

Commonly asked Questions & Answers DS12 Utility Chain Saw

Revised

8/1/2009

Q When cutting ductile iron pipe in a ditch, is it best to cut from the top of the pipe down or from the side up?

A: Our testing so far indicates top down works best in a given situation.

Q What will the Utility chain cut?

A: In initial trials it has cut ductile iron, PVC, steel and copper pipe as well as a variety of other materials such as metal roofing, roofing shingles, mild steel, asphalt, concrete block and brick pavers, non reinforced concrete.

Q Will it cut concrete?

A: It can cut non reinforced concrete however, excess chain stretch and reduced life may result.

Q Will it cut PVC and HDPE?

A: Yes

Q Is the Utility chain available on the DS06 platform?

A: Not currently.

Q Can you cut free-hand or does it have to be used with the clamp?

A: It can be used either free hand or with the clamp

Q What diameter pipe will the 15" bar cut while using the clamp?

A: 10"

Q Without the clamp?

A: Any size

Q What diameter pipe will the 18" bar cut while using the clamp?

A: 12"

Q Without the clamp?

A: Any size

Q What size pipe will the clamp fit?

A: 4"- 12"

Q How much down force should be exerted on the saw when cutting?

A: As much as desired without bogging down the saw motor

Q Is this a wet cut system?

A: Yes, the water is necessary for the cooling and lubrication of the bar and chain.

Q What is the minimum water flow and pressure required?

A: 2 GPM at 20 psi is adequate

Q Can it be run dry?

A: No

Q Can I plunge cut?

A: Plunge cutting increases the risk of snagging during the cut and can create kickback like reactions so it is not recommended.



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Q Can I cut with the tip of the bar in the dirt?

A: Cutting with the chain and/or bar tip in the dirt should be avoided as it will significantly increase chain stretch, reducing chain life.

Q Is water required when running this chain in an underwater application?

A: Running without water lubrication in an underwater application has not been tested.

Q How much sag should be in the chain before the cut?

A: The bottom of the "guide link" should be even with the bottom of the bar rail.

Q When will I know that the chain has reached EOL?

A: Cut time will increase significantly and a straight cut may become difficult

Q When will I know that the bar has reached EOL?

A: It will be difficult to make a straight cut even with a new chain.

Q Should the bar be flipped during the life of the chain? If so, what are the signs that it needs to be flipped?

A: The bar should be flipped or the bar rails dressed if the cut begins to lead to one side.

Q When cutting pipe in the ground, will the bar and chain become pinched during cutting? If so what should be done to correct?

A: Like with cutting any material with any chain saw, movement of the material being cut can pinch the bar and/or chain and could stop the cut or even break the chain. Typical steps like blocking or suspending the material, cutting opposite the potential pinch point etc. should be taken to avoid this problem.

Q Will there be sparks?

A: Yes, occasional sparks are normal.