
DEWALT®

INSTRUCTION MANUAL
DW557 Rotary Hammer

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS OR ANY
DeWALT TOOL, CALL US TOLL FREE AT 1-800-4-DeWALT (1-800-433-9258).

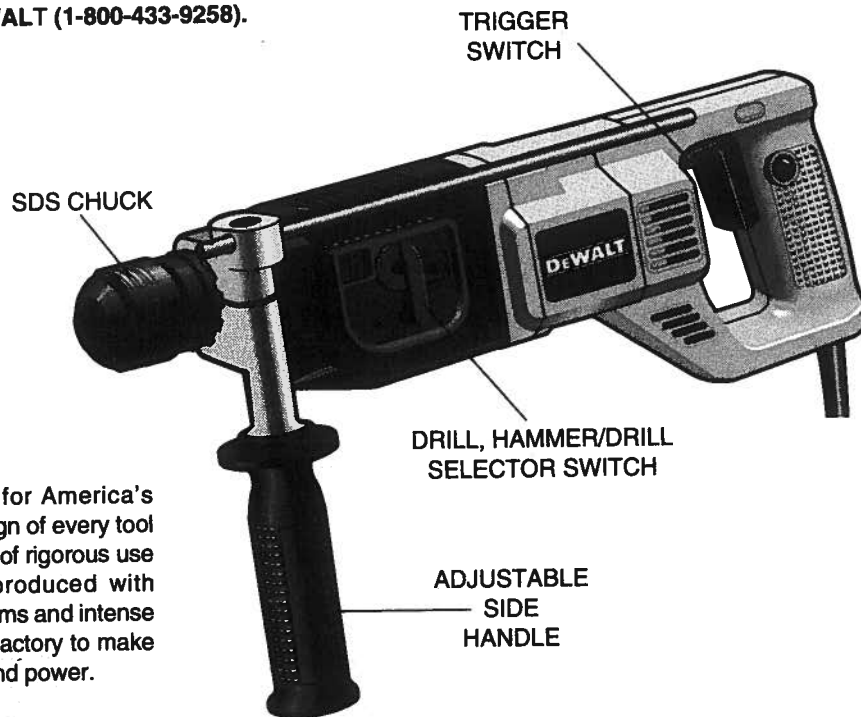
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DeWALT...BUILT JOBSITE TOUGH

DeWALT high performance industrial tools are made for America's toughest industrial and construction applications. The design of every tool in the line—from drills to sanders to grinders—is the result of rigorous use on jobsites and throughout industry. Each tool is produced with painstaking precision using advanced manufacturing systems and intense quality control. Every tool is checked before it leaves the factory to make sure that it meets your standards for durability, reliability and power.

DeWALT

Built Jobsite Tough...WE GUARANTEE IT.



Important Safety Instructions

- **WARNING:** When using Electric Tools, basic safety precautions should always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury, including the following:
 - Read all instructions
 - **KEEP WORK AREA CLEAN.** Cluttered areas and benches invite injuries.
 - **CONSIDER WORK AREA ENVIRONMENT.** Don't expose power tools to rain. Don't use power tools in damp or wet locations. Keep work area well lit.
 - **GUARD AGAINST ELECTRIC SHOCK.** Prevent body contact with grounded surfaces. For example; pipes, radiators, ranges, refrigerator enclosures.
 - **KEEP CHILDREN AWAY.** All visitors should be kept away from work area. Do not let visitors contact tool.
 - **STORE IDLE TOOLS.** When not in use, tools should be stored in dry, and high or locked-up place - out of reach of children.
 - **DON'T FORCE TOOL.** It will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was intended.
 - **USE RIGHT TOOL.** Don't force small tool or attachment to do the job of a heavy-duty tool. Don't use tool for purpose not intended, for example, don't use circular saw for cutting tree limbs or logs.
 - **DRESS PROPERLY.** Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. They can be caught in moving parts. Rubber gloves and non-skid footwear are recommended when working outdoors. Wear protective hair covering to contain long hair.
- **USE SAFETY GLASSES.** Also use face or dust mask if operation is dusty.
- **DON'T ABUSE CORD.** Never carry tool by cord or yank it to disconnect from receptacle. Keep cord from heat, oil, and sharp edges.
- **SECURE WORK.** Use clamps or a vise to hold work. It's safer than using your hand and it frees both hands to operate tool.
- **DON'T OVERREACH.** Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- **MAINTAIN TOOLS WITH CARE.** Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safe performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories. Inspect tool cords periodically and if damaged have repaired by a DeWALT certified service center. Inspect extension cords periodically and replace if damaged. Keep handles dry, clean, and free from oil and grease.
- **DISCONNECT TOOLS.** When not in use, before servicing, and when changing accessories, such as blades, bits, cutters.
- **REMOVE ADJUSTING KEYS AND WRENCHES.** Form habit of checking to see that keys and adjusting wrenches are removed from tool before turning it on.

- **AVOID UNINTENTIONAL STARTING.** Don't carry plugged-in tool with finger on switch. Be sure switch is off when plugging in.
- **OUTDOOR USE EXTENSION CORDS.** When tool is used outdoors, use only extension cords intended for use outdoors and so marked. More detailed extension cord information can be found on page 6.
- **STAY ALERT.** Watch what you are doing. Use common sense. Do not operate tool when you are tired.
- **CHECK DAMAGED PARTS.** Before further use of the tool, a guard or other part that is damaged should be carefully checked to determine that it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, mounting, and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by a DeWALT certified service center unless otherwise indicated elsewhere in this instruction manual. Have defective switches replaced by a DeWALT certified service center. Do not use tool if switch does not turn it on and off.
- **DO NOT OPERATE** portable electric tools near flammable liquids or in gaseous or explosive atmospheres. Motors in these tools normally spark, and the sparks might ignite fumes.

CAUTION: When drilling into walls, floors or wherever "live" electrical wires may be encountered. **DO NOT TOUCH THE CHUCK OR ANY FRONT METAL PARTS OF THE HAMMER!** Hold the hammer only by the plastic handle to prevent shock if you drill into a "live" wire.

Additional Safety Rules For Rotary Hammers

- Wear safety goggles or other eye protection.
- Wear ear protectors when hammering for extended periods.
- Always use the side handle supplied with the tool. Keep a firm grip on the hammer when it is operating.
- Don't overreach with the hammer. Maintain a firm, balanced working stance. When necessary, use only properly positioned, safe platforms, ladders and scaffolds, to do the job SAFELY!
- Hammer bits and tools get hot in operation. Wear gloves when touching them.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE USE.

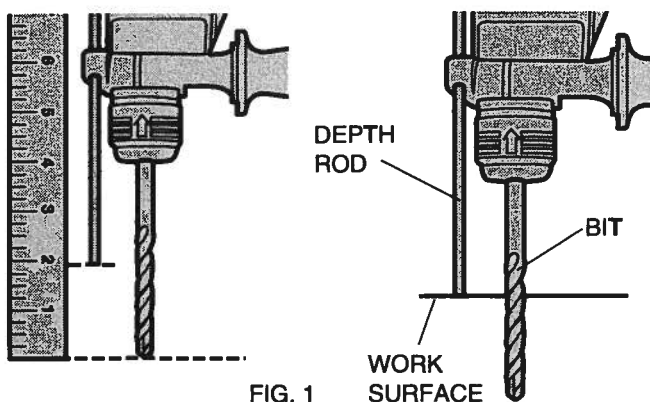
Double Insulation

DOUBLE-INSULATED tools are constructed throughout with **TWO** separate “layers” of electrical insulation or one **DOUBLE** thickness of insulation between you and the tool’s electrical system.

Tools built with this insulation system are not intended to be grounded. As a result, your tool is equipped with a two-prong plug which permits you to use extension cords without concern for maintaining a ground connection. See page 6 for more extension cord information.

NOTE: DOUBLE INSULATION does not take the place of normal safety precautions when operating this tool. The insulation system is for added protection against injury resulting from a possible electrical insulation failure within the tool.

CAUTION: When servicing all tools, **USE ONLY IDENTICAL REPLACEMENT PARTS**. Repair or replace damaged cords.



Motor

Your DeWALT tool is powered by a DeWALT-built motor. Be sure your power supply agrees with the nameplate marking.

Volts 50/60 Hz or “AC only” means your tool must be operated only with alternating current and **never** with direct current. Volts DC-60Hz or AC/DC means your tool may be operated with either alternating or direct current.

Voltage decrease of more than 10% will cause loss of power and overheating. All DeWALT tools are factory tested; if this tool does not operate, check the power supply.

Operating Instructions

Side Handle and Depth Rod

Your Hammer is equipped with a side handle for better control. It comes assembled to the tool and is adjustable 360 degrees around the hammer. To adjust the position of the side handle, loosen it by rotating counterclockwise and reposition as desired. Retighten the handle by rotating it clockwise. Tighten firmly.

The side handle also holds the depth rod. To set the depth rod to limit the depth of a drilled hole, loosen the side handle enough that the depth rod can be moved. Set the rod so that the distance from the tip of your drill bit to the tip of the depth rod equals the desired hole depth. With the rod set at the desired position, tighten it in place by tightening the side handle. When the desired hole depth is reached, the depth rod will contact the work surface and stop the hammer, as shown in Figure 1.

Switch

The variable speed trigger switch turns the tool "ON" and "OFF" as well as controls the RPM from 0 to 980 (0-3700 BPM). To turn the hammer "ON", squeeze the trigger, to turn the tool "OFF", release the trigger. The tool can be locked on (full speed only) for continuous use by holding the trigger depressed and pushing in the trigger lock button shown in Figure 2. Hold the lock button in and release the trigger, then release the lock button and the hammer will continue to run. To turn the tool off from a locked "ON" condition, squeeze and release the trigger switch once.

The tool is equipped with reversing capability for backing out jammed hammer bits. To operate in reverse, turn the tool off and push the reversing switch shown, in Figure 2, to the left for forward and the right for reverse. A forward and reverse arrow is molded into the side of the housing to assist you in switching from one direction to the other.

Changing Bits

The DW557 is designed for the DeWALT SDS bit system in sizes from 3/16" to 3/4" in diameter.

Unplug the unit from power source when inserting bits.

Insert the bit with a slight twist. The locking takes place automatically during drilling/hammer drilling.

To release the bit, pull back on the chuck sleeve, as shown in Figure 3. Hold the sleeve back and remove the bit from the chuck.

FIG. 2

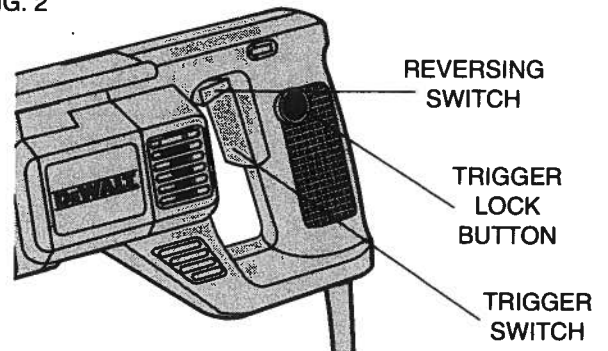
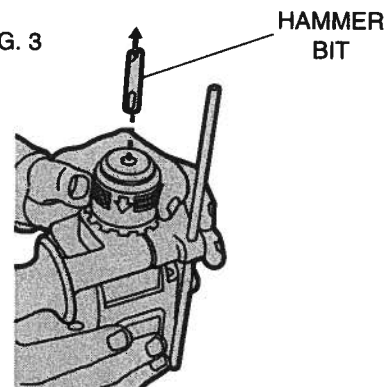


FIG. 3



Drilling Only

Position Selector Switch in the "Drill" position, as shown in Figure 4, (aligned with the picture of the drill) Use as you would any drill.

Hammer Drilling Only

Position Selector Switch in the "Hammer/Drill" position, as shown in Figure 5, (aligned with the picture of the hammer and drill).

When drilling, use just enough force on the hammer to keep it from bouncing excessively or "rising" off the bit. Too much force will cause slower drilling speeds, overheating, and a lower drilling rate.

Drill straight, keeping the bit at a right angle to the work. Do not exert side pressure on the bit when drilling as this will cause clogging of the bit flutes and a slower drilling speed.

When drilling deep holes, if the hammer speed starts to drop off, pull the bit partially out of the hole with the tool still running to help clear debris from the hole.

Do not pour water into the hole to settle dust. Water causes clogging of bit flutes which will tend to make the bit bind in the hole.

FIG. 4



DRILL BIT
SYMBOL

FIG. 5



HAMMER
DRILL BIT
SYMBOL

Accessories

Recommended accessories for use with your tool are available at extra cost from your local service center. A complete listing of service centers is packed with your tool.

If you need assistance in locating any accessory, please contact DeWALT Industrial Tool Company, P.O. Box 158, 626 Hanover Pike, Hampstead, MD 21704 or call 1-800-4-DEWALT (1-800-433-9258).

Maintenance

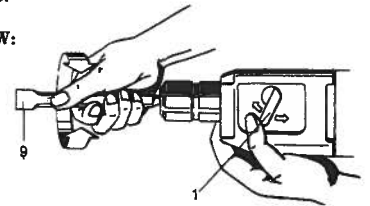
Disconnect the tool from the power supply and periodically take the following maintenance action:

1. Clean any dirt build-up out of the air slots in the housing.
2. Check the condition of the power supply cord, plug and extension cord. Repair at once if damaged.
3. Your hammer has a maintenance feature called the "DeWALT Check Point System." When the tool requires motor brush replacement, it will shut down automatically. At this time the tool should be taken to a DeWALT certified service center for cleaning, re-greasing, and preventive maintenance.

CHIPPING MODE SELECTOR

TO MOVE SELECTOR LEVER INTO CHIPPING MODE, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ROTATE THE BIT (#9) WHILE MOVING THE SELECTOR LEVER (#1) TO THE CHIPPING POSITION.

SEE DIAGRAM BELOW:



Hammering Only

Select the "Hammer" position by aligning the Selector Switch with the hammer only symbol. In this position the rotating feature of the hammer is turned off and the hammer is ready for LIGHT chipping. Use a bull point or small chisel bit for chipping operations. Use for LIGHT chipping such as removing tile or light scale only.

Recommended accessories for your hammer are shown in this manual.



1/2" DRILL
CHUCK



REPLACEMENT
CHUCK KEY



'A' TAPER
ADAPTER



DRIFT KEY



DRILL CHUCK
ADAPTER



CARBIDE
PERCUSSION BIT

| Carbide Percussion Bits | | "A" TAPER BITS Use only With "A" Taper Adapter | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Bit Dia. | Usable Drilling Depth | Bit Dia. | Usable Drilling Depth |
| 3/16" | 3 | 1/4" | 4 |
| 1/4" | 2 | 1/4" | 6 |
| 1/4" | 6 | 5/16" | 4 |
| 5/16" | 4 | 3/8" | 4 |
| 3/8" | 6 | 3/8" | 6 |
| 3/8" | 12 | 3/8" | 12 |
| 7/16" | 6 | 1/2" | 6 |
| 1/2" | 6 | 1/2" | 12 |
| 1/2" | 12 | 1/2" | 18 |
| 9/16" | 6 | 5/8" | 6 |
| 5/8" | 6 | Bull Point | |
| 5/8" | 12 | Chisel Point | |
| 3/4" | 12 | | |

Important

To assure product SAFETY and RELIABILITY, repairs, maintenance and adjustment should be performed by DeWALT certified service centers or other qualified service organizations. These service organizations service DeWALT tools always using DeWALT replacement parts. Black & Decker (U.S.) Inc. industrial tool service centers are certified for servicing DeWALT industrial tools.

Extension Cords

Double insulated tools have 2-wire cords and can be used with 2-wire or 3-wire extension cords. Only round jacketed extension cords should be used, and we recommend that they be listed by Underwriters Laboratories (U.L.). If the extension will be used outside the cord must be suitable for outdoor use. Any cord marked as outdoor can also be used for indoor work. The letters "WA" on the cord jacket indicate that the cord is suitable for outdoor use.

An extension cord must have adequate wire size (AWG or American Wire Gauge) for safety, and to prevent loss of power and overheating. The smaller the gauge number of the wire, the greater the capacity of the cable, that is 16 gauge has more capacity than 18 gauge. When using more than one extension to

make up the total length, be sure each individual extension contains at least the minimum wire size.
To determine the minimum wire size required, refer to the chart below.

**CHART FOR MINIMUM WIRE SIZE (AWG)
OF EXTENSION CORDS**

| NAMEPLATE RATING-AMPS | TOTAL EXTENSION CORD LENGTH-FEET | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 | 125 | 150 | 175 | 200 |
| 0 - 10.0 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 |
| 10.1 - 13.0 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| 13.1 - 15.0 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | — |

Before using an extension cord, inspect it for loose or exposed wires, damaged insulation, and defective fittings. Make any needed repairs or replace the cord if necessary.

Full Warranty

D_EWALT heavy duty industrial tools are warranted for one year from date of purchase. We will repair, without charge, any defects due to faulty materials or workmanship. Arrangements have been made with the Industrial Tool Division of Black & Decker (U.S.) Inc. to provide warranty repairs for D_EWALT tools. Please return the complete unit, transportation prepaid, to any Black & Decker (U.S.)

Inc. Industrial Service Center or Authorized Service Station listed under "Tools, Electric" in the Yellow Pages. This warranty does not apply to accessories or damage caused where repairs have been made or attempted by others. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other rights which vary from state to state. In addition to the warranty, D_EWALT tools are covered by our:

30 DAY NO RISK SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

If you are not completely satisfied with the performance of your D_EWALT heavy duty industrial tool, simply return it to the participating seller within 30 days for a full refund. Please return the complete unit, transportation prepaid. Proof of purchase may be required.

Like most D_EWALT products your tool is listed by Underwriters' Laboratories to ensure that it meets stringent safety requirements.

This symbol on the nameplate means the product is listed by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc.



**See 'Tools-Electric'
– Yellow Pages –
for Service & Sales**