# FILING THE CHAIN



The chain must be sharp and properly tensioned if you are to work efficiently, safely and with good precision. Using a file gauge makes it easier to keep the chain in good shape. Don't forget your gloves when you inspect the cutting equipment.



## **FILING THE CHAIN**

The chain saw and the bar should be fixed in place for maximum stability and so you can have both hands free when filing. Lock the chain by activating the chain brake or by inserting the combi key between the bar and the chain on the underside of the bar. Start with the cutting teeth. Place the file gauge with the arrows pointing towards the bar nose. File with a two-hand grip. Place the file at right angles to the rollers. File every second tooth with an even, pushing stroke. It's important that all cutting teeth are the same length. When you've finished filing, turn the saw around and file the rest of the cutting teeth in the same manner from the opposite direction.



# **FILING THE DEPTH GAUGES**

The height difference between the depth gauge and the tip of the tooth determines how much the cutting tooth will saw. File the depth gauges about every third or fifth time you file the cutting teeth, assuming normal wear. Place the file gauge on the chain and hold it steady with one hand. Select "Soft" or "Hard" depending on which type of wood you normally saw. Hold the flat file in your other hand and file the depth gauge until the file contacts the file gauge. Then continue to file all the depth gauges on the chain. How the file gauge rests on the chain depends on whether the cutting tooth is right- or left-hand filed.



### **CORRECTLY FILED**

A sharp cutting tooth looks like this. If you use the chainsaw daily, give the chain a few strokes with the file every time you refuel.

### "WOOD DULLED"

With normal wear, after a time a "wood dulled" chain looks like this. Notice the white edge on the cutting tooth. Sharpen the chain!

### **STONE DAMAGED**

A cutting tooth with stone damage has an uneven top edge. A chain damaged this way cannot be used and must be sharpened

### "HAWKSBEAK"

The cutting tooth has been filed too deep. The chain cuts too aggressively which causes increased vibrations and

### **BACKWARD SLOPE**

The cutting tooth has been filed too high up. This makes it cut poorly.

### **WORN CHAIN**

The chain should be discarded if the cutting teeth are shorter than 4 mm. The teeth can crack and break off.





becomes brittle.

