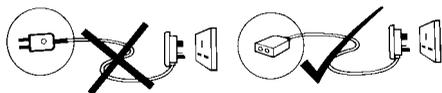
‘female’ connector



‘male’ connector



Warning! Never wire an extension cable with anything other than the ‘female’ connector supplied and a 13 amp BS1363A approved plug with the recommended fuse. **Never wire a ‘male’ connector to your extension cable and never wire an extension cable with a plug of any kind at each end of the cable. This is extremely dangerous and results in the pins being live which may cause a fatal electric shock.**



ENGLISH

Technical data

Specifications

Insulation	Class II
Strokes per minute	1900
Blade length	41cm, 51cm
Weight	2.4 to 2.5kg
Noise	88dB (A)
Vibration	<2.5m/s ²

Assembly (Figs. B & C)

B

- You will need a number 2 Posidrive screwdriver.
- During assembly it is recommended that the blade sheath is fitted over the blades to reduce the risk of injury.

C

Fitting the guard

- Slide the guard into position as shown.
- Fix in place using two of the screws provided. Do not over tighten them.

Operation (Fig. D)

To start the hedgetrimmer

- Press the front handle switch (Fig. A.1).
- Squeeze the rear switch (Fig. A.3).
- The hedgetrimmer will now run.

To stop the hedgetrimmer

- Release the front handle switch or the rear switch.

D

This product is built with a cable retention system. To operate this, feed your cable through the hole provided and hook it over the pegs as shown in Fig. D.

Useful hints for trimming hedges (Fig. E)

Read the safety rules first!

Cutting

E

- Tip the blades a little towards the hedge (Fig. E1).
- First cut both sides, working from the bottom up, then trim the top (Fig. E2).
- Take care to avoid any hard objects in or around the hedge that could damage the blades.

-
- Where the branches are very long, cut the hedge back in several stages (short cuttings are easier to tidy up).

When to trim (UK only)

- As a general guide, hedges and shrubs with seasonal leaves (new ones each year) can be trimmed in June and October.
- Evergreens can be trimmed in April and August.
- Conifers and other fast growing shrubs can be trimmed about every six weeks from May onwards.

When to trim (Australia & New Zealand only)

- As a general guide, hedges and shrubs with seasonal leaves (new ones each year) can be trimmed in December and March.
- Evergreens can be trimmed in September and February.
- Conifers and other fast growing shrubs can be trimmed about every six weeks from May onwards.

Failure to work

If your hedgetrimmer does not work, unplug it and check:

- The power point (try another tool or appliance).
- The plug and its fuse (UK only).
- The plug and socket connections (UK only).

If in doubt, get help from a qualified electrician, or visit your Black & Decker service agent.

Care and maintenance

- Switch off and disconnect from power supply before cleaning or adjusting your machine.
- For best performance, keep the blades and air slots in the motor housing clean. Use a cloth or brush to remove cuttings, sap or other debris.
- Prevent the blades from rusting by applying a film of light machine oil after cleaning.
- Plastic parts may be cleaned by using a non abrasive cleaner and a cloth dampened with warm water.
- Do not immerse any part of the hedgetrimmer in water.
- Avoid all other types of detergents, cleaners or solvents. These may contain chemicals that could seriously damage the plastic. Do not spray the hedgetrimmer with water, and do not allow water to enter the hedgetrimmer.
- After cleaning, the tool can be stored in its packaging for protection.

- Self lubricating bearings are used in the tool and lubrication is not required. (Other than to the blades as stated above).

What to do if your hedgetrimmer needs repair

For after sales service please refer to the section 'Lawnmowers & Garden' within your local Yellow Pages or refer to the warranty sheet.

Unwanted products and the environment



Should you find one day that your hedgetrimmer needs replacement, or is of no further use to you, think of the protection of the environment. Black & Decker service agents will accept your old mower and will dispose of it in an environmentally safe way.

Black & Decker lawn and garden guarantee

This guarantee provides: **36 months parts cover and 12 months labour (UK), 24 months parts cover and labour (Australia and New Zealand)**. In all cases proof of purchase will be required.

If your Black & Decker hedgetrimmer becomes defective, within the guarantee period, due to faulty materials and workmanship, we guarantee to either replace all defective parts, or at our discretion, replace your hedgetrimmer free of charge, provided that:

- Your hedgetrimmer is returned to one of our authorised repair agents with evidence of purchase.
- Your hedgetrimmer has been used within the parameters of its consumer classification.
- Your hedgetrimmer has not been used for hire purposes.
- Repairs have not been attempted by anyone other than our authorised repair agents.
- The failure represents normal wear and tear.

This guarantee is offered as an extra benefit and is additional to your statutory rights.

Our guarantee policy

Failure due to the following are not covered:

- Replacing worn or damaged blades, nylon line and chains, or cables damaged during storage or use. These are regarded as replacement items which wear during normal usage.
- Failure as a result of sudden impact or obvious abuse.

- Failure due to usage not in accordance with instructions and recommendations contained in this manual.

The use of other than genuine Black & Decker accessories and parts may damage or reduce the performance of your Black & Decker hedgetrimmer and may render the guarantee void.

Black & Decker after sales service

Black & Decker offers a nationwide network of authorised service agents. The use of other than genuine Black & Decker accessories and parts may damage or reduce the performance of your Black & Decker hedgetrimmer and may also endanger the user. The terms and conditions of the warranty may also be effected.

It is our aim that all Black & Decker customers should be totally satisfied with their Black & Decker product and after sales service, if help or advice is needed please contact a local Black & Decker authorised repair agent who will be happy to help. Full details of our after sales service can be obtained from any of our Black & Decker authorised repair agents.

Other Black & Decker products (UK only)

Black & Decker has a full range of outdoor power tools that make life easy in the garden. If you would like further information on other products, please contact the Black & Decker Service Information Centre at the address towards the back of this manual, or contact your Black & Decker stockist.

Lawnmowers	String trimmers
Chainsaws	Lawnrakers
Compost shredders	Leafbusters
Blade trimmers	Cordless brooms
Cordless trimsaws	Cordless shrubbers
Cordless shears	Hedgetrimmers

EC Declaration of Conformity

We declare that units:

GT249, GT250, GT251, GT259, GT260, GT261

conform to: 89/392/EEC, 89/336/EEC,
EN50144, EN55014, EN55104, 73/23/EEC

A weighted sound pressure 91dB (A)

A weighted sound power 104dB (A)

Hand/arm weighted vibration <2.5m/s²



Brian Cooke

Director of Engineering

Spennymoor, County Durham DL16 6JG

United Kingdom

Australia	Black & Decker (A'asia) Pty Ltd 286-288 Maroondah Highway, North Croydon, Victoria 3136	Tel: 03 9213 8200 Fax: 03 9726 7150
New Zealand	Black & Decker 483 Great South Road, Penrose, Auckland	Tel: 09 579 7600 Fax: 09 579 8200
South Africa	Black & Decker South Africa (Pty) Ltd Suite no 107, PostNet X65, Halfway House 1685	Tel: 011 314 4431 Fax: 011 314 4435
United Kingdom	Black & Decker 210 Bath Road, Slough Berkshire SL1 3YD	Tel: 01753 574277 Tlx: 848317 BAND MH Fax: 01753 551155



Address of the dealer where your hedgetrimmer was purchased:

Date of your purchase:

Name: _____

House number or name and street: _____

Town: _____

County or state: _____

Postcode: _____

Country: _____

Product catalogue number: GT _____

Data protection act: Tick this box if you prefer **not** to receive information from Black & Decker or other companies.

Yes No

Was your hedgetrimmer a gift?

Was your hedgetrimmer your first purchase?

Was your hedgetrimmer bought as a replacement?

What was the price of your hedgetrimmer? _____

Address of the dealer where your hedgetrimmer was purchased:

GUARANTEE CARD

South Africa: Black & Decker South Africa (Pty) Ltd, Suite no 107, PostNet X65, Halfway House 1685

United Kingdom & Ireland: PO Box 821, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3AR



Please complete this section immediately after the purchase of your hedgetrimmer and post it to the Black & Decker address in your country (above).

If you live in Australia or New Zealand, please register your purchase by using the alternative guarantee card.