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# 550 ADJUSTABLE HANDLE SCRAPER OPERATING MANUAL



Read Manual Before Operating Machine

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# Features and Specifications

## FEATURES

**Adjustable Handle** - Allows the operator to adjust for comfort.

**Foot Bar** - Use of lower body strength reduces fatigue.

**Angle Adjustment** - Allows the operator to adjust the pitch of the blade from shallow to steep depending on the material being removed. This prevents gouging to the floor and sub-floor.

**Removable Weight with Lift Handle** - Enables a single person to load and/or unload machine. Removable weight is 44 lb. (55.8 kg).

**Cutting Head/Blade Holder** - Efficiently cuts through multiple substrate materials and increases blade longevity.



## Product Specifications

Width	Max. Length	Height	Weight (Machine Only)	Speed	RPM	Amps	Vibration		
							X Axis	Y Axis	Z Axis
17.75" (45 cm)	32.5" (83 cm)	42.5" (108 cm) with handle 21" (53 cm) without handle	123 lb (55.8 kg)	Manual	1,725	Under 10	5.5 m/s <sup>2</sup>	11.1 m/s <sup>2</sup>	11.6 m/s <sup>2</sup>

## Machine Variants

Region	Serial Number	Input Power	Body Panels
Domestic	550-10XXXX	120V / 60 Hz	Silver Vein
	550-12XXXX	120V / 60 Hz	Green
	550-23XXXX	120V / 60 Hz	Silver Vein
International	550-11XXXX	230V / 50 Hz	Silver Vein
	550-13XXXX	230V / 50 Hz	Silver Vein
	550-20XXXX	110V / 50 Hz	Silver Vein
	550-27XXXX	230V / 50 Hz	Silver Vein
	550-29XXXX	230V / 50 Hz	Silver Vein

# Safety

## GENERAL RULES FOR SAFE OPERATION

Before use, anyone operating or performing maintenance on this equipment must read and understand this manual, as well as any labels packaged with or attached to the machine and its components. Read the manual carefully to learn equipment applications and limitations, as well as potential hazards associated with this type of equipment. Keep manual near machine at all times. If your manual is lost or damaged, contact National Flooring Equipment (NFE) for a replacement.

### Personal

#### **Dress properly and use safety gear.**

Do not wear loose clothing; it may be caught in moving parts. Anyone in the work area must wear safety goggles or glasses, hearing protection during extended use, and a dust mask for dusty operations. Hard hats, face shields, safety shoes, etc. should be worn when specified or necessary.

#### **Maintain control; stay alert.**

Keep proper footing and balance, and maintain a firm grip. Observe surroundings at all times and use common sense. Do not use when tired, distracted, or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or any medication that may cause decreased control.

#### **Keep hands away from all moving parts and tooling.**

Wear gloves when changing tooling. Remove tooling when machine is not in use and/or lower cutting head to the floor.

#### **Do not force equipment.**

Equipment will perform best at the rate for which it was designed. Excessive force only causes operator fatigue, increased wear, and reduced control.

### Environment

#### **Avoid use in dangerous environments.**

Do not use in rain, damp or wet locations, or in the presence of explosive atmospheres (gaseous fumes, dust, or flammable materials). Remove materials or debris that may be ignited by sparks. Keep work area tidy and well-lit - a cluttered or dark work area may lead to accidents. Extreme heat or cold may affect performance.

#### **Protect others in the work area and be aware of surroundings.**

Provide barriers or shields as needed to protect others from debris and machine operation. Children and other bystanders should be kept at a safe distance from the work area to avoid distracting the operator and/or coming into contact with the machine. Operator should be aware of who is around them and their proximity. Support personnel should never stand next to, in front of, or behind the machine while the machine is running. Operator should look behind them before backing up.

#### **Do not come within 3 ft. of the machine's perimeter during operation.**

#### **Guard against electric shock.**

Ensure that machine is connected to a properly grounded outlet. Prevent bodily contact with grounded surfaces, e.g. pipes, radiators, ranges, and refrigerators. When scoring or making cuts, always check the work area for hidden wires or pipes.

### Maintenance & Repairs

#### **Begin maintenance work only when the machine is shut down, unplugged, and cooled down.**

#### **Use proper cleaning agents.**

Ensure that all cleaning rags are fiber-free; do not use any aggressive cleaning products.

#### **Schedule regular maintenance check-ups.**

Ensure machine is properly cleaned and serviced. Remove all traces of oil, combustible fuel, or cleaning fluids from the machine and its connections and fittings. Retighten all loose fittings found during maintenance and repair work. Loose or damaged parts should be replaced immediately; use only NFE parts.

#### **Do not weld or flame-cut on the machine during repairs, or make changes to machine without authorization from NFE.**

### Equipment

#### **Use proper parts and accessories.**

Only use NFE-approved or recommended parts and accessories. Using any that are not recommended may be hazardous.

#### **Ensure accessories are properly installed and maintained.**

Do not permanently remove a guard or other safety device when installing an accessory or attachment.

#### **Inspect for damaged parts.**

Check for misalignment, binding of moving parts, loose fasteners, improper mounting, broken parts, and any other conditions that may affect operation. If abnormal noise or vibration occurs, turn the machine off immediately. Do not use damaged equipment until repaired. Do not use if power switch does not turn machine on and off. For all repairs, insist on only identical NFE replacement parts.

#### **Maintain equipment and labels.**

Keep handles dry, clean, and free from oil and grease. Keep cutting edges sharp and clean. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories. Motor and switches should be completely enclosed at all times with no exposed wiring. Inspect cord regularly. Labels carry important information; if unreadable or missing, contact NFE for a free replacement.

#### **Avoid accidental starting; store idle equipment.**

When not in use, ensure that the machine is unplugged; do not turn on before plugging in. Store in a dry, secured place. Remove tooling when storing, and keep away from children.



**CAUTION!** ENSURE PROPER USE OF EXTENSION CORDS. IF AMP DRAW IS HIGHER THAN SHOWN ON TABLE OR CORD IS LONGER THAN 50 FT, SEE AN ELECTRICIAN.

ASSUMPTIONS: 3% ALLOWABLE VOLTAGE DROP, COPPER CONDUCTORS RATED FOR 75°C, 1.25 SAFETY FACTOR, CORD VOLTAGE RATING OF 600VAC, PROPER CORD TYPES (STO, STOW, SOOW).

Amp Draw	Gauge
0-12	14
13-16	12
14-24	10
25-40	8

## WALK-BEHIND SCRAPER SAFETY GUIDELINES

Before use, anyone operating this equipment must read and understand these safety instructions.

### Scraping

#### **Beware of hidden obtrusions.**

Watch out for hidden dangers and protrusions in flooring. Do not use on largely uneven surfaces.

#### **Observe location of electrical supplies and extension cords.**

Do not allow cutting heads to come into contact with any electrical supply or extension cord.

#### **Use correct tooling and accessories.**

Provide barriers or shields as needed to protect others from debris. After mounting tooling, check for proper alignment.

#### **Use for correct applications.**

Do not force equipment to do heavier duty work than it was made for.

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**WARNING:** GRINDING/CUTTING/DRILLING OF MASONRY, CONCRETE, METAL AND OTHER MATERIALS CAN GENERATE DUST, MISTS AND FUMES CONTAINING CHEMICALS KNOWN TO CAUSE SERIOUS FATAL INJURY OR ILLNESS, SUCH AS RESPIRATORY DISEASE, CANCER, BIRTH DEFECTS OR OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM. IF YOU ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARTICULAR MATERIAL BEING CUT, REVIEW THE MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET AND/OR CONSULT YOU EMPLOYER, THE MATERIAL MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER, GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES SUCH AS OSHA AND NIOSH AND OTHER AUTHORITIES ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. CALIFORNIA AND SOME OTHER AUTHORITIES, FOR INSTANCE, HAVE PUBLISHED LISTS OF SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE CANCER, REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY, OR OTHER HARMFUL EFFECTS. CONTROL DUST, MIST AND FUMES AT THE SOURCE WHERE POSSIBLE. IN THIS REGARD USE GOOD WORK PRACTICES AND FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER, OSHA/NIOSH, AND OCCUPATIONAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS. WHEN THE HAZARDS FROM INHALATION OF DUST, MISTS AND FUMES CANNOT BE ELIMINATED, THE OPERATOR AND ANY BYSTANDERS SHOULD ALWAYS WEAR A RESPIRATOR APPROVED BY OSHA/MSHA FOR THE MATERIAL BEING CUT.

# Components and Assembly

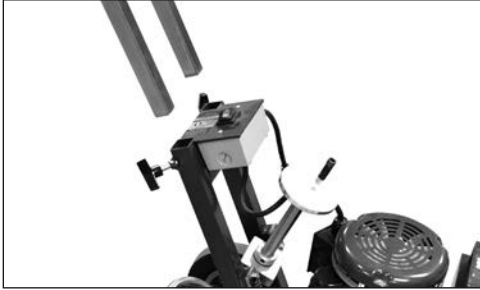


FIG. 1

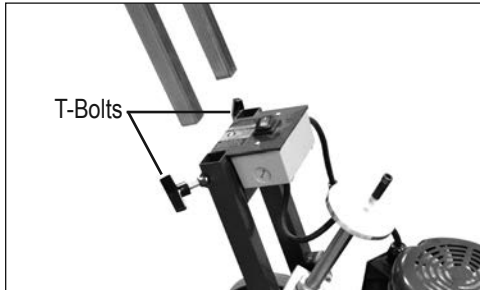


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

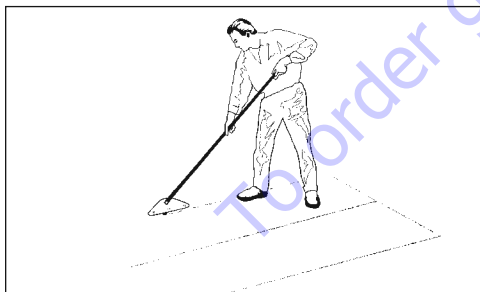


FIG. 4

## TRANSPORT

- Always remove counterweight and blades before loading or unloading.

Machine breaks down for easy transportation:

- Remove handle (Figure 1).
- Lower handle and/or wheel angle.



**WARNING:** KEEP HANDS AND FEET OUT FROM UNDER THE MACHINE.



**CAUTION:** LOOSEN T-BOLTS BEFORE TRYING TO REMOVE THE HANDLE.

## ASSEMBLY

This machine comes disassembled. To assemble, complete the following:

1. Loosen both T-bolts on the handle frame.
2. Insert handle into handle frame (Figure 2) and adjust to the desired height.
3. Retighten T-bolts.

## APPLICATION SET-UP

### VCT Tile

Never use a blade wider than the size of the tile being removed (Figure 3). If materials being removed still do not come up clean or machine jumps on top of materials, reduce blade size or use a smaller portion of the blade.

### Pure Vinyl Rubber Tile

Materials will need to be scored (Figure 4) down to 10-12" (25-30.5 cm) for proper removal. Self-scoring blades can be used with some materials. A 10" blade is recommended for this application.

### Direct-Glued Carpet

Done with either self-scoring blades or by pre-scoring carpet to match the blade width prior to stripping with a scoring tool (Figure 4). Pre-scored carpet makes machine easier to control and blades will stay sharper longer. Blades up to 16" wide can be used. Normally 12-14" (30.5-35.5 cm) blades are used on direct-glued carpet, secondary-backed, unitary, double glued, vinyl foam, and urethane foam. Latex foams come up easily with 16" blades.

### Ceramic

Requires angle shank holder and carbide-tipped angle shank. Ceramic over a wood sub-floor requires a low angle so the blade is flat to the floor. Ceramic over hard sub-floor such as concrete, requires an increased angle. Experiment with the angle to see which works the best. Clear debris from area as it is removed.

### Wood Sub-Floor

When working over plywood sub-flooring, try to run machine in a 45° angle to the grain in the wood. Blade in most cases should be bevel down. On solid wood floors, like plank,



# Components and Assembly

run 45° to the plank parallel to grain. Removing the front counter weight will help on all soft surfaces. Rounding off the corners of the blade will help from digging into the floor.

## Concrete

When working on concrete slab, a normal blade position is bevel up for best performance, especially when cleaning adhesive. On occasion, bevel down gives better blade life. Test each job for best performance.

## Gypcrete and Soft-Poured Flooring

Requires blade bevel down to create a better wearing surface.

## Glued Hardwood Flooring

A carbide-tipped angle shank or a 6" blade is recommended. For proper removal of hardwood flooring (parkay laminated, plank laminated, plank solid) flooring must be scored across the grain or plank direction. This is done by using a circular saw set at a depth of 100% of the thickness of the board, just missing the subfloor surface when on concrete (Figure 5). A chalk line for scoring lines can be used across the floor the width of the blade. A ripping guide attached to the saw can be used to eliminate chalk line marks. Open an area large enough to fit machine or start from a doorway. It is important to keep all debris cleaned up for maximum performance of machine. True parkay flooring will come up in small pieces so scoring is not necessary.

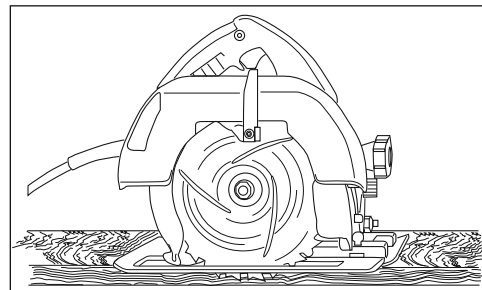


FIG. 5

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# Operation



FIG. 6

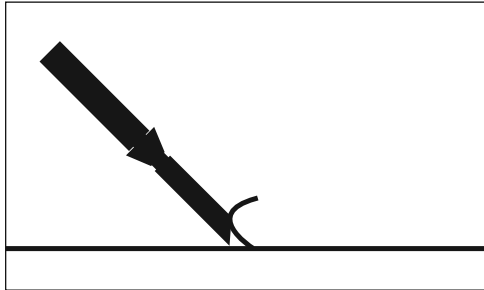


FIG. 7

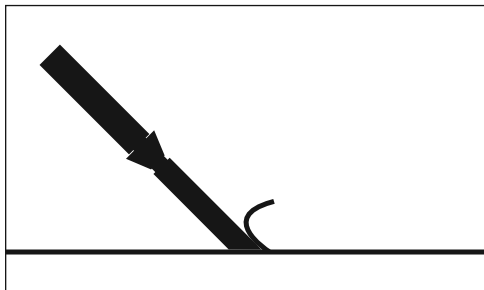


FIG. 7.1

## WHEEL AND HANDLE ADJUSTMENT

Adjusting the wheel angle will change the blade angle to the floor. Rotate handle clockwise to raise wheels and counterclockwise to lower wheels to the desired blade angle (Figure 6).

- A steep wheel angle is recommended on hard tear-outs, e.g. tile over concrete.
- A low wheel angle is recommended for vinyl, VCT, or carpet removal over plywood floors, soft sub-floors, plywood, luan, particleboard, or wafer board.

**Note:** Experiment with the angle to see what works the best for the application.



**CAUTION:** ONLY MAKE ADJUSTMENTS WHEN ON A FLAT SURFACE AND MACHINE IS TURNED OFF.

After the proper wheel adjustment is achieved, adjust the handle. No matter what the wheel angle is set at, the handle should be adjusted to the "belt-line" of the operator or to what the operator is comfortable with.

## START-UP PROCEDURE

### Domestic Machines

1. Machine must be off before plugging it into a power source.
2. Plug machine into power source.
3. Flip ON/OFF switch to the "ON" position.

### International Machines

1. Plug machine into power source.
2. Push the green start button.

## PREPARING BLADES



**CAUTION:** BLADES ARE SHARP, WEAR GLOVES AND USE EXTREME CAUTION WHILE HANDLING.



**CAUTION:** NEVER CHANGE CUTTING HEAD OR SERVICE BLADES WHILE MACHINE IS RUNNING.

## Setting

- Proper blade size and placement will affect performance, depending on the material and sub-floor type.
- For difficult materials, use smaller blades.
- Start with a narrow blade, then increase blade size to optimize cutting pass. Narrower blades work easier than wider blades and usually clean the floor better.
- Normally, bevel up is for concrete (Figure 7); bevel down is for wood or softer substrates, e.g. Gypcrete (Figure 7.1).
- Keep blades sharp. Dull blades greatly affect the performance of the machine and reduce cutting ability. Sharpen or replace blades as needed.
- Keep work area clean and clear of debris. After removing a portion of material, move it out of the way.

- For wood or wood-like floors, pound down or remove any nails or metal obstructions to avoid blade damage.
- Blades can be offset in the cutting head for easier access to toe kicks or for removal along the wall (Figure 8).
- Sheet vinyl, solid vinyl, rubber tile, urethane, or PVC sheet roofing will need to be scored for best removal results (Figure 9). Score flooring to the width of the blade.
- Self-scoring blades are available in a number of sizes; these blades eliminate the need for pre-scoring material. Depending upon the type of material being removed and the sharpness of the blade and scoring wings, the self-scoring blades may make it harder to control the machine. Keep scoring wings sharp at all times.

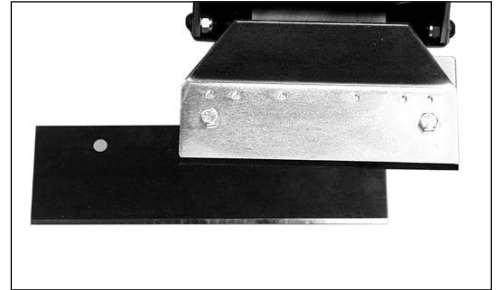


FIG. 8

## Changing

1. Block up the front of the machine using a flat piece of wood or something similar.
2. Use a wrench with enough extension to keep hand safely away from the blade to loosen the blade cover bolts. It is not necessary to remove them completely.
3. Place blade between the cutting head and blade clamp. Push blade back until it contacts the recess in the cutting head; tighten the blade holding bolts. If the blade is wider than the cutting head, center the blade to the head. If the blade is smaller than the cutting head, the blade should be mounted in the center of the cutting head during the first pass. After the first pass is made, the blade can be offset in the head to allow the wheels to keep even contact with the floor and provide easy access to the wall.
4. Tighten the bolts.

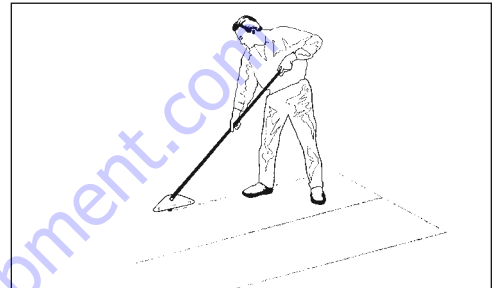


FIG. 9

## Sharpening

Always check for blade sharpness before using. Over time, the used blades will develop a back bevel. While sharpening, blades will not recover entirely until the back bevel is completely leveled out.

**Note:** *Thinner blades are easier to sharpen, but they also break easier.*

- Grind blade using a 4" diameter disk with 120 or finer grit. Be careful not to catch disk on the edge or corner of the blade.
- Pass grinder along blade edge starting on one end and continuing in one direction being careful to hold grinder at proper angle for the blade. Grind until sharp.
- While using a high quality fine tooth hand file, follow the same procedure as above.
- Have plenty of sharp blades on each job so that on-the-job blade sharpening is eliminated.
- It is best to sharpen blades on a proper bench or belt grinder in the shop.

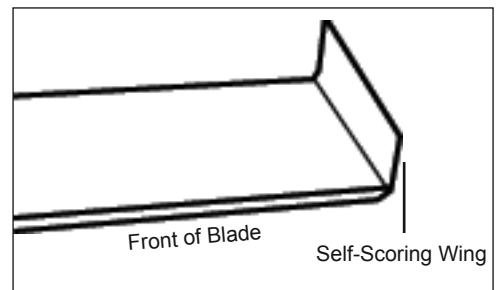


FIG. 10

**Self-Scoring Blade Sharpening (Figure 10):** It is important to keep the "wings" on these self-scoring blades sharp. Use a file on the edge; sharpen the flat part of the blade as described above.

**Carbide-Tipped Blade Sharpening:** To sharpen carbide-tipped blades, a carbide grinding wheel is necessary (e.g. silicon carbide or green wheel).

# Troubleshooting Guide

Problem	Cause	Solution
No power	Insufficient power	Inspect electrical cord for damage
	Switch/Circuit	Check if circuit breaker and/or switch are tripped
Motor noise	Fan guard is malfunctioning	Ensure fan guard is not bent
Machine is hard to handle	Machine is too heavy	Remove counterweight
	Blade is too large	Change to a smaller blade size
	Blade is too dull	Sharpen blade
Blown fuses or circuit breakers	Wrong extension cord	Use appropriate extension cord (see Safety)
	Poor quality outlet	Move to a different outlet or better circuit
Rattling	Loose fasteners	Check for loose nuts and bolts and re-tighten
	Worn out isolators	Replace isolators
Difficulty inserting shank	Shank holder is too tight	Remove paint from shaft of the shank with sandpaper, emery cloth, or a solvent

**Note:** For additional maintenance and repair information, reference this machine's Service Manual.

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