

HLA 135, 135 K

STIHL



2 - 34 Instruction Manual
34 - 69 Notice d'emploi



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1 Introduction

Thank you for your purchase. The information contained in this manual will help you receive maximum performance and satisfaction from your hedge trimmer and, if followed, reduce the risk of injury during its use.

SAVE THIS MANUAL!



Because a hedge trimmer is a high-speed cutting tool, special safety precautions must be observed to reduce the risk of personal injury.



Read this instruction manual thoroughly before use and periodically thereafter. Follow all safety precautions. Careless or improper use of the hedge trimmer can cause serious or fatal injury.

Do not lend or rent the hedge trimmer without this instruction manual. Allow only persons who fully understand the information in this manual to operate the hedge trimmer.

For further information, or if you do not understand any of the instructions in this manual,

please go to www.stihl.ca or contact your authorized STIHL servicing dealer.

2 Guide to Using this Manual

2.1 Signal Words

This manual contains safety information that requires your special attention. Such information is introduced with the following symbols and signal words:



DANGER

- Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.



WARNING

- Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

NOTICE

- Indicates a risk of property damage, including damage to the machine or its individual components.

2.2 Symbols in Text

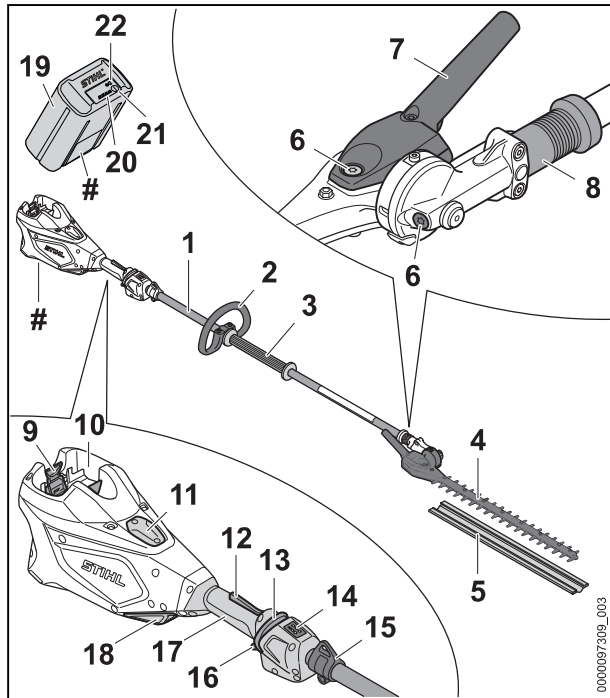
The following symbol is included to assist you with the use of the manual:



Refers to a designated chapter or sub-chapter in this instruction manual.

3 Main Parts

3.1 HLA 135 Hedge Trimmer and Battery

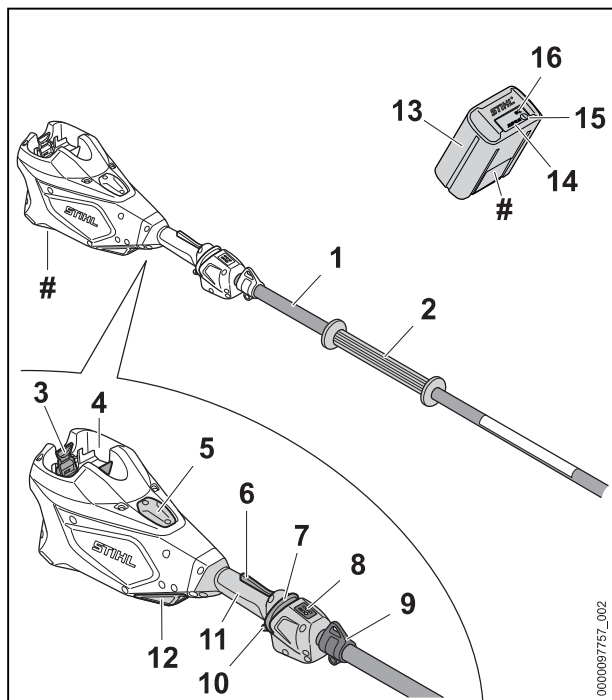


- 1 Drive Tube**
Hedge trimmer shaft.
- 2 Loop Handle**
Handle for the operator's front hand.
- 3 Front Handle**
Handle for the operator's front hand.
- 4 Cutting Blades**
Steel blades for cutting hedges, shrubs and bushes.
- 5 Blade Scabbard**
Covers the cutting blades to reduce the risk of injury from inadvertent contact during transportation and storage.
- 6 Screw Plug**
Seals the grease filler opening at the gear-box.
- 7 Blade Adjustment Grip**
Used to set the cutting blades to the desired angle.
- 8 Blade Adjustment Release**
Unlocks the cutting attachment to allow angle adjustment.

- 9 Locking Lever**
Secures the battery in the battery compartment.
- 10 Battery Compartment**
Holds the battery.
- 11 Mounting Recess Cover¹**
Covers the mounting area for a Smart Connector 2 A.
- 12 Trigger Switch Lockout**
Must be depressed to allow activation of the trigger switch.
- 13 Retaining Latch**
For switching the hedge trimmer on and selecting the power level.
- 14 LEDs**
Indicate the unit's power level.
- 15 Carrying Ring**
For connecting a harness to the hedge trimmer.
- 16 Trigger Switch**
Activates the cutting attachment when depressed.
- 17 Control Handle**
Handle for the operator's rear hand.
- 18 Air Filter**
Filters the air drawn into the motor.
- 19 Battery**
Supplies electrical power to the motor.
- 20 Battery LEDs**
Indicate the battery's state of charge and display error messages regarding potential malfunctions in the battery or power tool.
- 21 Push Button**
Activates the battery's LEDs. Activates and deactivates the Bluetooth® interface (if applicable).
- 22 "BLUETOOTH®" LED (only for batteries with 

¹Remove the mounting recess cover only to install a Smart Connector 2 A. Store it safely for later reinstallation. Always use the power tool with the mounting recess cover in place or with the Smart Connector 2 A mounted.**

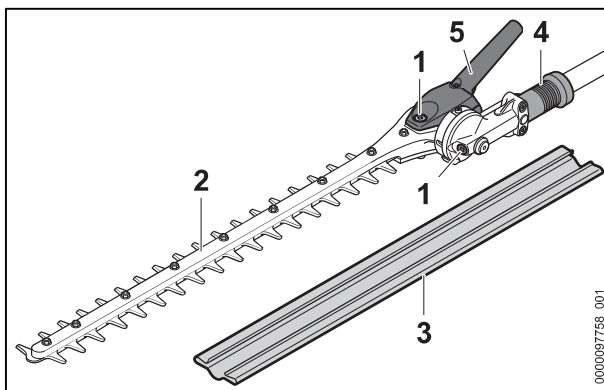
3.2 HLA 135 K Hedge Trimmer and Battery



- 1 Drive Tube**
Hedge trimmer shaft.
- 2 Front Handle**
Handle for the operator's front hand.
- 3 Locking Lever**
Secures the battery in the battery compartment.
- 4 Battery Compartment**
Holds the battery.
- 5 Mounting Recess Cover²**
Covers the mounting area for a Smart Connector 2 A.
- 6 Trigger Switch Lockout**
Must be depressed to allow activation of the trigger switch.
- 7 Retaining Latch**
For switching the hedge trimmer on and selecting the power level.
- 8 LEDs**
Indicate the unit's power level.
- 9 Carrying Ring**
For connecting a harness to the hedge trimmer.

- 10 Trigger Switch**
Activates the cutting attachment when depressed.
- 11 Control Handle**
Handle for the operator's rear hand.
- 12 Air Filter**
Filters the air drawn into the motor.
- 13 Battery**
Supplies electrical power to the motor.
- 14 Battery LEDs**
Indicate the battery's state of charge and display error messages regarding potential malfunctions in the battery or power tool.
- 15 Push Button**
Activates the battery's LEDs. Activates and deactivates the Bluetooth® interface (if applicable).
- 16 "BLUETOOTH®" LED (only for batteries with )**
Indicates whether the Bluetooth® interface is enabled or disabled.

- # Rating Plate**
Contains electrical information and the product's serial number.



Adjustable Cutting Attachment

- 1 Screw Plug**
Seals the grease filler opening at the gear-box.
- 2 Cutting blades**
Steel blades for cutting hedges, shrubs and bushes.
- 3 Blade Scabbard**
Covers the cutting blades to reduce the risk of injury from inadvertent contact during transportation and storage.

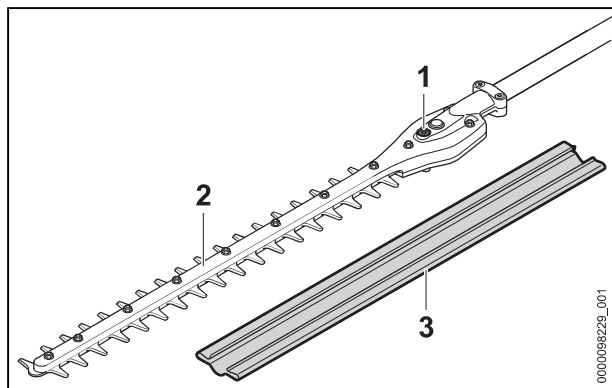
²Remove the mounting recess cover only to install a Smart Connector 2 A. Store it safely for later reinstallation. Always use the power tool with the mounting recess cover in place or with the Smart Connector 2 A mounted.

4 Blade Adjustment Release

Unlocks the cutting attachment to allow angle adjustment.

5 Blade Adjustment Grip

Used to set the cutting blades to the desired angle.

**Non-adjustable Cutting Attachment****1 Screw Plug**

Seals the grease filler opening at the gear-box.

2 Cutting blades

Steel blades for cutting hedges, shrubs and bushes.

3 Blade Scabbard

Covers the cutting blades to reduce the risk of injury from inadvertent contact during transportation and storage.

4 Safety Symbols on the Products

4.1 Hedge Trimmer

The following safety symbols are found on the hedge trimmer:



To reduce the risk of injury, follow the specified safety precautions.



Read and follow all safety precautions in the instruction manual. Improper use can lead to serious or fatal personal injury or property damage.



To reduce the risk of eye injury, always wear proper eye protection. Wear an approved protective helmet when there is a risk of head injury, 6.3.



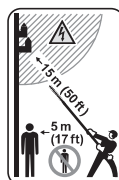
Wear sturdy boots with non-slip soles. Steel-toed safety boots are recommended, 6.3.



Always wear non-slip, heavy-duty work gloves (e.g. made of leather or other wear resistant material) when handling the machine or cutting blades, 6.3.



To reduce the risk of cut injuries, keep hands, feet and other body parts away from the cutting blades, 6.5.4.



To reduce the risk of personal injury, keep bystanders at least 17 ft. (5 m) away and maintain a clearance of at least 50 ft. (15 m) between the hedge trimmer (including any branches it is contacting) and any electrical line carrying live current. 6.5.4.



To reduce the risk of injury or property damage from unintended activation, remove the battery any time the hedge trimmer is not in use, 6.4.

4.2 Battery

The following safety symbols are found on the AR series backpack battery and the AP series battery:



To reduce the risk of injury, follow the specified safety precautions.



Read and follow all safety precautions in the battery's instruction manual and the manual for the STIHL tool powered by this battery. Improper use can lead to serious or fatal personal injury or property damage.



To reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage from fire, explosion or burns, including chemical burns, do not disassemble, crush, drop, damage or heat above 212 °F (100 °C). Never expose to fire or incinerate, 7.1.

AR 1000, 2000, 3000 Backpack Batteries

To reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage from a short circuit, fire or explosion, keep dry. Protect from rain, water, liquids and damp conditions. Never immerse in water or other liquids, 7.1.

AR L Backpack Batteries

To reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage from a short circuit, fire or explosion, keep dry. Never immerse in water or other liquids, 7.1.

AP Series Batteries

To reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage from a short circuit, fire or explosion, keep dry. Never immerse in water or other liquids, 7.1.

Batteries sold separately.

5 General Power Tool Safety Warnings

5.1 Introduction

This chapter contains the prescribed general safety warnings and instructions specified in the UL 62841 / CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 62841 standard for handheld, motor-operated electric power tools.

STIHL is obliged to publish these texts.

The safety precautions and warnings on avoiding an electric shock given under "Electrical Safety" do not apply to STIHL cordless products.

Additional important warnings and instructions are provided in subsequent chapters of this manual.

WARNING

- **Read all safety warnings, instructions, illustrations and specifications provided with this power tool.** Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury.
- **Save all warnings and instructions for future reference.**

The term "power tool" in the warnings refers to your mains-operated (corded) power tool or battery-operated (cordless) power tool.

5.2 Work Area Safety

- a) **Keep work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents.
- b) **Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases or dust.** Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.
- c) **Keep children and bystanders away while operating a power tool.** Distractions can cause you to lose control.

5.3 Electrical Safety

- a) **Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way. Do not use any adapter plugs with earthed (grounded) power tools.** Unmodified plugs and matching outlets will reduce the risk of electric shock.
- b) **Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces, such as pipes, radiators, ranges**

and refrigerators. There is an increased risk of electric shock if your body is earthed or grounded.

- c) **Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions.** Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.
- d) **Do not abuse the cord. Never use the cord for carrying, pulling or unplugging the power tool. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts.** Damaged or entangled cords increase the risk of electric shock.
- e) **When operating a power tool outdoors, use an extension cord suitable for outdoor use.** Use of a cord suitable for outdoor use reduces the risk of electric shock.
- f) **If operating a power tool in a damp location is unavoidable, use a residual current device (RCD) or ground fault circuit interruptor (GFCI) protected supply.** Use of an RCD or GFCI reduces the risk of electric shock.

5.4 Personal Safety

- a) **Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use a power tool while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication.** A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.
- b) **Use personal protective equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Protective equipment such as dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.
- c) **Prevent unintentional starting. Ensure the switch is in the off-position before connecting to power source and/or battery pack, picking up or carrying the tool.** Carrying power tools with your finger on the switch or energizing power tools that have the switch on invites accidents.
- d) **Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the power tool on.** A wrench or a key left attached to a rotating part of the power tool may result in personal injury.
- e) **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** This enables better control of the power tool in unexpected situations.
- f) **Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery. Keep your hair and clothing away**

from moving parts. Loose clothes, jewellery or long hair can be caught in moving parts.

- g) **If devices are provided for the connection of dust extraction and collection facilities, ensure these are connected and properly used.** Use of dust collection can reduce dust-related hazards.
- h) **Do not let familiarity gained from frequent use of tools allow you to become complacent and ignore tool safety principles.** A careless action can cause severe injury within a fraction of a second.

5.5 Power Tool Use and Care

- a) **Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application.** The correct power tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.
 - b) **Do not use the power tool if the switch does not turn it on and off.** Any power tool that cannot be controlled with the switch is dangerous and must be repaired.
 - c) **Disconnect the plug from the power source and/or remove the battery pack, if detachable, from the power tool before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.** Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the power tool accidentally.
 - d) **Store idle power tools out of the reach of children and do not allow persons unfamiliar with the power tool or these instructions to operate the power tool.** Power tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.
 - e) **Maintain power tools and accessories.** Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts and any other condition that may affect the power tool's operation. **If damaged, have the power tool repaired before use.** Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained power tools.
 - f) **Keep cutting tools sharp and clean.** Properly maintained cutting tools with sharp cutting edges are less likely to bind and are easier to control.
 - g) **Use the power tool, accessories and tool bits etc. in accordance with these instructions, taking into account the working conditions and the work to be performed.** Use of the power tool for operations different from those intended could result in a hazardous situation.
- h) **Keep handles and grasping surfaces dry, clean and free from oil and grease.** Slippery handles and grasping surfaces do not allow for safe handling and control of the tool in unexpected situations.

5.6 Battery Tool Use and Care

- a) **Recharge only with the charger specified by the manufacturer.** A charger that is suitable for one type of battery pack may create a risk of fire when used with another battery pack.
- b) **Use power tools only with specifically designated battery packs.** Use of any other battery packs may create a risk of injury and fire.
- c) **When battery pack is not in use, keep it away from other metal objects, like paper clips, coins, keys, nails, screws or other small metal objects that can make a connection from one terminal to another.** Shorting the battery terminals together may cause burns or a fire.
- d) **Under abusive conditions, liquid may be ejected from the battery; avoid contact. If contact accidentally occurs, flush with water. If liquid contacts eyes, additionally seek medical help.** Liquid ejected from the battery may cause irritation or burns.
- e) **Do not use a battery pack or tool that is damaged or modified.** Damaged or modified batteries may exhibit unpredictable behaviour resulting in fire/explosion or risk of injury.
- f) **Do not expose a battery pack or tool to fire or excessive temperature.** Exposure to fire or temperatures above 130 °C / 265 °F may cause explosion.
- g) **Follow all charging instructions and do not charge the battery pack or tool outside the temperature range specified in the instructions.** Charging improperly or at temperatures outside the specified range may damage the battery and increase the risk of fire.

5.7 Service

- a) **Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts.** This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.
- b) **Never service damaged battery packs.** Service of battery packs should only be performed by the manufacturer or authorized service provider.

5.8 Hedge Trimmer Safety Warnings

- a) **Do not use the hedge trimmer in bad weather conditions, especially when there is a risk of lightning.** This decreases the risk of being struck by lightning.
- b) **Keep all power cords and cables away from cutting area.** Power cords or cables may be hidden in hedges or bushes and can be accidentally cut by the blade.
- c) **Wear ear protection.** Adequate protective equipment will reduce the risk of hearing loss.³
- d) **Hold the hedge trimmer by insulated gripping surfaces only, because the blade may contact hidden wiring or its own cord.** Blades contacting a "live" wire may make exposed metal parts of the hedge trimmer "live" and could give the operator an electric shock.
- e) **Keep all parts of the body away from the blade. Do not remove cut material or hold material to be cut when blades are moving.** Blades continue to move after the switch is turned off. A moment of inattention while operating the hedge trimmer may result in serious personal injury.
- f) **When clearing jammed material or servicing the hedge trimmer, make sure all power switches are off and the battery pack is removed or disconnected.** Unexpected actuation of the hedge trimmer while clearing jammed material or servicing may result in serious personal injury.
- g) **Carry the hedge trimmer by the handle with the blade stopped and taking care not to operate any power switch.** Proper carrying of the hedge trimmer will decrease the risk of inadvertent starting and resultant personal injury from the blades.
- h) **When transporting or storing the hedge trimmer, always use the blade cover.** Proper handling of the hedge trimmer will decrease the risk of personal injury from the blades.

5.9 Extended-reach Hedge Trimmer Safety Warnings

- a) **Always use head protection when operating the extended-reach hedge trimmer overhead.** Falling debris can result in serious personal injuries.

- b) **Always use two hands when operating the extended-reach hedge trimmer.** Hold the extended-reach hedge trimmer with both hands to avoid loss of control.
- c) **To reduce the risk of electrocution, never use the extended-reach hedge trimmer near any electrical power lines.** Contact with or use near power lines may cause serious injury or electric shock resulting in death.

6 IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

6.1 Intended Use

WARNING

- This hedge trimmer is designed for trimming hedges, shrubs and bushes in yards and gardens. Use of the hedge trimmer for operations different than intended could result in serious injury or death.
- Improper use could result in personal injury or property damage, including damage to the hedge trimmer.
 - ▶ Use the hedge trimmer and battery only as described in this manual.
 - ▶ Never attempt to modify or override the hedge trimmer's controls or safety devices in any way.
 - ▶ Never use a hedge trimmer that has been modified or altered from its original design.
 - ▶ Be sure to read and follow the warnings and instructions for your battery and charger before charging or starting work.
- This power tool may be powered by a STIHL AP series battery. Alternatively, it may be powered by a STIHL AR series backpack battery in combination with an ADA 100.

The STIHL AP battery with  uses Bluetooth® technology to exchange information with mobile devices running the STIHL connected App.

Batteries, chargers and other accessories are sold separately.

6.2 Operator

WARNING

- Working with the hedge trimmer can be strenuous. The operator must be in good physical condition and mental health. To reduce the risk of personal injury:

³Sound pressure level > 85 dB(A)

- ▶ Check with your doctor before using the hedge trimmer if you have any health condition that may be aggravated by strenuous work.
- ▶ Do not operate the hedge trimmer while under the influence of any substance (drug, alcohol or medication, etc.) that might impair vision, balance, dexterity or judgment.
- ▶ Be alert. Do not operate the hedge trimmer when you are tired. Take a break if you become tired.
- ▶ Do not permit minors to use the hedge trimmer.
- According to STIHL's current knowledge, the electric motor of this hedge trimmer should not interfere with a pacemaker.
 - ▶ However, persons with a pacemaker or other implanted medical device should consult their physician and device manufacturer before operating this hedge trimmer.

6.3 Personal Protective Equipment

⚠ WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury:
 - ▶ Always wear proper clothing and protective apparel, including proper eye protection.
- Loss of control and severe cut injuries may result if hair, clothing or apparel make contact with the moving cutting blades or otherwise become entangled in the components of the hedge trimmer. To reduce the risk of severe personal injury:
 - ▶ Wear sturdy and snug-fitting clothing that also allows complete freedom of movement.
 - ▶ Wear overalls or long pants made of heavy material to help protect your legs. Do not wear shorts.
 - ▶ Avoid loose-fitting jackets, scarves, neckties, flared or cuffed pants, jewelry and any other apparel that could be caught on branches, brush or the moving cutting attachment.
 - ▶ Secure hair above shoulder level before starting work.
- To reduce the risk of eye injury:
 - ▶ Always wear goggles or close-fitting protective glasses with adequate top and side protection that are impact-rated and marked as complying with CSA Z94.
- To reduce the risk of head injury:
 - ▶ Wear an approved protective helmet when there is a risk of head injury.



- Good footing is very important. To help maintain a secure footing and reduce the risk of injury while working:
 - ▶ Wear substantial footwear with non-slip soles. Do not wear sandals, flip-flops, open-toed or similar footwear.
- To improve your grip and help protect your hands:
 - ▶ Always wear heavy-duty non-slip work gloves made of leather or another wear-resistant material when handling the hedge trimmer or its cutting blades.



6.4 Hedge Trimmer

⚠ WARNING

- To reduce the risk of electric shock:
 - ▶ Do not immerse the hedge trimmer in water or other fluids.
 - ▶ Store the hedge trimmer indoors.
- The cutting blades have many sharp cutters. Making contact with the cutters may result in serious laceration injuries, even if the cutting blades are not moving. To reduce the risk of such injuries:
 - ▶ Keep hands, feet and other parts of your body away from the cutting blades.
 - ▶ Never hold the material to be cut.
 - ▶ Never remove cut material without first releasing the trigger switch and removing the battery.
 - ▶ Wear heavy-duty work gloves when handling the hedge trimmer or its cutting blades.
 - ▶ Never touch the moving cutting blades with your hand or any other part of your body.
 - ▶ Cover the cutting blades with a blade scabbard before transporting or storing the hedge trimmer to reduce the risk of inadvertent contact.
- This battery-powered hedge trimmer is intended only for garden and landscape maintenance. Use for other purposes may increase the risk of personal injury and property damage.
 - ▶ Do not attempt to cut any material other than hedges, shrubs, bushes or similar vegetation. Do not cut stems, branches or other vegetation greater than 1.3 in. (33 mm) in diameter.
 - ▶ Read and follow the operating instructions in this manual for approved applications,  18.

- To reduce the risk of personal injury to the operator and bystanders:



- ▶ Always release the trigger switch and remove the battery before assembling, transporting, adjusting, inspecting, cleaning, servicing, maintaining or storing the hedge trimmer, and any other time it is not in use.
 - ▶ Release the trigger switch and remove the battery before clearing jammed material.
 - ▶ Never leave the hedge trimmer unattended when the battery is inserted.
- Although certain unauthorized attachments may fit your STIHL hedge trimmers, their use may be extremely dangerous. Only attachments supplied by STIHL or expressly approved by STIHL for use with this specific model are recommended.
 - ▶ Use only attachments supplied or expressly approved by STIHL.
 - ▶ Never modify this hedge trimmer in any way.
 - ▶ Never attempt to modify or override the hedge trimmer's controls or safety devices in any way.
 - ▶ Never use a hedge trimmer that has been modified or altered from its original design.
- If the hedge trimmer is dropped or subjected to similar heavy impacts:
 - ▶ Check that it is undamaged, in good condition and functioning properly before continuing work.
 - ▶ Check that the controls and safety devices are working properly.
 - ▶ Check the LEDs for error messages, 11.
 - ▶ Check that the battery has not been damaged. Never use or charge a malfunctioning, damaged, cracked, leaking or deformed battery.
 - ▶ Never work with a damaged or malfunctioning battery or hedge trimmer. In case of doubt, have the hedge trimmer and battery checked by your authorized STIHL servicing dealer.
- If the hedge trimmer or battery is damaged, not working properly, has been left outdoors and exposed to rain or damp conditions, or dropped into water or other liquid, its components may no longer function properly and safety devices may be inoperative. To reduce the risk of personal injury and property damage:
 - ▶ Take the hedge trimmer and battery to your authorized STIHL servicing dealer to be checked before further operation.

- Genuine STIHL replacement parts are specifically designed to match your hedge trimmer and meet safety and performance requirements. Use of parts that are not authorized or approved by STIHL may cause serious or fatal injury or property damage.
 - ▶ STIHL recommends that only identical STIHL replacement parts be used.

6.5 Using the Hedge Trimmer

6.5.1 Before Operation

WARNING

- Misuse or unauthorized use may result in personal injury and property damage.
 - ▶ Use the hedge trimmer only as described in this instruction manual.
- Using a hedge trimmer that is modified, damaged, improperly adjusted or maintained, or not completely and securely assembled can lead to a malfunction and increase the risk of serious personal injury or death.
 - ▶ Never operate a hedge trimmer that is modified damaged, improperly maintained or not completely and securely assembled.
 - ▶ Always check your hedge trimmer for proper condition and operation before starting work, particularly the retaining latch, trigger switch, and cutting blades.
 - ▶ Ensure that the retaining latch and trigger switch move freely and spring back into place when released. The trigger switch must not engage until the retaining latch is unlocked.
 - ▶ Never attempt to modify or override the controls or safety devices in any way.
 - ▶ The cutting blades must move only when the battery is inserted, the retaining latch is unlocked and the trigger switch is depressed.
 - ▶ If your hedge trimmer or any part is damaged or does not function properly, take it to your authorized STIHL servicing dealer. Do not use the hedge trimmer until the problem has been corrected.
- Before inserting the battery:
 - ▶ Check the contacts in the battery compartment for corrosion or other foreign matter. Keep clean.
 - ▶ Never insert or use a malfunctioning, damaged, cracked, leaking or deformed battery.
 - ▶ Read and follow the instructions on switching on the hedge trimmer, 16.1.
- To help reduce the risk of serious personal injury or death from unintentional starting:

- ▶ Release the trigger switch and trigger switch lockout before inserting the battery.
- ▶ Never carry the hedge trimmer with your finger on the trigger switch.
- ▶ Release the trigger switch before removing the battery.



- ▶ Remove the battery before assembling, transporting, adjusting, inspecting, cleaning, servicing, maintaining or storing the hedge trimmer, and any other time it is not in use.
- ▶ Never leave the hedge trimmer unattended when the battery is inserted.
- ▶ Never store the battery in the hedge trimmer.
- Before switching on your hedge trimmer, take the following steps to reduce the risk of personal injury, loss of control or inadvertent contact with the cutting attachment:
 - ▶ Be sure that the cutting blades are clear of you and all other obstructions and objects, including the ground.
 - ▶ Never switch on the hedge trimmer with material between the cutting blades.
 - ▶ Read and follow the instructions on switching on the hedge trimmer, 16.1.

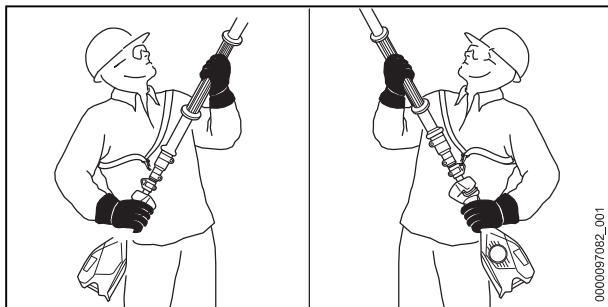
6.5.2 Holding and Controlling the Hedge Trimmer

DANGER

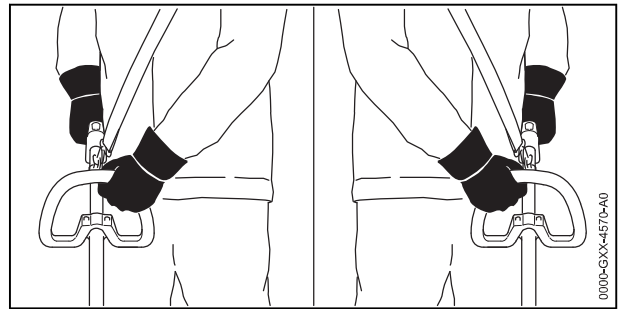
- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal cut injuries to the operator or bystanders from blade contact:
 - ▶ Keep hands, feet and other body parts away from the cutting blades.



HLA 135 / HLA 135 K



HLA 135



WARNING

- To maintain a firm grip and properly control your hedge trimmer:
 - ▶ Keep the handles clean and dry at all times. Keep them free of moisture, pitch, oil, grease and resin.
- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injuries to the operator or bystanders from loss of control:
 - ▶ Always hold the hedge trimmer firmly with both hands on the defined gripping surfaces during work.
 - ▶ Wrap your fingers tightly around the handles, keeping the handles cradled between your thumb and forefinger (see illustrations).
 - ▶ Position the hedge trimmer in such a way that all parts of your body are clear of the cutting attachment whenever the battery is inserted.
 - ▶ Never use the blade adjustment grip while cutting.
- Operating the hedge trimmer with one hand may lead to loss of control and is therefore extremely dangerous. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury to the operator or bystanders from loss of control:
 - ▶ Never attempt to operate the hedge trimmer with one hand.
 - ▶ Never hold the material to be cut. Never remove cut material without first releasing the trigger switch and removing the battery.
 - ▶ Release the trigger switch and remove the battery before clearing jammed material.
- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal cut injuries to the operator or bystanders from loss of control, keep proper footing and balance at all times:
 - ▶ Never work on a ladder, roof, in a tree or while standing on any other insecure support.
 - ▶ Take special care in overgrown or wet terrain and always watch for hidden obstacles

- such as tree stumps, roots, rocks, holes and ditches to avoid stumbling or falling.
- ▶ Be extremely cautious when working on slopes or uneven ground.
- ▶ For better footing, always clear away fallen branches, scrub, cuttings and other material, objects or vegetation that can increase the danger of slipping, tripping or falling.
- ▶ Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Working above shoulder height can be tiring. To reduce the risk of injury from fatigue:
 - ▶ Never hold the machine with your rear hand on the control handle above shoulder height.
 - ▶ Set the adjustable cutter blades to the most suitable angle so that the unit can be held at a lower, less tiring position while providing adequate reach.
 - ▶ Take frequent breaks.
- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal cut injuries to the operator or bystanders from blade contact:



- ▶ Keep hands, feet and other body parts away from the cutting blades.

- ▶ Do not touch the cutting blades while the battery is inserted.
- ▶ Never touch moving cutting blades with your hand or any other part of your body.



- ▶ If the cutting blades become jammed by thick branches or other obstructions, release the trigger switch immediately and remove the battery before attempting to free the blades.

6.5.3 Working Conditions

! WARNING

- Operate your hedge trimmer only under good visibility during favorable daylight conditions.
 - ▶ Postpone the work if the weather is windy, foggy, rainy or inclement.
- Your hedge trimmer is a one-person machine.
 - ▶ Bystanders, especially children, and animals should not be allowed in the area where it is in use.
 - ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer immediately if you are approached.
- To reduce the risk of injury to the operator, bystanders and unauthorized users:
 - ▶ Never leave the hedge trimmer unattended when the battery is inserted.
 - ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer and remove the battery during work breaks and any other time the hedge trimmer is not in use.
- Sparks generated from operation of the hedge trimmer may be capable of igniting combustible gases, liquids, vapors, dusts or other combustible materials and substances. To reduce the risk of fire and explosion:
 - ▶ Never operate the hedge trimmer in a location where combustible gases, liquids, vapors, dusts or other combustible materials and substances are present.
 - ▶ Read and follow recommendations issued by government authorities (e.g., CCOHS) for identifying and avoiding the hazards of combustible gases, liquids, vapors, dusts or other combustible materials and substances.
- Use of this hedge trimmer (including sharpening the cutting blades) can generate dust and other substances containing chemicals known to cause respiratory problems, cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm.
 - ▶ Consult governmental agencies such as ECCC, CCOHS and PHAC and other authoritative sources on hazardous materials if you are unfamiliar with the risks associated with the particular substances you are cutting or with which you are working.
- Inhalation of certain dusts, especially organic dusts such as mold or pollen, can cause susceptible persons to have an allergic or asthmatic reaction. Substantial or repeated inhalation of dust or other airborne contaminants, especially those with a smaller particle size, may cause respiratory or other illnesses.
 - ▶ Control dust at the source where possible.
 - ▶ Always work with properly sharpened cutting blades.
 - ▶ To the extent possible, operate the hedge trimmer so that the wind or operating process directs any dust, mist or other particulate matter raised by the hedge trimmer away from the operator.
 - ▶ When respirable dust or other particulate matter cannot be kept at or near background levels, always wear a respirator that is approved by PHAC and rated for work-site-specific conditions. Follow the recommendations of governmental authorities (e.g., CCOHS/PHAC) and occupational and trade associations.
- If the vegetation being cut or the surrounding ground is coated with a chemical substance, such as pesticide or herbicide:
 - ▶ Read and follow the instructions and warnings that accompanied the substance coating the vegetation or surrounding ground.

6.5.4 Operating Instructions

⚠ WARNING

- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal cut injuries to the operator or bystanders from blade contact:



- ▶ Keep hands, feet and other body parts away from the cutting blades.
- ▶ Do not touch the cutting blades while the battery is inserted.
- ▶ Never touch moving cutting blades with your hand or any other part of your body.
- ▶ Never hold the material to be cut. Never remove cut material without first releasing the trigger switch and removing the battery.
- ▶ Release the trigger switch and remove the battery before clearing jammed material.

- To reduce the risk of severe personal injuries from unintentional starting:

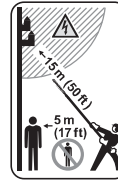
- ▶ Never touch the cutting blades with your hand or any other part of your body when the battery is inserted, even when the cutting blades are not moving.



- ▶ If the cutting blades become jammed by branches or other obstructions, switch off the hedge trimmer immediately and remove the battery before attempting to free the blades.
- The cutting blades continue to move for a short period after the trigger switch is fully released.
 - ▶ Wait for the cutting blades to stop before walking with the hedge trimmer or putting it down.
- In the event of an emergency:
 - ▶ Switch off the motor immediately and remove the battery.
- Contacting foreign objects while cutting could damage the cutting blades and may cause them to crack, chip, break or jam. To reduce the risk of severe personal injury or death from loss of control, and to reduce the risk of damage to the hedge trimmer:
 - ▶ Inspect the material to be cut and the surrounding area for stones, fence wire, metal or other foreign objects before starting work. Do not use the hedge trimmer in areas where the cutting blades could contact such objects.
 - ▶ Take particular care when cutting next to, against or near wire fences. Do not touch the wire with the cutting blades.
 - ▶ When working close to the ground, make sure that no sand, grit or stones get between the cutting blades.

- ▶ Do not cut any areas of the hedge, bush, shrub or other vegetation that you cannot see.

- The power tool has a large range. To reduce the risk of personal or even fatal injury to bystanders from falling objects or inadvertent contact with the moving cutting blades of your power tool:



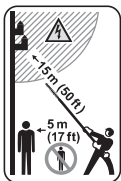
- ▶ Always keep bystanders at least 17 ft. (5 m) away when the power tool is in use.
- ▶ Do not allow other persons in the general work area.
- ▶ If cutting the top of a taller hedge, check the other side of the hedge frequently for bystanders, animals and obstructions.
- Check the cutting blades at regular short intervals during operation, or immediately if there is a change in cutting behavior:
 - ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer and remove the battery.
 - ▶ Check the condition, tightness and sharpness of the cutting blades.
 - ▶ Inspect the hedge trimmer for loose parts (nuts, screws, etc.) and for cracked, bent, warped or damaged cutting blades. Replace damaged cutting blades before using the hedge trimmer.
 - ▶ Always keep the cutting blades sharp.
- To reduce blade friction and the buildup of dirt, which can interfere with the proper functioning of the hedge trimmer:
 - ▶ STIHL recommends that you spray the cutting blades with a resin solvent, such as STIHL Resin Remover and Lubricant, before starting work.

⚠ DANGER

- Electricity can jump from one point to another by means of arcing. Higher voltage increases the distance electricity can arc. Electricity can also move through branches, especially if they are wet. To reduce the risk of electrocution:



- ▶ Never operate this hedge trimmer in the vicinity of any wires or cables that may be carrying electric current. Look carefully for concealed wires before starting work.
- ▶ Never cut near power lines.
- ▶ Do not rely on the hedge trimmer's insulation against electric shock. Hold the power tool by insulated gripping surfaces only, because the cutting blades may contact hidden wiring.



- ▶ Maintain a clearance of at least 50 ft. (15 m) between the hedge trimmer (including any branches it is contacting) and any electrical line carrying live current.
- ▶ Before working with less clearance, contact your electric utility and make sure the current is turned off.

7 Battery Safety

7.1 Warnings and Instructions

! WARNING

- Read and follow the safety precautions on the battery and all warnings and instructions that accompany it.
- Use of unauthorized batteries can damage the power tool and result in fire, explosion and personal injury and property damage.
 - ▶ Use only genuine STIHL AR or AP series batteries with this power tool.
- Use of STIHL AR or AP series batteries for any purpose other than powering STIHL products could be extremely dangerous.
 - ▶ Use STIHL AR and AP series batteries only to power compatible STIHL products.
- Use of unauthorized chargers can damage the battery and result in fire, explosion and personal injury and property damage.
 - ▶ Charge STIHL AP series batteries only with genuine STIHL AL 101, AL 301, AL 301-4 or AL 501 series chargers.
 - ▶ Charge STIHL AR series backpack batteries only with genuine STIHL AL 301, AL 301-4 or AL 501 series chargers.
- The battery contains safety features and devices which, if damaged, may allow the battery to generate heat, rupture, leak, ignite or explode.



- ▶ Never heat the battery above 212 °F (100 °C).
- ▶ Never incinerate or place the battery on or near fires, stoves or other high-temperature locations.
- ▶ Never use or charge a malfunctioning, damaged, cracked, leaking or deformed battery.
- ▶ Never open, disassemble, crush, drop, subject to heavy impact or otherwise damage the battery.
- ▶ Never expose the battery to microwaves or high pressures.
- ▶ Never insert objects into the battery's cooling slots.
- Extreme temperatures may cause the battery to generate heat, rupture, leak, ignite or

explode, resulting in severe or fatal personal injury and property damage.

- ▶ Never charge, use or store the battery outside the specified ambient temperature limits, 25.4.
- To reduce the risk of personal injury and property damage in the event the battery emits smoke, has an unusual smell or feels unusually hot while using, charging or storing:
 - ▶ Immediately discontinue using or charging the battery. Contact the authorities in the event of fire or explosion.
- To reduce the risk of a short circuit, which could lead to electric shock, fire and explosion:
 - ▶ Keep STIHL AR 1000, 2000, 3000 backpack batteries dry. Protect from rain, water and other liquids. Attach the rain cover to the battery before starting work in rain or in very damp conditions.
 - ▶ If a STIHL AP or AR L battery has been exposed to rain during work, remove it from the product and allow it to dry indoors. Make sure it is completely dry before charging or using.
 - ▶ Never immerse any STIHL battery in water or other liquids.
 - ▶ Never bridge the battery terminals with wires or other metallic objects.
 - ▶ Keep a battery that is not in use away from small metal objects capable of conducting electricity (e.g., paper clips, nails, coins, keys).
 - ▶ Store the battery indoors in a dry room.
 - ▶ Never store the battery in damp or corrosive environments or in conditions that could lead to corrosion of its metal components.
 - ▶ Never store the battery in the power tool.
 - ▶ When storing the battery, maintain a charge of 40 % to 60 % for STIHL AP series batteries and a charge of 30 % to 45 % for STIHL AR series batteries (2 green LEDs).
 - ▶ If storing the battery in the charger, disconnect the charger from the outlet.
 - ▶ Protect the battery from exposure to corrosive agents such as garden chemicals and de-icing salts.
 - ▶ Protect the battery from exposure to conductive liquids such as salt water.
 - ▶ Do not attempt to repair, open or disassemble the battery.
- Leaking battery fluid is potentially harmful and can cause skin and eye irritation, chemical burns and other serious personal injury.
 - ▶ Avoid contact with skin and eyes.



- ▶ Use an inert absorbent such as sand on spilled battery fluid.
- ▶ In the event of accidental contact, immediately rinse the contact area thoroughly with mild soap and water.
- ▶ If fluid gets into your eye(s): do not rub. Rinse water over the open eye(s) for at least 15 minutes and seek medical attention.
- A battery fire can be dangerous. To reduce the risk of severe personal injury and property damage in the event of fire:
 - ▶ Evacuate the area. Fire can spread rapidly. Stay clear of any vapors generated and maintain a safe distance.
 - ▶ Contact the fire department.
 - ▶ Although water can be used to put out a battery fire, use of a multi-purpose dry chemical fire extinguisher is preferable.
 - ▶ Consult the fire department regarding proper disposal of a burned battery.

8 Maintenance, Repair and Storage

8.1 Warnings and Instructions

WARNING

- To reduce the risk of fire, electric shock or other personal injury and property damage:
 - ▶ Strictly follow the cleaning and maintenance instructions in the appropriate sections of this instruction manual.
 - ▶ STIHL recommends that all repair work be performed by authorized STIHL servicing dealers.
- Unintentional starting may result in personal injury or property damage. To reduce the risk of personal injury and property damage from unintentional starting:
 - ▶  Remove the battery before inspecting the hedge trimmer or carrying out any cleaning, maintenance or repair work, before storing, and any other time the hedge trimmer is not in use.
- Proper maintenance will help maintain cutting performance and reduce the risk of personal injury.
 - ▶ Wear heavy-duty non-slip work gloves when handling the cutting blades.
 - ▶ Keep the cutting blades clean and sharp.
 - ▶ Tighten all nuts, bolts and screws after each use.
 - ▶ Never attempt to repair damaged cutting blades by welding, straightening or modifying the shape. This may cause parts of the

cutting blades to experience uneven or excessive wear or other damage that can lead to a malfunction or breakage during operation, resulting in serious or fatal injuries.

- Use of parts that are not authorized or approved by STIHL may cause serious or fatal injury or property damage.
 - ▶ STIHL recommends that only identical STIHL replacement parts be used for repair or maintenance.
- To reduce the risk of short circuit and fire:
 - ▶ Keep the battery guides free of foreign matter. Clean as necessary with a dry cloth or soft, dry brush.
- The gearbox becomes hot during operation. To reduce the risk of burn injury:
 - ▶  Allow the gearbox to cool before inspecting or lubricating and before changing a cutting attachment. Avoid contacting the gearbox while it is still hot following operation.

- Improper storage can result in unauthorized use, damage to the hedge trimmer and battery and charger, and an increased risk of fire, electric shock and other personal injury or property damage.
 - ▶ Remove the battery from the hedge trimmer before storing.
 - ▶ Never store the hedge trimmer with the battery inserted.
 - ▶ When storing the battery, maintain a charge of 40 % to 60 % for STIHL AP series batteries and a charge of 30 % to 45 % for STIHL AR series batteries (2 green LEDs).
 - ▶ If storing the battery in the charger, disconnect the charger from the outlet.
 - ▶ Store the hedge trimmer and battery and charger indoors in a dry, secure place that cannot be accessed by children or other unauthorized users.
 - ▶ Never store the battery in the hedge trimmer or in a container with small metal objects capable of conducting electricity (e.g., paper clips, nails, coins, keys).
- To reduce the risk of electric shock and other personal injury or property damage when mounting the charger and wall bracket:
 - ▶ Ensure that no electrical cables, pipes or other service lines run behind the wall where the charger and wall bracket is to be mounted.
 - ▶ Mount the charger and wall bracket only as described in this manual.

9 Before Starting Work

9.1 Preparing the Hedge Trimmer for Operation

Before starting work:

- ▶ Fully charge the battery,  10.2.
- ▶ Assemble the hedge trimmer,  14.
- ▶ Mount the loop handle (HLA 135 only),  14.2.
- ▶ Adjust the angle of the cutting blades,  18.1.
- ▶ Put on and adjust the harness,  18.2.
- ▶ Check the controls for proper function and condition,  17.1.
- ▶ Check the cutting attachment for damage or other problems.

9.2 Connecting to the STIHL connected App

- ▶ Turn on your mobile device's Bluetooth® interface.
- ▶ Turn on the battery's Bluetooth® interface,  12.1
- ▶ Download the STIHL connected App from Google Play or the App Store.
- ▶ Follow in-app instructions for creating a new user account. Returning users should log in their existing account information.
- ▶ Follow the step-by-step instructions for adding the battery to your equipment list.

10 Charging the Battery

10.1 Setting up the Charger



WARNING

- Read and follow the safety precautions on the battery and charger and all warnings and instructions that accompany those products. To reduce the risk of short circuit, which could lead to electric shock, fire and explosion, make sure the charger and its components are dry and not damaged. Read and follow the warnings and instructions in your charger's manual. For optimum performance, observe the recommended ambient temperature ranges,  25.5.



WARNING

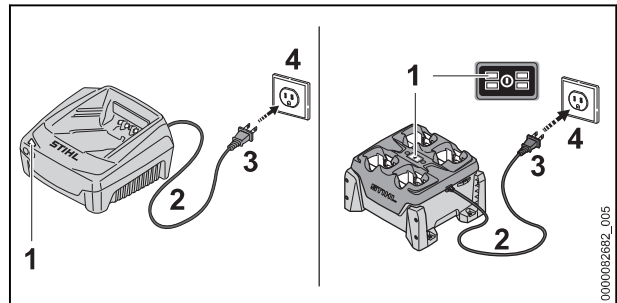
- A typical household electric circuit is between 15 and 20 amps. A single STIHL AL 501 charger draws approximately 4.8 amps. A single AL 301 or AL 301-4 charger draws approximately 4.4 amps and an AL 101 approximately 1.3 amps. To reduce the risk of fire from overloading an electrical circuit:
 - ▶ Ensure the electrical system is rated to withstand the expected electrical draw before charging your battery.
 - ▶ Charge multiple batteries one at a time or on separate circuits, unless you know your circuit can handle the total expected draw from multiple chargers.



WARNING

- Since the charger heats up during the charging process, do not operate the charger on a combustible surface or in a location where combustible gases, liquids, vapors, dusts or other materials and substances are present.

To set up the charger:



- ▶ Insert the plug (3) into a properly installed electrical outlet (4) matching the voltage and electrical frequency stated on the charger's rating plate.

The charger runs a self-test immediately after it is plugged in. The charger LED (1) will glow green for about 1 second, then it will glow red briefly before going out. Once the LED goes out, the self-test is complete and the charger is ready to charge the battery.

- ▶ Position the power supply cord (2) so that it will not be stepped on, tripped over, come in contact with sharp objects or moving parts or otherwise be subjected to damage or stress.

10.2 Charging



WARNING

- STIHL batteries contain safety features and devices which, if damaged, may allow the battery to generate heat, rupture, leak, ignite or explode. Never charge a malfunctioning, damaged, cracked, leaking or deformed battery, or use a charger that has been damaged. Never insert a wet battery or battery adapter. Never use a wet charger. Follow all product-specific warnings and instructions accompanying your battery and charger.

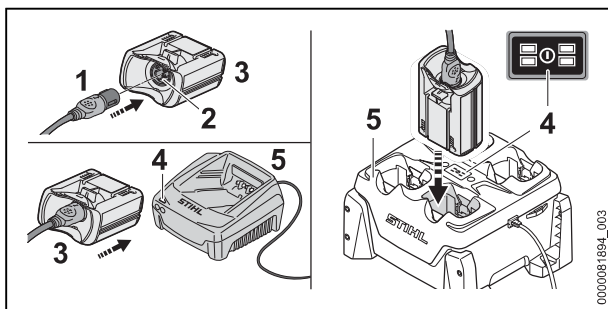
A battery is not fully charged when it ships from the factory. STIHL recommends that you fully charge the battery before using it the first time.

Read and follow the warnings and instructions in your charger's manual. For optimum performance, observe the recommended ambient temperature ranges, 25.5.

The battery heats up during operation of the power tool. If a hot battery is connected to the charger, it may be necessary for it to cool down before charging starts. The charging process begins only after the battery has cooled down sufficiently.

Charging time depends on a number of factors, including battery condition and the ambient temperature. For a complete list of approximate charging times, see www.stihl.com/charging-times.

To charge an AR battery:

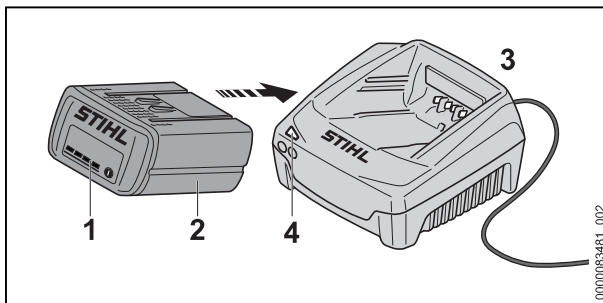


- Push the plug of the connecting cord (1) into the socket (2) of the ADA 100 (3) until it stops.
- Push the ADA 100 into the charger (5) until it stops.
The LED (4) on the **charger** glows green when the battery is charging.
The LEDs on the **AR battery** glow green and show the state of charge.
When the LEDs on the battery turn off, the charging process is complete and the charger

will shut itself off. The ADA 100 can be removed from the charger.

- Disconnect the power supply cord from the electrical outlet when the charger is not in use for extended periods of time.
- Charge STIHL AR backpack batteries only with genuine STIHL AL 301, AL 301-4 or AL 501 series chargers.

To charge an AP battery:



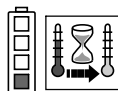
- Push the battery (2) into the charger (3) until it stops.
The LED on the **charger** glows green when the battery is charging.
The LEDs (1) on the **AP battery** glow green and show the state of charge.
When the LEDs on the battery go out, the charging process is complete and the charger will shut itself off. The AP battery can be removed from the charger.
- Disconnect the power supply cord from the electrical outlet when the charger is not in use for extended periods of time.
- Charge STIHL AP series batteries only with genuine STIHL AL 101, AL 301, AL 301-4 or AL 501 series chargers.

11 LED Diagnostics and Acoustic Signals

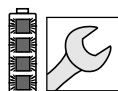
11.1 STIHL AP Battery

11.1.1 Battery Status

Four LEDs show the status of the battery. These LEDs can glow or flash green or red.



If one LED glows red continuously: the battery is either too hot or too cold. Allow the battery to warm up or cool down gradually at an ambient temperature of about 50 °F to 68 °F (10 °C to 20 °C).



If all 4 LEDs flash red: the battery has a malfunction and must be replaced. Do not attempt to charge, use or store the battery.

11.1.2 Power Tool Status

The same LEDs on the battery will indicate the status of the power tool.

If three LEDs glow red continuously: the power tool motor is too hot. Allow the motor to cool down.

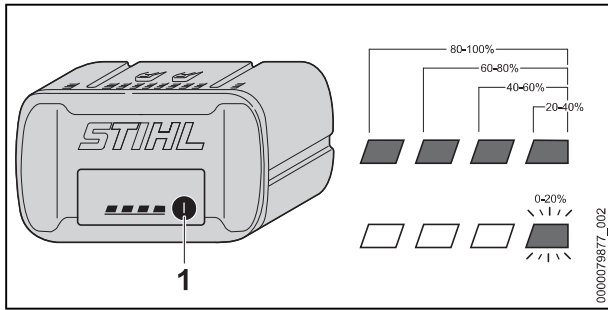
If three LEDs flash red when you activate the trigger switch: the power tool has an electrical malfunction. Do not operate the power tool. Have it checked by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer before use or storage.

For troubleshooting information,  24.

11.1.3 Charge Status

The LEDs on the battery also show the battery's state of charge.

To determine the battery's state of charge:



- Press the button (1) on the battery.
The LEDs on the battery will glow or flash green for about 5 seconds and indicate the state of charge (see illustration).

For example:

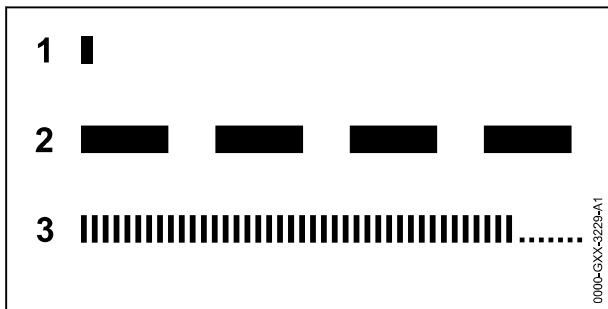
If four green LEDs glow continuously: full charge.

If one green LED is flashing: less than 20 % charge.

11.2 STIHL AR Backpack Battery

11.2.1 Battery Status

Six LEDs and an acoustic signal indicate the status of the battery.



1 A short beep

The acoustic signal works as it should.

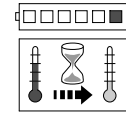
2 Four or six (AR L) long beeps

The battery's charge is low. Recharge the battery.

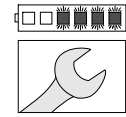
3 Rapid succession of short beeps

There is a malfunction in the battery. The signal stops automatically after a few seconds. Do not attempt to charge, use or store the battery. Replace the battery.

These LEDs can glow or flash green or red.



If one LED glows red continuously: the battery is either too hot or too cold. Allow the battery to warm up or cool down gradually at an ambient temperature of about 50 °F to 68 °F (10 °C to 20 °C).



If the four right side LEDs flash red and a rapid succession of several short beeps is emitted: the battery has a malfunction and must be replaced. Do not attempt to charge, use or store the battery.

- Be aware that your ability to hear the acoustic signal may be reduced when wearing hearing protection.

11.2.2 Power Tool Status

When the battery is connected to the power tool, the same LEDs on the battery will indicate the status of the power tool.

If three LEDs glow red continuously: the power tool motor is too hot. Allow the motor to cool down.

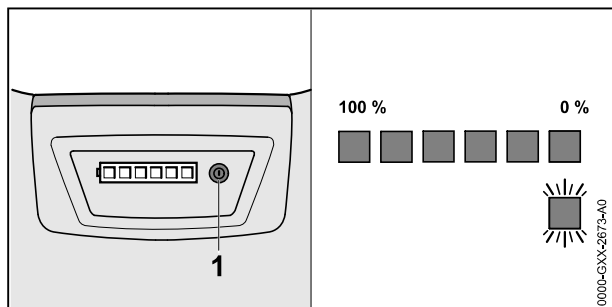
If three LEDs flash red when you activate the trigger switch: the power tool has an electrical malfunction. Do not operate the power tool. Have it checked by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer before use or storage.

For troubleshooting information,  24.

11.2.3 Charge Status

The LEDs and acoustic signals on the battery also indicate the battery's state of charge.

To determine the battery's state of charge:



- Press the button (1) on the backpack battery.

A single short beep will be emitted. The LEDs on the battery will glow or flash green for about 5 seconds and indicate the state of charge (see illustration).

For example:

If six green LEDs glow continuously: full charge.

If one green LED is flashing and four long beeps are emitted: less than 20 % charge.

12 Bluetooth® Radio Interface

12.1 Turning the Bluetooth® Interface On

- Press and hold the push button for about 3 seconds.
If the Bluetooth® LED next to the connected symbol glows blue for about 3 seconds, the battery's Bluetooth® interface is on.

12.2 Turning the Bluetooth® Interface Off

- Press and hold the push button for about 3 seconds.
If the Bluetooth® LED flashes blue six times, the Bluetooth® interface is off.

12.3 Resetting the Battery to Factory Settings via Bluetooth® (AP 300 S and AP 500 S only)

Resetting the battery to the factory setting means that all user-specific data will be deleted.

- Press the push button four (4) times in quick succession and keep it pressed on the fourth time until the "BLUETOOTH®" LED next to the  symbol flashes blue.
- Then release the push button immediately.
- Connect the battery to the STIHL connected App to confirm that all user-specific data has been deleted.

13 STIHL AR Backpack Battery

13.1 Positioning the Connecting Cord



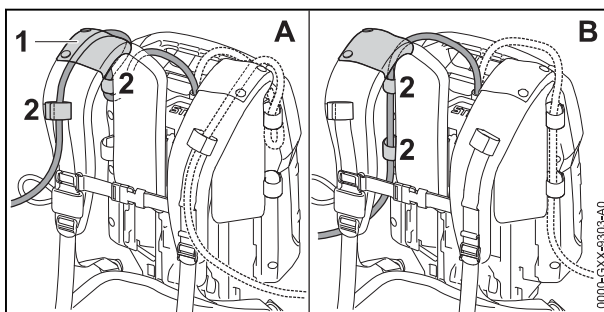
WARNING

- To reduce the risk of injury from tripping on the connecting cord or losing control of the power tool, always secure the connecting cord with the hook and eye fasteners as described below. Always position and secure the connecting cord so that it will not interfere with the proper working technique as described in the instruction manual for the power tool you are using, or your ability to maintain control of the power tool.

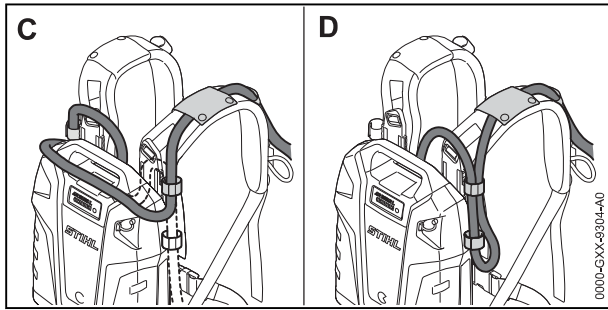


WARNING

- Manage the cord to prevent it from contacting the cutting/working attachment or catching on objects, which could cause you to lose balance or control of the power tool, resulting in serious personal injury and property damage.
- Secure the connecting cord as shown below and adjust it to suit the height and reach of the operator.



- Run the connection cord through the guide (1) on the shoulder strap (Illustration A), or along the back plate (Illustration B). Secure the connecting cord to the harness with the hook and eye fasteners (2). Always secure the connecting cord using the guide or hook and eye fasteners on the side of the body on which the power tool is held and controlled. Do not allow the connecting cord to swing across your body or hang at your side.



- ▶ If the length of the connecting cord is too long, adjust the connecting cord by making a loop around the top (Illustration C) or on the side (Illustration D) of the backpack battery with the hook and eye fasteners.

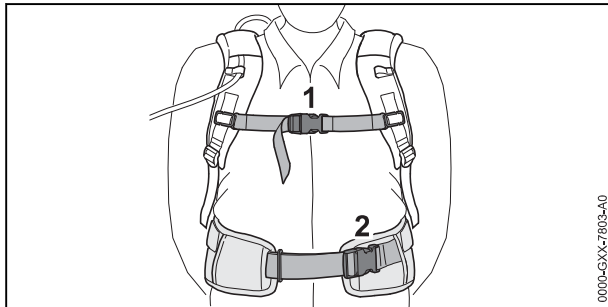
13.2 Putting on the Harness



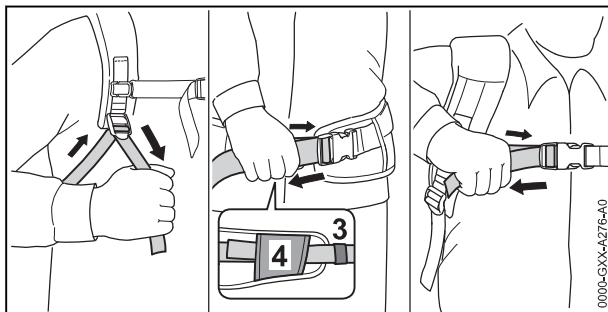
WARNING

- The operator must be able to remove the backpack battery quickly in the event of an emergency. In an emergency, open and remove the waist belt and chest strap quickly before dropping the battery to the ground.

To ensure a proper fit:



- ▶ Put the backpack battery on your back.
- ▶ Fasten and adjust the waist belt (2) so that it rests comfortably but securely on your hips.
- ▶ Fasten the chest strap (1) and adjust it so that it fits comfortably but securely across your chest.



- ▶ Adjust the harness straps so that the back padding fits snugly and securely against your back.

- ▶ Always wear the battery harness over both shoulders.
- ▶ Thread the end of the waist belt through the loops (3) and (4).
- ▶ To remove the harness, open the quick-release fasteners on the waist belt and chest strap and loosen the harness straps by lifting the sliding adjusters.

To help reduce the risk of injury in the event of an emergency, practice quickly opening the fasteners on the waist belt and chest strap, loosening the shoulder straps and removing the battery.

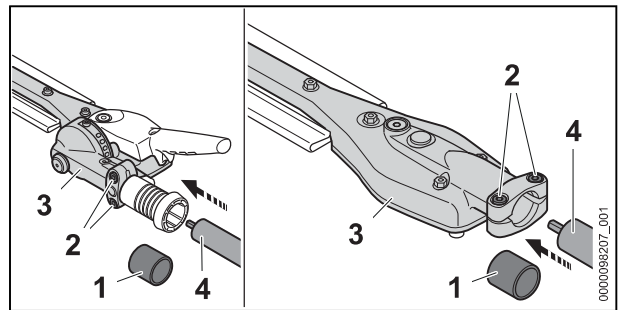
NOTICE

- To avoid damage, ease the battery to the ground when practicing. Do not allow the battery to drop to the ground and do not throw it.

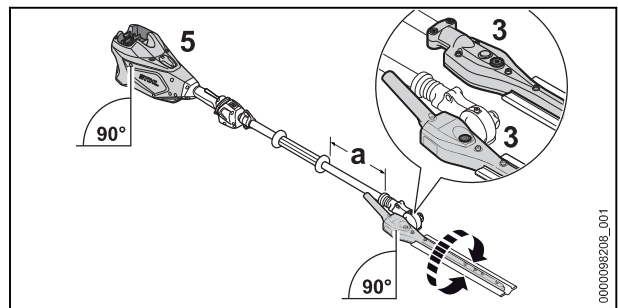
14 Assembling the Hedge Trimmer

14.1 Mounting the Gearbox

- ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer, 16.2.
- ▶ Remove the battery, 15.2.



- ▶ Remove the cap (1) from the round end of the drive tube (4).
- ▶ Loosen the screws (2).
- ▶ Push the gearbox (3) securely onto the drive tube (4).



- ▶ Align the motor housing (5) and gearbox (3) as shown. Make sure the battery opening and screw plug on the top of the cutting attachment are facing up.

- ▶ Before tightening any screws, confirm the following dimensions:
 - HLA 135 with an adjustable cutting attachment: a = about 21 in. (53 cm)
 - HLA 135 K with an adjustable cutting attachment: a = about 15 in. (38 cm)
 - HLA 135 K with a non-adjustable cutting attachment: a = about 13.4 in. (34 cm)
- ▶ Tighten the screws (2).

14.2 Mounting the Loop Handle (HLA 135 only)

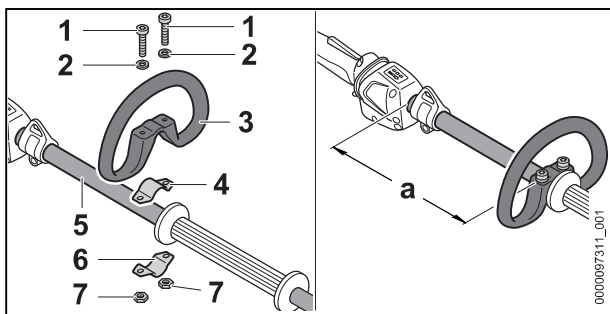


WARNING

- To reduce the risk of injury from loss of control, ensure that the loop handle is properly mounted and adjusted before starting work.

To mount the loop handle:

- ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer, 16.2.
- ▶ Remove the battery, 15.2.



- ▶ Position one clamp (4) in the loop handle (3).
- ▶ Position the other clamp (6) against the underside of the drive tube (5) and line up the holes in the loop handle and clamps.
- ▶ Put washers (2) on the screws (1) and insert the screws through the holes in the loop handle and clamps.
- ▶ Slide the loop handle along the drive tube until a = 8 in. (20 cm).
- ▶ Attach the square nuts (7) and tighten securely. Ensure that the handle is tight and will not move during operation.

15 Inserting and Removing the Battery

15.1 Inserting the Battery



WARNING

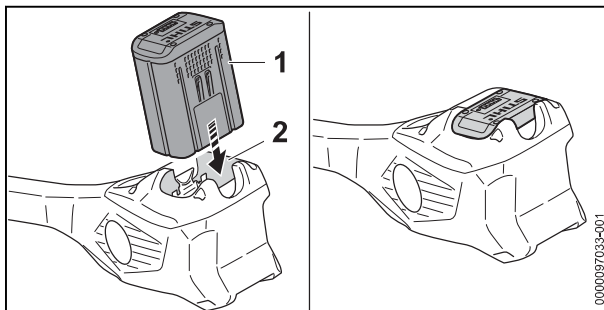
- To reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage from fire or electric shock, never use a malfunctioning, damaged, cracked, leaking or deformed battery, 7. Never charge, use or store the battery outside the specified ambient temperature limits, 25.4.



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of unintended activation, never store the battery in the hedge trimmer, 21.2.

To insert the battery:



- ▶ Insert the battery (1) into the battery compartment (2) until it stops.
The battery is properly inserted when you hear an audible click and the battery is flush with the top of the housing. In this position, there is electrical contact between the battery and the hedge trimmer.

Since a new battery is not fully charged, STIHL recommends that you fully charge the battery before using it the first time, 10.2.

15.2 Removing the Battery



WARNING

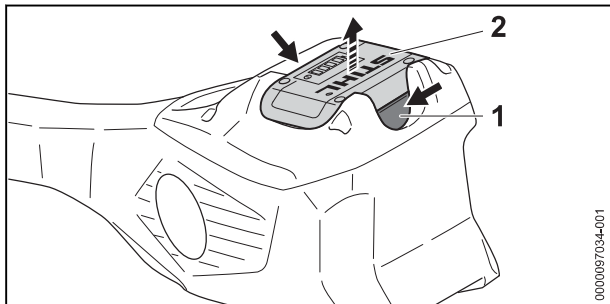
- To reduce the risk of severe personal injury from unintended activation, always remove the battery before assembling, transporting, adjusting, cleaning, servicing, maintaining or storing the hedge trimmer, and any other time it is not in use.

**WARNING**

- Use care when ejecting the battery to prevent it from falling and causing personal injury or property damage.

To remove the battery:

- ▶ Release the trigger switch.



- ▶ Compress the locking levers (1) to eject the battery (2) from the battery compartment.

NOTICE

- Avoid exposing the battery to excessive heat or prolonged periods of direct sunlight. Use or storage outside the recommended ambient temperature range can reduce the performance of the battery.

16 Switching the Hedge Trimmer On and Off

16.1 Switching On

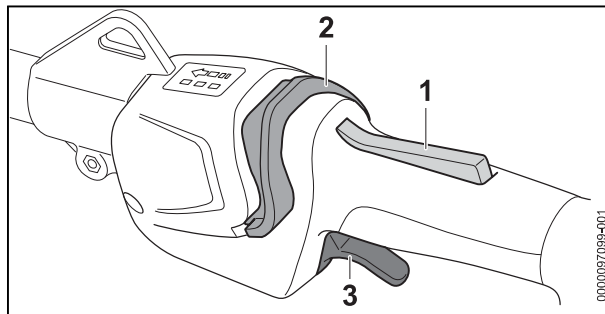
**WARNING**

- Never operate your hedge trimmer if it is modified, damaged, improperly adjusted or maintained, not completely and securely assembled or not functioning properly, [see](#) 6.4. To reduce the risk of personal injury, always wear proper clothing and protective apparel, including proper eye protection, when operating your hedge trimmer, [see](#) 6.3.

Before switching on:

- ▶ Make sure you have a secure and firm footing.
- ▶ Stand upright.
- ▶ Always hold and operate the hedge trimmer with one hand firmly on the control handle and the other hand firmly on the loop handle or front handle.

To switch the hedge trimmer on:



- ▶ Depress and hold the trigger switch lockout (1).
- ▶ While holding the trigger switch lockout, push the retaining latch (2) forward with your thumb and release it.
The LEDs indicate the current power level.
- ▶ Squeeze the trigger switch (3) with your index finger.
The cutting blades will start moving.

You can also unlock the trigger switch by pushing the retaining latch forward and depressing the trigger switch lockout within 1 second (as long as the LEDs are flashing). Squeeze the trigger switch with your index finger to start the cutting blades.

The motor will not switch on unless the trigger switch lockout is depressed, the retaining latch has been pushed forward and the trigger switch has been pressed.

If the trigger switch and the trigger switch lockout are released, the LEDs will remain flashing for approximately 1 second. As long as the LEDs are flashing, the hedge trimmer can again be switched on without pushing the retaining latch forward.

16.2 Switching Off

**WARNING**

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation or unauthorized use, switch off the motor and remove the battery before transporting or putting the hedge trimmer down.

To switch the hedge trimmer off:

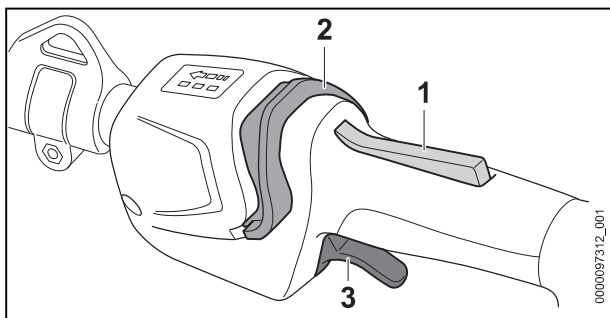
- ▶ Release the trigger switch and trigger switch lockout so that the trigger switch springs back to the locked position. In the locked position, activation of the trigger switch is blocked by the trigger switch lockout. Activation of the hedge trimmer is also electronically blocked by the retaining latch once the LEDs stop flashing.

The cutting blades will continue to move for a short time after the trigger switch is released. Take care to avoid contact after releasing the trigger switch and when setting down the hedge trimmer.

17 Checking the Controls

17.1 Testing the Controls

Before starting work, confirm that the trigger switch lockout (1), retaining latch (2) and trigger switch (3) are undamaged and functioning properly.



Trigger Switch Lockout (1), Retaining Latch (2) and Trigger Switch (3)



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injuries, keep hands, feet and other parts of the body away from the cutting blades. Do not touch the cutting blades while the battery is inserted. Never touch moving cutting blades with your hand or any part of your body, [16.5.2](#). Keep bystanders at least 17 ft. (5 m) out of the area while testing the controls.

To test the controls:

- ▶ Remove the battery.
- ▶ Attempt to depress the trigger switch. If the trigger switch can be depressed without first unlocking the retaining latch, take the hedge trimmer to an authorized STIHL servicing dealer to be repaired before use.
- ▶ Press down on the trigger switch lockout and push the retaining latch forward. Make sure it moves freely and springs back into place when released.
- ▶ Insert the battery.
- ▶ Hold the hedge trimmer firmly with one hand on the control handle and with the other hand firmly on the front handle or loop handle. Depress and hold the trigger switch lockout, push the retaining latch forward with your

thumb and squeeze the trigger switch with your index finger.

The hedge trimmer should switch on. If it does not, take the hedge trimmer to an authorized STIHL servicing dealer to be repaired before use.

- ▶ Release the trigger switch.

The hedge trimmer should switch off.

If the hedge trimmer does not switch off after you release the trigger switch, remove the battery and take the hedge trimmer to an authorized STIHL servicing dealer to be repaired before use.

18 During Operation

18.1 Adjusting the Angle of the Cutting Blades



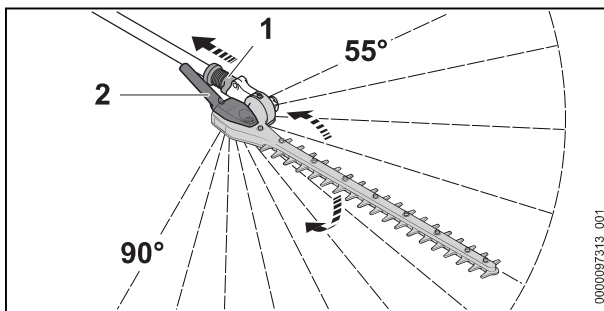
WARNING

- To reduce the risk of serious personal injury from unintended activation, remove the battery before attempting to adjust the angle of the cutting blades. Keep hands, feet and other parts of the body away from the cutting blades while making adjustments. Hold the unit by the blade adjustment grip. Keep bystanders out of the area.

The angle of the cutting blades can be adjusted to four different positions upwards and seven different positions downwards to suit the application and the height and reach of the user.

To adjust the angle of the cutting blades:

- ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer, [16.2](#).
- ▶ Remove the battery, [15.2](#).



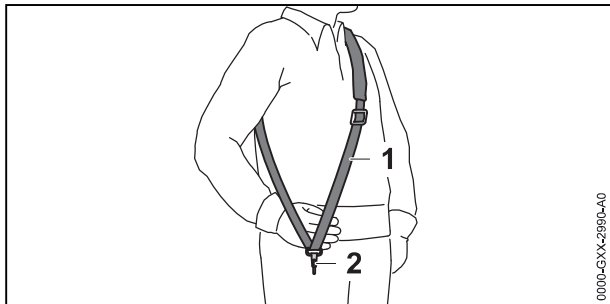
- ▶ Hold the blade adjustment grip (2) firmly.
- ▶ Pull back the blade adjustment release (1) and hold it in this unlocked position.
- ▶ Move the cutting blades to the desired angle.
- ▶ Release the blade adjustment release. The blade adjustment release will spring back into place.

- ▶ Move the blade adjustment grip up and down until the cutting blades engage. That completes the adjustment.
- ▶ Confirm that the blade adjustment grip is fixed in place.

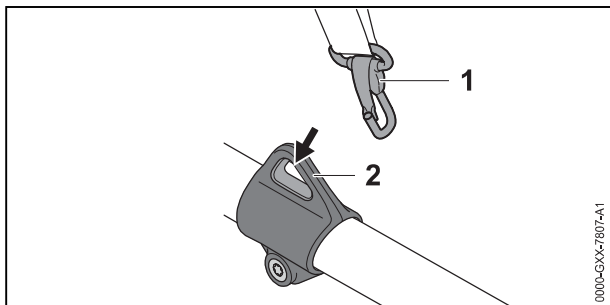
18.2 Putting on and Adjusting the Shoulder Strap

To fit and adjust the harness:

- ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer, 16.2.
- ▶ Remove the battery, 15.2.
- ▶ Put the shoulder strap over your shoulder.



- ▶ Adjust the length of the shoulder strap (1) so that the carabiner (2) is about a hand's width below the top of your hip.

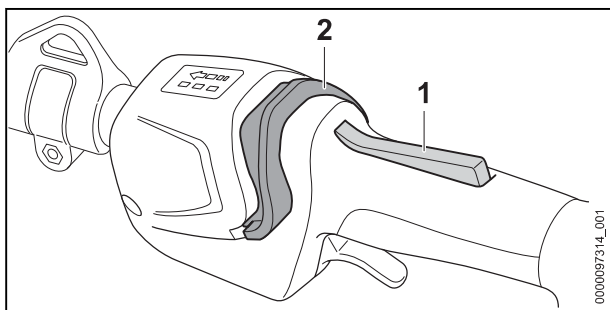


- ▶ Attach the carabiner (1) to the carrying ring (2) on the hedge trimmer.

18.3 Selecting the Power Level

The unit can be operated at three different power settings, indicated by LEDs on the control handle. The higher the power level, the faster the cutting blades will rotate.

To set the power level:



- ▶ Depress and hold the trigger switch lock-out (1).
- ▶ While holding the trigger switch lockout, push the retaining latch (2) forward with your thumb and release it. The LEDs indicate the current power level.
- ▶ Push the retaining latch forward to activate the next power level. Performing this operation at the highest power level will cause the unit to return to the first power level.

Generally, battery life will be shorter when operating continuously at the higher power levels.

18.4 Using the Hedge Trimmer



WARNING

- ▶ Always wear proper clothing and protective apparel, including proper eye protection, 6.3. Work carefully and maintain proper control of the hedge trimmer, 6.5.2.



WARNING

- ▶ To avoid serious or fatal injury, avoid contact with the moving cutting blades. Never hold the material to be cut and never remove cut material without first releasing the trigger switch and removing the battery. Release the trigger switch and remove the battery before clearing jammed material, 6.2.

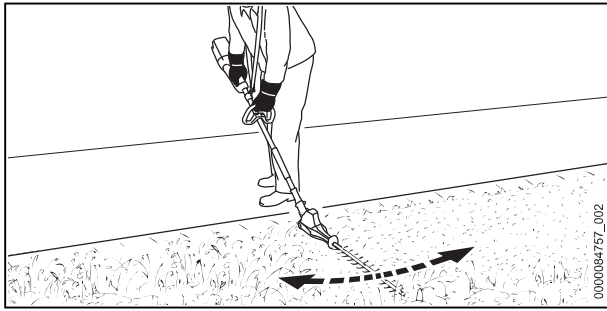
The hedge trimmer is designed for two-handed operation.

- ▶ Before starting work with the hedge trimmer, remove thick branches with a hand pruning saw, loppers, chain saw or other appropriate tool.
- ▶ Do not cut stems, branches or other vegetation greater than 1.3 in. (33 mm) in diameter.

For optimum performance, observe the recommended ambient temperature ranges, 25.4.

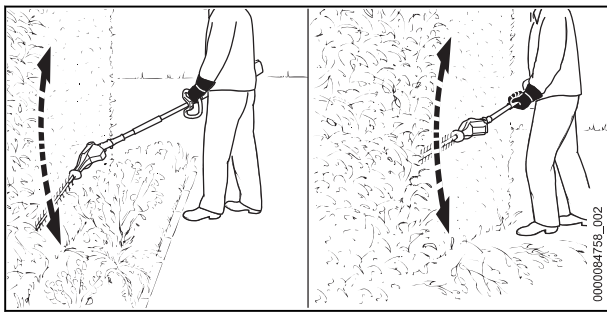
Observe all applicable laws, regulations, standards and ordinances.

Cutting at ground level (HLA 135 only)



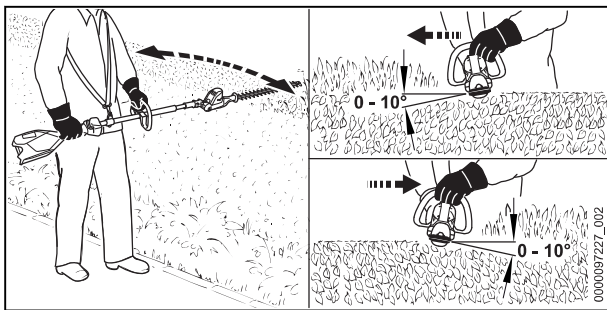
- ▶ Set the cutting attachment to a suitable angle.
- ▶ Move the hedge trimmer back and forth, keeping the cutting blades parallel to the ground.
- ▶ Walk slowly and steadily forwards.

Cutting side of hedge



- ▶ If you have to cut at a certain distance from the hedge (flowerbed): Set the cutting attachment to a suitable angle (with adjustable cutting attachment only).
- ▶ Swing the cutting attachment from the bottom of the hedge upwards in a controlled arc (see illustration above).
- ▶ Lower the nose of the cutting attachment, move along the hedge and swing the cutting attachment up again in a controlled arc.
- ▶ Cut the other side of the hedge in the same way.

Cutting top of hedge



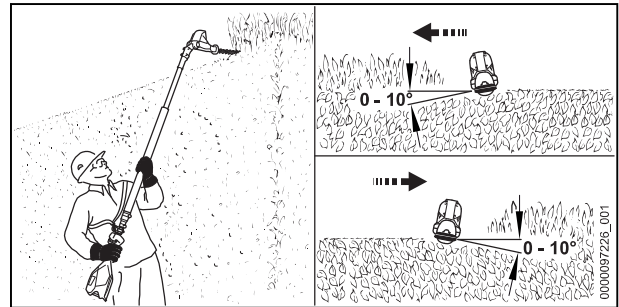
- ▶ Hold the cutting attachment at an angle of 0° to 10° as you move the cutting attachment horizontally, using both sides of the cutting attachment (see illustration above).

Cutting overhead (with adjustable cutting attachment only)



WARNING

- Working above shoulder height can be tiring. To reduce the risk of injury from fatigue, never hold the machine with your rear hand on the control handle above shoulder height. Set the adjustable cutter blades to the most suitable angle so that the unit can be held at a lower, less tiring position while providing adequate reach. Take frequent breaks.



- ▶ Set the cutting attachment to a suitable angle.
- ▶ Hold the cutting attachment at an angle of 0° to 10° as you move the cutting attachment horizontally, using both sides of the cutting attachment (see illustration above).

19 After Finishing Work

19.1 Preparing for Transportation or Storage



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation or unauthorized use, switch off the motor, ensure the cutting blades have stopped and remove the battery before transporting the hedge trimmer or putting it down.

To prepare the hedge trimmer for transportation or storage:

- ▶ Switch off the hedge trimmer, 16.2.
- ▶ Remove the battery, 15.2.
- ▶ Slide a blade scabbard over the cutting blades so that it covers the entire cutting attachment.
- ▶ If the battery or hedge trimmer became damp or wet during operation, allow them to dry separately and completely before charging or storing, 25.5.

20 Transporting the Hedge Trimmer and Battery

20.1 Hedge Trimmer

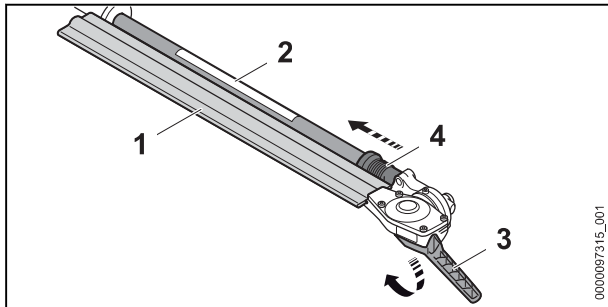


WARNING

- Cover the entire length of the cutting blades with a blade scabbard before transporting or storing the hedge trimmer to reduce the risk of cut injuries from inadvertent contact.

When transporting the hedge trimmer:

- ▶ Slide a blade scabbard over the cutting blades so that it covers the entire cutting attachment.



- ▶ If you have an adjustable cutting attachment:
 - ▶ Pull back the blade adjustment release (4) and hold it in this position.
 - ▶ Hold the hedge trimmer at the blade adjustment grip (3) and fold the cutting blades (1) down completely until the cutting blades are parallel to the drive tube (2).
 - ▶ Let go of the blade adjustment release. When the blade adjustment release reaches the transporting position, you will hear an audible click. The cutting attachment should be fixed in place and flush against the housing.
- ▶ When transporting the hedge trimmer by hand, hold it by the drive tube with the cutting blades behind you.
- ▶ When transporting the hedge trimmer in a vehicle, cover the entire length of the cutting blades with a blade scabbard. Secure and position the hedge trimmer to prevent turnover, impact and damage.

Your hedge trimmer comes standard with a blade scabbard.

20.2 Battery



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of a short circuit, which could lead to electric shock, fire and explosion, never transport the battery with small metal objects capable of conducting electricity (e.g., paper clips, nails, coins, keys), 7.

When transporting the battery:

- ▶ Secure the battery in a container against impact or damage. Never transport the battery with small metal objects capable of conducting electricity (e.g., paper clips, nails, coins, keys).
- ▶ If you are transporting the battery in a vehicle, secure it and its container to prevent turnover, impact and damage.

STIHL batteries comply with the requirements set forth in UN-Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, Subsection 38.3.

Commercial air, vessel and ground transportation of lithium ion cells and batteries is regulated. The battery is classified as a UN 3480, Class 9, packaging group II product. Shipping it, either as a complete tool or the battery, requires compliance with all applicable shipping regulations. Check with the ground, vessel, air cargo or passenger airline to determine if transport is prohibited or subject to restrictions or exemptions prior to shipping or travel.

Normally, no further conditions have to be met by the user in order to transport STIHL batteries by road to the power tool's operating site. Check and comply with any special regulations that may apply to your situation.

For further information please go to www.stihl.ca.

21 Storing the Hedge Trimmer and Battery

21.1 Hedge Trimmer



WARNING

- Store the hedge trimmer indoors in a dry, secure place that is inaccessible to children and other unauthorized users, 8.1. Never store the battery in the hedge trimmer. Improper storage can result in unauthorized use and damage to the hedge trimmer, 8.1.

When storing the hedge trimmer:

- ▶ Clean the hedge trimmer, 22.
- ▶ Clean the cutting blades, 22.2.

- ▶ Secure and position the hedge trimmer to prevent turnover, impact and damage.
- ▶ Store the hedge trimmer indoors in a dry and secure location, out of the reach of children and other unauthorized persons.

21.2 Battery



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of a short circuit, which could lead to electric shock, fire and explosion, never store the battery with small metal objects capable of conducting electricity (e.g., paper clips, nails, coins, keys), 7. If the battery is damp or wet, allow it to dry thoroughly before storing, 7.



WARNING

- Extreme temperatures can damage the battery and may also cause the battery to generate heat, rupture, leak, ignite or explode, resulting in severe or fatal personal injury or property damage. Never charge, use or store the battery outside the specified ambient temperature limits, 25.4.

To properly store the battery:

- ▶ Remove the battery from the hedge trimmer.
- ▶ When storing the battery, maintain a charge of 40 % to 60 % for STIHL AP series batteries and a charge of 30 % to 45 % for STIHL AR series batteries (2 green LEDs).
- ▶ If storing the battery in the charger, disconnect the charger from the outlet.
- ▶ Make sure the battery is dry and store it indoors in a dry and secure location.
- ▶ Keep it out of the reach of children and other unauthorized persons.
- ▶ Protect the battery against dampness and corrosive agents such as garden chemicals and de-icing salts.
- ▶ Protect the battery from exposure to conductive liquids such as salt water.
- ▶ For maximum battery life, store the battery at an ambient temperature between 50 °F and 68 °F (10 °C and 20 °C) with a charge between 40 % and 60 % for STIHL AP series batteries and a charge of 30 % to 45 % for STIHL AR series batteries (2 green LEDs).
- ▶ Do not leave spare batteries unused. Use them in rotation.

NOTICE

- A battery that is not stored properly may experience deep discharge, which can result in permanent damage. To avoid deep discharge:
 - ▶ Remove the battery from the hedge trimmer after finishing work.
 - ▶ For maximum battery life, store the battery with a charge between 40 % and 60 % for STIHL AP series batteries and a charge of 30 % to 45 % for STIHL AR series batteries (2 green LEDs).
 - ▶ If storing the battery in the charger, disconnect the charger from the outlet.
 - ▶ For maximum battery life, store the battery at an ambient temperature between 50 °F and 68 °F (10 °C and 20 °C).

22 Cleaning

22.1 Cleaning the Hedge Trimmer and Battery



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation, remove the battery before carrying out any cleaning work, 8.1.

To clean the hedge trimmer and battery:

- ▶ Clean the hedge trimmer's polymer components with a slightly dampened cloth. Do not use detergents or solvents. They may damage the polymer components.
- ▶ Keep the hedge trimmer's guides free from foreign matter and clean as necessary with a soft brush.
- ▶ Do not use a pressure washer to clean the hedge trimmer or otherwise spray it with water or other liquids.
- ▶ Keep the battery housing and guides free from foreign matter and clean as necessary with a soft brush or soft, dry cloth.

22.2 Cleaning the Cutting Blades



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation, remove the battery before carrying out any cleaning work, 8.1. To help prevent injuries, always wear heavy-duty work gloves when handling the hedge trimmer or its cutting blades, 6.3.

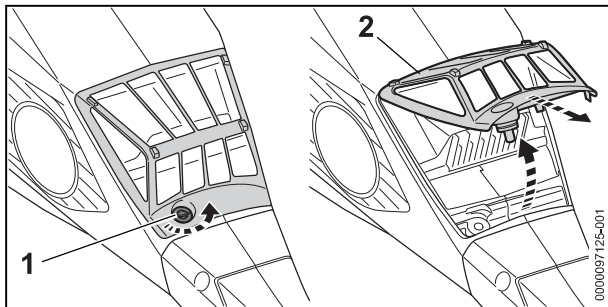
To clean the cutting blades:

- ▶ Spray both sides of the cutting blades with a resin solvent, such as STIHL Resin Remover and Lubricant.
- ▶ Insert the battery and switch on the hedge trimmer for a few seconds to evenly distribute the resin solvent throughout the cutting blades.
- ▶ Do not use a pressure washer to clean the cutting blades or spray them with water or other liquids.

22.3 Cleaning the Air Filter

To clean the air filter:

- ▶ Switch off the power tool,  16.2.
- ▶ Remove the battery,  15.2.



- ▶ Clean the area around the air filter (2) with a damp cloth or soft brush.
- ▶ Turn the screw (1) counterclockwise until the air filter can be removed.
- ▶ Remove the air filter by lifting it up and pulling it off.
- ▶ Rinse away coarse dirt from the outside of the air filter under running water. Never spray the air filter with a pressure washer.
- ▶ If the air filter is damaged, replace it.
- ▶ Allow the air filter to air dry.
- ▶ After the air filter has dried thoroughly, push it into place by hand.
- ▶ Tighten the screw.

23 Inspection and Maintenance

23.1 Inspecting and Maintaining the Hedge Trimmer



WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation, remove the battery before inspecting the hedge trimmer or carrying out any maintenance,  8.1.

To properly maintain the hedge trimmer:

- ▶ Clean the air filter every 50 hours of operation.
- ▶ Sharpen the cutting blades.

- ▶ Lubricate the gearbox every 25 hours of operation.
- ▶ Have worn or damaged cutting blades replaced by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.
- ▶ Have worn, missing or damaged safety labels replaced by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.

23.2 Inspecting and Maintaining the Cutting Blades



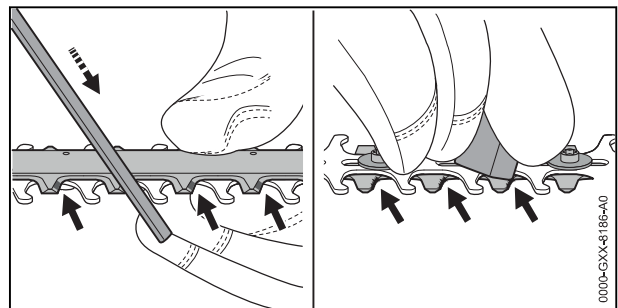
WARNING

- To reduce the risk of personal injury from unintended activation, remove the battery before inspecting the cutting blades or carrying out any maintenance,  7.1. To help prevent injuries, always wear heavy-duty work gloves when handling the hedge trimmer or its cutting blades,  6.3. STIHL recommends having the cutting blades sharpened by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.

Although it is best to have the cutting blades sharpened by a dealer on a workshop sharpener, it is possible to use a flat crosscut sharpening file.

Sharpen the cutting blades when cutting performance begins to deteriorate, i.e., blades frequently snag on branches or fail to cut material cleanly.

To sharpen the cutting blades with a file:



- ▶ Sharpen each cutting edge of the upper cutting blade with a sharpening file. Always file toward the cutting edge with a forward motion matching the sharpening angle,  25.6. Sharpen on the forward stroke. Lift off the blade on the backstroke.
- ▶ Only sharpen the cutting edges. Do not file blunt projecting parts of the cutting attachment, or the cutting blade guard. Make sure your sharpening stroke matches the sharpening angle,  25.6.
- ▶ Turn the hedge trimmer over.

- ▶ Use a whetstone to remove any burrs from the cutting edges. Remove as little material as possible.
- ▶ After sharpening, wipe away filing or grinding dust with a dry or slightly dampened cloth and then spray the cutting blades with a resin solvent, such as STIHL Resin Remover and Lubricant.

NOTICE

- Operating the machine with dull or damaged cutting blades may overload the motor. Keeping the cutting blades sharp helps maintain cutting performance and the expected life of the product.

- ▶ Remove the screw plug (1).
- ▶ If you have an adjustable cutting attachment: Remove the screw plug (3).
- ▶ If no grease can be seen on the inside of the screw plug, screw the tube (2) of STIHL gear lubricant into the filler hole.
- ▶ Squeeze no more than 0.2 oz. (5 g) of STIHL gear lubricant into the gearbox.
- ▶ Remove the tube of STIHL gear lubricant.
- ▶ Insert the screw plugs and tighten it.

NOTICE

- Do not completely fill the gearbox with grease.

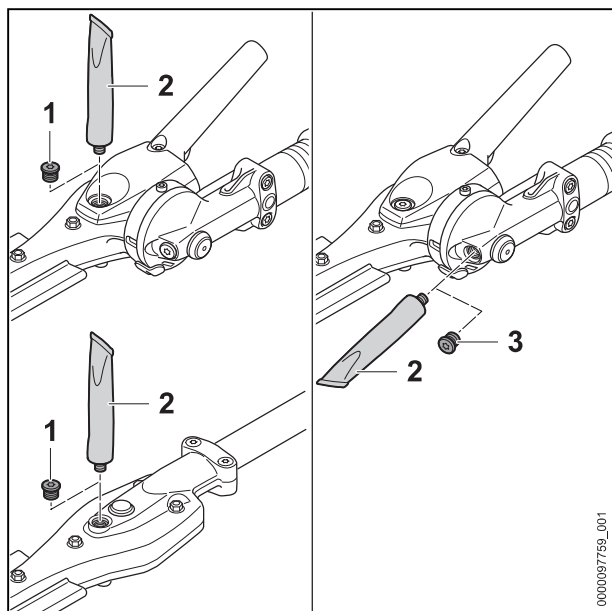
23.3 Lubricating the Gearbox



WARNING

- The gearbox becomes hot during operation. To reduce the risk of burn injury, avoid contacting the gearbox while it is still hot following operation. Wait for the gearbox to cool down before performing this operation.

To lubricate the gearbox:



24 Troubleshooting Guide

24.1 Hedge Trimmer and Battery

Always remove the battery before carrying out any inspection, cleaning or maintenance.

Condition	LEDs on Battery	Cause	Remedy
Hedge trimmer does not start		No electrical contact between	▶ Remove the battery, 15.2. ▶ Visually check the electrical contacts in the battery compartment and on the battery.

Condition	LEDs on Battery	Cause	Remedy
when switched on.		hedge trimmer and battery.	► Reinsert the battery,  15.1.
	1 LED flashes green. STIHL AR Series: four long beeps are emitted (AR L - six beeps).	Battery has low charge.	► Charge the battery,  10.
	1 LED glows red.	Battery too hot / too cold.	► Allow the battery to warm up or cool down gradually at ambient temperatures of about 50 °F to 68 °F (10 °C to 20 °C).
	4 LEDs flash red. STIHL AR Series: Additionally, a rapid succession of short beeps is emitted.	Malfunction in battery.	► Remove the battery and reinsert it,  15. ► Switch on the hedge trimmer,  16.1. ► If the LEDs continue to flash, do not attempt to use. The battery has a malfunction and must be replaced.
	3 LEDs glow red.	Hedge trimmer too hot.	► Allow the hedge trimmer to cool down.
	3 LEDs flash red.	Malfunction in hedge trimmer.	► Remove the battery and reinsert it,  15 ► Switch on the hedge trimmer,  16.1. ► If the LEDs still flash, do not attempt to use. The hedge trimmer has a malfunction and must be checked by a servicing dealer.
		Cutting blades are not clean and lubricated.	► Clean the cutting blades,  22.2. ► If the LEDs still flash, do not attempt to use. The hedge trimmer has a malfunction and must be checked by a servicing dealer.
Hedge trimmer cuts out during operation.	1 LED glows red.	Battery too hot / too cold.	► Remove the battery,  15.2. ► Allow the hedge trimmer and battery to cool down gradually at ambient temperatures of about 50 °F to 68 °F (10 °C to 20 °C).
	3 LEDs glow red.	Hedge trimmer too hot.	
Cutting performance of hedge trimmer deteriorates.		The cutting blades are blunt.	► Sharpen the cutting blades,  23.2.
Run-time is too short.		Battery not fully charged.	► Charge the battery,  10.
		Useful life of battery has been reached or exceeded.	► Have the battery checked by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.
Battery is not being charged even though LED on charger glows green.	1 LED glows red.	Battery too hot / too cold.	► Allow the battery to warm up or cool down gradually at ambient temperatures of about 50 °F to 68 °F (10 °C to 20 °C). ► Read and follow the warnings and instructions in your charger's manual. For optimum performance, observe the recommended ambient temperature ranges,  25.5.

Condition	LEDs on Battery	Cause	Remedy
Battery cannot be found with the STIHL connected App.		Bluetooth® interface at the battery or at your mobile device is not turned on.	▶ Activate the Bluetooth® interface at the battery and at your mobile device,  12.1.
		Distance between the battery and your mobile device is too large.	▶ Reduce the distance between the battery and your mobile device,  25.3. ▶ If the battery still cannot be found with the STIHL connected App: Contact an authorized STIHL servicing dealer for assistance.

25 Specifications

25.1 STIHL HLA 135

- Approved battery types:
 - STIHL AP series
 - STIHL AR series
- Weight without battery: 12.3 lbs. (5.6 kg)

For technical information regarding the STIHL AP and AR / AR L series batteries, see the product information accompanying your battery.

For technical information regarding the STIHL AL 101, 301, 301-4 and 501 series chargers, see the product information accompanying your charger.

Batteries, chargers and other accessories sold separately. Contact your authorized STIHL servicing dealer for pricing and availability.

25.2 STIHL HLA 135 K

- Approved battery types:
 - STIHL AP series
 - STIHL AR series
- Weight without battery, non-adjustable cutting attachment: 10.4 lbs. (4.7 kg)
- Weight without battery, adjustable cutting attachment: 11.5 lbs. (5.6 kg)

For technical information regarding the STIHL AP and AR / AR L series batteries, see the product information accompanying your battery.

For technical information regarding the STIHL AL 101, 301, 301-4 and 501 series chargers, see the product information accompanying your charger.

Batteries, chargers and other accessories sold separately. Contact your authorized STIHL servicing dealer for pricing and availability.

25.3 STIHL AP Series Battery

Approved charger types: STIHL AL 101, AL 301, AL 301-4, AL 501.

- Battery technology: Lithium-Ion
- Voltage: 36 V
- Rated capacity in Ah⁴: See rating plate
- Stored energy in Wh⁵: See rating plate
- Weight in kg: See rating plate
- Bluetooth® interface (only for batteries with )
 - Data transmission protocol: Bluetooth® 5.1. The mobile receiving devices must be compatible with Bluetooth® Low Energy 5.0 and support the Generic Access Profile (GAP).
 - Frequency band: ISM band 2.4 GHz
 - Radiated maximum transmission power: 1 mW
 - Bluetooth® signal range: maximum 33 ft. (10 m). The signal range may vary depending on ambient conditions and the performance of the designated receiving device, i.e., smartphone or tablet. The Bluetooth® range may be significantly limited when the signal is transmitted through metallic barriers (e.g., walls, shelving units, etc.) or near strong electromagnetic fields.
 - Minimum mobile terminal device (e.g., tablet, smartphone) system requirements: Android or iOS (in current version or higher)

⁴Rated capacity calculated pursuant to IEC 61960. Usable energy available to the operator will be less.

⁵The battery is marked with its stored energy as provided by the cell manufacturer. Usable energy available to the operator will be less.

For a complete list of approximate charging times, see www.stihl.com/charging-times.

For a complete list of approximate battery run-times, see www.stihl.com/battery-life.

Bluetooth®

The Bluetooth® word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. These word mark/logos are used by STIHL under license.

If the battery is equipped with a Bluetooth® interface, local operating restrictions (in aircraft or hospitals, for example) must be observed.

Other Trademarks

Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google Inc.

25.4 Ambient Temperature Limits



WARNING

- Extreme temperatures can damage the battery and may also cause it to generate heat, rupture, leak, ignite or explode, resulting in severe or fatal personal injury or property damage. Never charge, use or store the battery outside the ambient temperature limits specified below.
 - ▶ Do not charge the battery below - 4 °F (- 20 °C) or above 122 °F (50 °C).
 - ▶ Do not use the hedge trimmer or battery below - 4 °F (- 20 °C) or above 122 °F (50 °C).
 - ▶ Do not store the hedge trimmer or battery below - 4 °F (- 20 °C) or above 158 °F (70 °C).

25.5 Ambient Temperature Recommendations

For optimum performance, observe the following ambient temperature ranges for the hedge trimmer and battery:

- Charging: 41 °F to 104 °F (5 °C to 40 °C)
- Use: 14 °F to 104 °F (- 10 °C to 40 °C)
- Storage: - 4 °F to 122 °F (- 20 °C to 50 °C)

Charging, using or storing the battery outside the recommended ambient temperature ranges may reduce performance.

If the battery became damp or wet during operation, allow it to dry at least 48 hours at temperatures between 59 °F (15 °C) and 122 °F (50 °C) and relative humidity below 70 % before charging or storing. Higher humidity can extend the drying time.

25.6 Cutting Blades

- Tooth spacing: 1.3 in. (34 mm)
- Cutting length: 24 in. (600 mm)
- Sharpening angle: 45°

25.7 Symbols on the Hedge Trimmer, Battery and Charger

Symbol	Explanation
V	Volt
Hz	Hertz
A	Ampere
Ah	Ampere hour
W	Watt
Wh	Watt hour
AC	Alternating current
IPX4	Protection against spraying or splashing water from all directions.



Power symbol on the retaining latch.



Engage the clamping nut



Disengage the clamping nut



STIHL products must not be disposed of in the household trash, but only in accordance with local, state and federal laws and regulations and as provided in this manual, 28.



Direct current



Number of cells and stored energy according to cell manufacturer's specification. Usable energy will be less.



The RBRC seal indicates that STIHL has prepaid for battery recycling.



Read the manual



The battery is equipped with Bluetooth® and can be connected with the STIHL connected App.

25.8 Engineering Improvements

STIHL's philosophy is to continually improve all of its products. As a result, engineering changes

and improvements are made from time to time. Therefore, some changes, modifications and improvements may not be covered in this manual. If the operating characteristics or the appearance of your machine differs from those described in this manual, please contact your STIHL dealer or the STIHL distributor in your area for assistance.

25.9 EMC Compliance Statement for Power Tool and Charger

This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

26 Approved Harness Combinations

26.1 Harness Combinations



WARNING

- The operator must be able to remove the harness quickly in the event of an emergency. To reduce the risk of injury in an emergency:
 - ▶ Practice removing and putting down the power tool as you would in an emergency. To avoid damage, do not throw the power tool to the ground when practicing.
 - ▶ Use only one of the allowed harness options. Do not combine different harnesses or other harness combinations when using your power tool.

The following harnesses are available for your hedge trimmer:



Shoulder Strap



Full Harness



STIHL Battery Belt with STIHL AP Battery Bag with Connecting Cord in combination with the Shoulder Strap



STIHL Battery Belt with STIHL AP Battery Bag with Connecting Cord in combination with the Shoulder Harness and Hip Pad



STIHL AR Backpack Battery in combination with Hip Pad



STIHL Battery Backpack in combination with Hip Pad



RTS Harness

27 Replacement Parts and Equipment

27.1 Genuine STIHL Replacement Parts

STIHL recommends the use of genuine STIHL replacement parts. Genuine STIHL parts can be identified by the STIHL part number, the **STIHL** logo and, in some cases, by the STIHL parts symbol . The symbol may appear alone on small parts.

28 Disposal

28.1 Disposal of the Power Tool

STIHL products must not be thrown in household trash or disposed of except as outlined in this manual.

- ▶ Take the power tool, accessories and packaging to an approved disposal site for environmentally friendly recycling.
- ▶ Contact your authorized STIHL servicing dealer for the latest information on disposal and recycling.

28.2 Battery Recycling



WARNING

- Handle discharged/depleted batteries carefully. Even if believed to be discharged, lithium ion batteries may never totally discharge and still may deliver a dangerous short circuit current. If damaged or exposed to extreme temperatures, they may leak, generate heat, catch fire or explode.

- ▶ Observe all federal, state and local disposal rules and regulations.
- ▶ Contact your authorized STIHL servicing dealer for the latest information on waste disposal.
- ▶ Recycle depleted batteries promptly.
- ▶ Keep batteries away from children. Do not disassemble and do not dispose of in fire.



STIHL is committed to the development of products that are environmentally responsible. This commitment does not stop when

the product leaves the authorized STIHL servicing dealer. STIHL has partnered with the RBRC (Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation) to promote the collection and recycling of spent STIHL lithium ion batteries in the United States and Canada.

The RBRC seal indicates that STIHL has prepaid for battery recycling. RBRC has a toll free phone number (1-800-822-8837) that connects you to information on battery recycling locations and information on battery disposal bans or restrictions in your area. You can also return your spent battery to any authorized STIHL servicing dealer for recycling free of charge.

29 Addresses

29.1 STIHL Limited

STIHL Limited
1515 Sise Road
London, ON. N6A 4L6
CANADA

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1 Préface

Merci beaucoup pour votre achat. Les informations contenues dans le présent manuel vous aideront à obtenir des performances et une satisfaction maximales de votre taille-haies et, si elles sont respectées, à réduire les risques de blessures lors de son utilisation.

CONSERVEZ CE MANUEL !



Un taille-haies étant un outil de coupe à grande vitesse, des précautions particulières doivent être observées pour réduire le risque de blessures.



Lisez attentivement ce mode d'emploi avant l'utilisation et à intervalles réguliers par la suite. Respectez toutes les consignes de sécurité. Une utilisation imprudente ou inadaptée du taille-haies peut entraîner des blessures graves, voire mortelles.

Ne prêtez ni ne louez votre taille-haies sans ce manuel. N'autorisez que les personnes qui comprennent parfaitement les informations contenues dans ce manuel à faire fonctionner le taille-haies.

Pour de plus amples informations ou si vous ne comprenez pas les instructions de ce manuel, veuillez consulter www.stihl.ca ou contactez votre distributeur agréé STIHL.

2 Indications concernant la présente Notice d'emploi

2.1 Mots de signalement

Ce manuel contient des informations de sécurité qui requièrent une attention particulière de votre part. Ces informations sont introduites par les symboles et les mots de signalement suivants :



DANGER

- Indique une situation dangereuse qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, entraînera la mort ou des blessures graves.



AVERTISSEMENT

- Indique une situation dangereuse qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait entraîner la mort ou des blessures graves.