GENERAL

stihl 028 av super

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Introduction

When it comes to professional-grade chainsaws, few brands command the respect and reliability of Stihl. Among its extensive lineup, the **Stihl 028 AV Super**stands out as a powerhouse that balances raw power, precision, and user-friendly design. Whether you're a seasoned forester, a tree surgeon, or an avid DIY enthusiast tackling large branches and dense logs, understanding the features, performance, and maintenance of the Stihl 028 AV Super can help you make an informed purchase and get the most out of your equipment.

This comprehensive guide will walk you through every aspect of the Stihl 028 AV Super, from its technical specifications and ergonomic design to maintenance tips, accessories, and real-world user feedback. By the end, you'll have a clear picture of why this chainsaw continues to be a top choice for professionals and hobbyists alike.

Overview of the Stihl 028 AV Super

Engine and Performance

The Stihl 028 AV Super is powered by a robust 2-stroke, 28 cc engine that delivers a peak power output of approximately 1.6 horsepower. This engine is specifically tuned for high torque and low-end power, making it ideal for heavy-duty cutting tasks such as felling large trees, bucking logs, and tackling thick branches. The 28 cc displacement ensures that the saw can maintain steady speed even under heavy loads, while the engine's compact size keeps the overall weight manageable.

Fuel System and Efficiency

One of the standout features of the Stihl 028 AV Super is its advanced fuel system. The saw uses a high-efficiency carburetor that mixes fuel and oil in a precise ratio, optimizing combustion and reducing emissions. The built-in fuel gauge and the ability to use a wide range of gasoline-oil blends make refueling straightforward, even in remote locations.

Design and Ergonomics

Stihl has always prioritized operator comfort, and the 028 AV Super is no exception. The saw's handle is designed with an ergonomic grip that reduces hand fatigue during extended use. The anti-vibration system, integrated into the handle and the engine mounting, significantly lowers the vibration transmitted to the operator, which is especially beneficial for those who spend hours on the job. Additionally, the saw's balanced weight distribution ensures that the operator can maintain control without exerting excessive effort.

Safety Features

Safety is paramount in chainsaw design, and the Stihl 028 AV Super incorporates several layers of protection:

- Chain Brake: A quick-release chain brake stops the chain instantly in case of kickback.
- Safety Switch: A safety lever prevents accidental starts.
- Anti-Kickback Bar: The anti-kickback bar is engineered to absorb sudden movements, reducing the risk of kickback.
- Oil and Fuel Shut-off: A dual shut-off lever allows operators to quickly shut off the engine and fuel supply.

Why Choose the Stihl 028 AV Super?

Versatility and Power

With a 28 cc engine and a 1.6 horsepower output, the Stihl 028 AV Super strikes an excellent balance between power and portability. It's powerful enough to handle demanding tasks but still lightweight enough for single-handed operation. Whether you're felling a tree, cutting firewood, or performing precision trimming, this chainsaw delivers consistent performance.

Reliability and Durability

Stihl's reputation for durability is well-earned, and the 028 AV Super is built to last. The engine block, crankcase, and connecting rods are forged from high-grade materials that resist wear and fatigue. The saw's components are engineered to withstand harsh environmental conditions, making it suitable for both commercial forestry and rugged outdoor projects.

User-Friendly Features

Beyond power and durability, the Stihl 028 AV Super offers a host of user-friendly features:

- Quick-Change Bar: The bar can be swapped out in seconds, allowing operators to switch between different chain lengths without tools.
- Intuitive Controls: The throttle, safety switch, and oil feed are positioned for easy access.
- Low Maintenance: The 2-stroke engine's simplicity reduces the need for frequent overhauls.

Technical Specifications

Engine Specs

Engine Type: 2-stroke, 28 cc **Power Output:** 1.6 hp **Max RPM:** 6,500 rpm **Fuel Capacity:** 0.8 L (approx. 0.2 gallons) **Oil Capacity:** 0.3 L (approx. 0.08 gallons)

Chain and Bar Specifications

Bar Length: 16.5 inches (419 mm) **Chain Pitch:** 3/8" **Chain Type:** 3/8" x 10mm **Chain Speed:** 2,800–3,200 cpm (chain revolutions per minute)

Dimensions and Weight

Overall Weight: 7.5 lbs (3.4 kg) **Bar Weight:** 1.8 lbs (0.8 kg) **Engine Weight:** 4.5 lbs (2.0 kg) **Handle Length:** 10.5 inches (267 mm)

Maintenance and Care

Routine Maintenance

To keep the Stihl 028 AV Super running smoothly, adhere to the following routine maintenance schedule:

1. Pre-Use Check: Inspect the chain tension, oil level, and fuel condition.
2. Post-Use Cleaning: Remove sawdust from the bar and chain using a brush or compressed air.
3. Monthly Inspection: Check for cracks or wear in the engine block and crankcase.
4. Quarterly Oil Change: Replace the oil with a fresh blend of high-quality gasoline and oil.

Cleaning and Lubrication

The 2-stroke engine's simplicity means fewer parts that require lubrication. However, regular cleaning of the carburetor and air filter is essential to prevent clogging. Use a dedicated carburetor cleaner and a soft brush to

remove grime from the air intake. Lubricate the chain with a high-quality cutting oil before every session.

Common Issues and Troubleshooting

While the Stihl 028 AV Super is built to endure, operators may encounter occasional problems. Here are some common issues and how to address them:

- Engine Won't Start: Check the spark plug, fuel mixture, and air filter. Clean or replace as needed.
- Chain Vibrates: Ensure proper chain tension and that the chain is properly lubricated.
- Reduced Cutting Performance: Inspect the bar for dullness and replace if necessary. Also, verify that the fuel mixture ratio is correct.

Accessories and Upgrades

Chain Options

For specialized tasks, consider upgrading to a different chain type. Stihl offers a range of chains, including:

- Standard Cutting Chains: Ideal for general-purpose cutting.
- Heavy-Duty Chains: Designed for thicker logs and high-speed cutting.
- Light-Duty Chains: Suitable for fine work and precision trimming.

Bar Extensions

Bar extensions allow operators to increase the cutting radius without compromising control. Stihl's extensions are engineered to match the 028 AV Super's specifications, ensuring compatibility and safety.

Protective Gear

Safety gear is essential for chainsaw operators. Recommended gear includes:

- Chainsaw Protective Gloves: Designed to reduce vibration and protect hands.
- Chainsaw Jacket: Offers abrasion resistance and protection against kickback.
- Helmet with Face Shield: Provides head and face protection.
- Safety Boots: Reinforced with steel toes and non-slip soles.

Comparison with Other Stihl Models

Stihl MS 170 vs. 028 AV Super

The Stihl MS 170 is a 1.2 horsepower, 2 stroke chainsaw designed for medium-duty tasks. While the MS 170 offers a lighter weight and more compact design, the 028 AV Super's higher horsepower and larger fuel tank make it more suitable for extended, heavy-duty work. If you need a chainsaw for occasional use or smaller trees, the MS 170 may be adequate, but for continuous, demanding jobs, the 028 AV Super is preferable.

Stihl MS 241 vs. 028 AV Super

The MS 241 is a 3 horsepower, 4 stroke chainsaw that excels in power and smooth operation. However, its 4 stroke engine requires more maintenance, and the saw is heavier. The 028 AV Super's 2 stroke engine delivers higher torque at lower RPMs, making it ideal for cutting through dense wood and achieving faster cuts. If you prioritize power and low maintenance, the 028 AV Super remains a top choice.

User Reviews and Testimonials

Positive Feedback

Users consistently praise the Stihl 028 AV Super for its:

- Consistent Cutting Performance: The saw maintains speed even when cutting thick logs.
- Ease of Use: Operators appreciate the ergonomic handle and intuitive controls.
- Durability: Many reviewers note that the saw has performed reliably over years of use.

Areas for Improvement

While the 028 AV Super is highly regarded, a few users have suggested improvements:

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