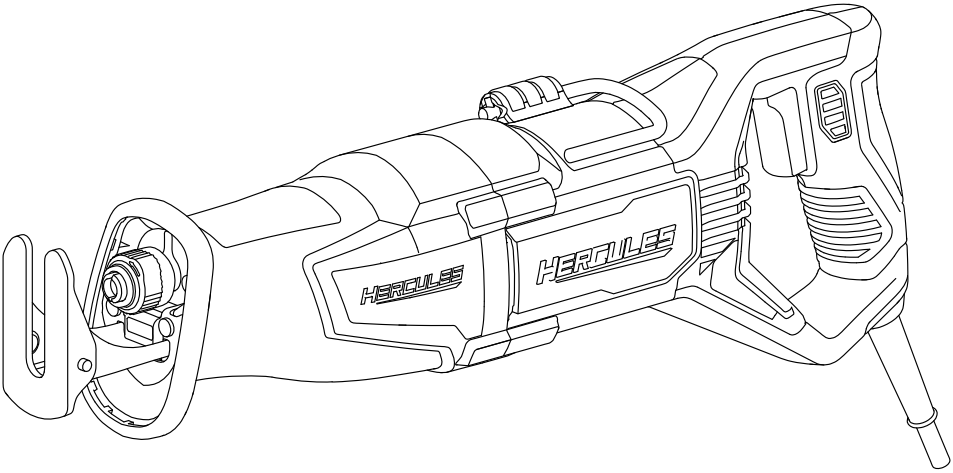
HERCULES

Owner's Manual & Safety Instructions

26i



Model
HE75

12Amp Electric Reciprocating Saw

⚠WARNING: To prevent serious injury, User must read and understand Owner's Manual. SAVE THIS MANUAL.

When unpacking, make sure that the product is intact and undamaged.
If any parts are missing or broken, please visit harborfreight.com/customer-support/contact-us as soon as possible. Reference 56879.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

GENERAL POWER TOOL SAFETY WARNINGS

⚠WARNING

Read all safety warnings and all instructions. *Failure to follow the warnings and instructions may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury.*

Save all warnings and instructions for future reference.

The term "power tool" in the warnings refers to your mains-operated (corded) power tool or battery-operated (cordless) power tool.

Work Area Safety

1. **Keep work area clean and well lit.** *Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents.*
2. **Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases or dust.** *Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.*
3. **Keep children and bystanders away while operating a power tool.** *Distractions can cause you to lose control.*

Electrical Safety

1. **Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way. Do not use any adapter plugs with grounded power tools.** *Unmodified plugs and matching outlets will reduce risk of electric shock.*
2. **Avoid body contact with grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators.** *There is an increased risk of electric shock if your body is grounded.*
3. **Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions.** *Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.*
4. **Do not abuse the cord. Never use the cord for carrying, pulling or unplugging the power tool. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts.** *Damaged or entangled cords increase the risk of electric shock.*
5. **When operating a power tool outdoors, use an extension cord suitable for outdoor use.** *Use of a cord suitable for outdoor use reduces the risk of electric shock.*
6. **If operating a power tool in a damp location is unavoidable, use a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) protected supply.** *Use of a GFCI reduces the risk of electric shock.*

Personal Safety

1. **Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use a power tool while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication.** *A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.*
2. **Use personal protective equipment. Always wear eye protection.** *Protective equipment such as dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.*
3. **Prevent unintentional starting. Ensure the switch is in the off-position before connecting to power source and/or battery pack, picking up or carrying the tool.** *Carrying power tools with your finger on the switch or energizing power tools that have the switch on invites accidents.*
4. **Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the power tool on.** *A wrench or a key left attached to a rotating part of the power tool may result in personal injury.*
5. **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** *This enables better control of the power tool in unexpected situations.*
6. **Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep your hair, clothing and gloves away from moving parts.** *Loose clothes, jewelry or long hair can be caught in moving parts.*
7. **If devices are provided for the connection of dust extraction and collection facilities, ensure these are connected and properly used.** *Use of dust collection can reduce dust-related hazards.*
8. **Do not let familiarity gained from frequent use of tools allow you to become complacent and ignore tool safety principles.** *A careless action can cause severe injury within a fraction of a second.*
9. Only use safety equipment that has been approved by an appropriate standards agency. Unapproved safety equipment may not provide adequate protection. Eye protection must be ANSI-approved and breathing protection must be NIOSH-approved for the specific hazards in the work area.
10. Avoid unintentional starting. Prepare to begin work before turning on the tool.
11. Do not lay the tool down until it has come to a complete stop. Moving parts can grab the surface and pull the tool out of your control.
12. When using a handheld power tool, maintain a firm grip on the tool with both hands to resist starting torque.

13. Do not leave the tool unattended when it is plugged into an electrical outlet. Turn off the tool, and unplug it from its electrical outlet before leaving.
14. This product is not a toy. Keep it out of reach of children.
15. People with pacemakers should consult their physician(s) before use. Electromagnetic fields in close proximity to heart pacemaker could cause pacemaker interference or pacemaker failure. In addition, people with pacemakers should:
    • Avoid operating alone.
    • Do not use with Trigger locked on.
    • Properly maintain and inspect to avoid electrical shock.
    • Properly ground power cord.
    Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) should also be implemented – it prevents sustained electrical shock.
16. The warnings, precautions, and instructions discussed in this instruction manual cannot cover all possible conditions and situations that may occur. It must be understood by the operator that common sense and caution are factors which cannot be built into this product, but must be supplied by the operator.

Power Tool Use and Care

1. **Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application.** *The correct power tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.*
2. **Do not use the power tool if the switch does not turn it on and off.** *Any power tool that cannot be controlled with the switch is dangerous and must be repaired.*
3. **Disconnect the plug from the power source and/or remove the battery pack, if detachable, from the power tool before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.** *Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the power tool accidentally.*
4. **Store idle power tools out of the reach of children and do not allow persons unfamiliar with the power tool or these instructions to operate the power tool.** *Power tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.*
5. **Maintain power tools and accessories. Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts and any other condition that may affect the power tool's operation. If damaged, have the power tool repaired before use.** *Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained power tools.*
6. **Keep cutting tools sharp and clean.** *Properly maintained cutting tools with sharp cutting edges are less likely to bind and are easier to control.*
7. **Use the power tool, accessories and tool bits etc. in accordance with these instructions, taking into account the working conditions and the work to be performed.** *Use of the power tool for operations different from those intended could result in a hazardous situation.*
8. **Keep handles and grasping surfaces dry, clean and free from oil and grease.** *Slippery handles and grasping surfaces do not allow for safe handling and control of the tool in unexpected situations.*

Service

1. **Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts.** *This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.*
2. Maintain labels and nameplates on the tool. These carry important safety information. If unreadable or missing, contact Harbor Freight Tools for a replacement.

Safety Instructions for Reciprocating Saws

1. **Hold power tool by insulated gripping surfaces when performing an operation where the cutting accessory may contact hidden wiring or its own cord.** *Cutting accessory contacting a "live" wire may make exposed metal parts of the power tool "live" and could give the operator an electric shock.*
2. **Use clamps or another practical way to secure and support the workpiece to a stable platform.** *Holding the workpiece by hand or against your body leaves it unstable and may lead to loss of control.*
3. Keep hands away from moving parts. Never place your hands near the cutting area.
4. Use extra caution when cutting overhead and pay particular attention to overhead wires which may be hidden from view. Anticipate the path of falling branches and debris ahead of time.

Vibration Safety

This tool vibrates during use.
Repeated or long-term exposure to vibration may cause temporary or permanent physical injury, particularly to the hands, arms and shoulders.
To reduce the risk of vibration-related injury:

1. Anyone using vibrating tools regularly or for an extended period should first be examined by a doctor and then have regular medical check-ups to ensure medical problems are not being caused or worsened from use. Pregnant women or people who have impaired blood circulation to the hand, past hand injuries, nervous system disorders, diabetes, or Raynaud's Disease should not use this tool. If you feel any symptoms related to vibration (such as tingling, numbness, and white or blue fingers), seek medical advice as soon as possible.
2. Do not smoke during use. Nicotine reduces the blood supply to the hands and fingers, increasing the risk of vibration-related injury.
3. Wear suitable gloves to reduce the vibration effects on the user.
4. Use tools with the lowest vibration when there is a choice.
5. Include vibration-free periods each day of work.
6. Grip tool as lightly as possible (while still keeping safe control of it). Let the tool do the work.
7. To reduce vibration, maintain the tool as explained in this manual. If any abnormal vibration occurs, stop use immediately.

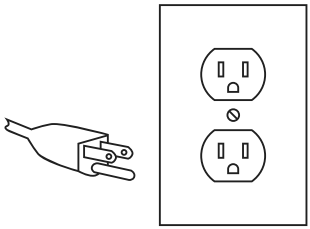
SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

GROUNDING

⚠WARNING

TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK AND DEATH FROM INCORRECT GROUNDING WIRE CONNECTION: Check with a qualified electrician if you are in doubt as to whether the outlet is properly grounded. Do not modify the power cord plug provided with the tool. Never remove the grounding prong from the plug. Do not use the tool if the power cord or plug is damaged. If damaged, have it repaired by a service facility before use. If the plug will not fit the outlet, have a proper outlet installed by a qualified electrician.

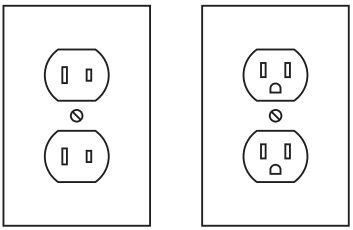
Grounded Tools: Tools with Three Prong Plugs



3-Prong Plug and Outlet

1. Tools marked with "Grounding Required" have a three wire cord and three prong grounding plug. The plug must be connected to a properly grounded outlet. If the tool should electrically malfunction or break down, grounding provides a low resistance path to carry electricity away from the user, reducing the risk of electric shock. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**
2. The grounding prong in the plug is connected through the green wire inside the cord to the grounding system in the tool. The green wire in the cord must be the only wire connected to the tool's grounding system and must never be attached to an electrically "live" terminal. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**
3. The tool must be plugged into an appropriate outlet, properly installed and grounded in accordance with all codes and ordinances. The plug and outlet should look like those in the preceding illustration. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**

Double Insulated Tools: Tools with Two Prong Plugs



Outlets for 2-Prong Plug

1. Tools marked “Double Insulated” do not require grounding. They have a special double insulation system which satisfies OSHA requirements and complies with the applicable standards of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., the Canadian Standard Association, and the National Electrical Code.
2. Double insulated tools may be used in either of the 120 volt outlets shown in the preceding illustration. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**

Extension Cords

1. ***Grounded*** tools require a three wire extension cord. ***Double Insulated*** tools can use either a two or three wire extension cord.
2. As the distance from the supply outlet increases, you must use a heavier gauge extension cord. Using extension cords with inadequately sized wire causes a serious drop in voltage, resulting in loss of power and possible tool damage. **(See Table A.)**
3. The smaller the gauge number of the wire, the greater the capacity of the cord. For example, a 14 gauge cord can carry a higher current than a 16 gauge cord. **(See Table A.)**
4. When using more than one extension cord to make up the total length, make sure each cord contains at least the minimum wire size required. **(See Table A.)**
5. If you are using one extension cord for more than one tool, add the nameplate amperes and use the sum to determine the required minimum cord size. **(See Table A.)**
6. If you are using an extension cord outdoors, make sure it is marked with the suffix “W-A” (“W” in Canada) to indicate it is acceptable for outdoor use.
7. Make sure the extension cord is properly wired and in good electrical condition. Always replace a damaged extension cord or have it repaired by a qualified electrician before using it.
8. Protect the extension cords from sharp objects, excessive heat, and damp or wet areas.

TABLE A: RECOMMENDED MINIMUM WIRE GAUGE FOR EXTENSION CORDS* (120/240 VOLT)

NAMEPLATE AMPERES (at full load)	EXTENSION CORD LENGTH				
	25´	50´	75´	100´	150´
0 – 2.0	18	18	18	18	16
2.1 – 3.4	18	18	18	16	14
3.5 – 5.0	18	18	16	14	12
5.1 – 7.0	18	16	14	12	12
7.1 – 12.0	18	14	12	10	-
12.1 – 16.0	14	12	10	-	-
16.1 – 20.0	12	10	-	-	-

*** Based on limiting the line voltage drop to five volts at 150% of the rated amperes.**

Symbology

V	Volts
⎓	Direct Current
AC	Alternating Current
A	Amperes
Hz	Hertz
n_0 xxxx/min.	No Load Revolutions per Minute (RPM)
SPM	Strokes Per Minute
	WARNING marking concerning Risk of Eye Injury. Wear ANSI-approved safety goggles with side shields.
	Read the manual before set-up and/or use.
	WARNING marking concerning Risk of Fire. Do not cover ventilation ducts. Keep flammable objects away.
	WARNING marking concerning Risk of Explosion. Do not puncture, short, or open battery packs and do not charge damaged battery packs.

SPECIFICATIONS

Electrical Rating	120VAC / 60Hz / 12A
No Load Speed	0-2800 SPM
Max. Workpiece Thickness	1-1/8"

Warning Symbols and Definitions

This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

⚠DANGER **Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.**

⚠WARNING **Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.**

⚠CAUTION **Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.**

NOTICE **Addresses practices not related to personal injury.**

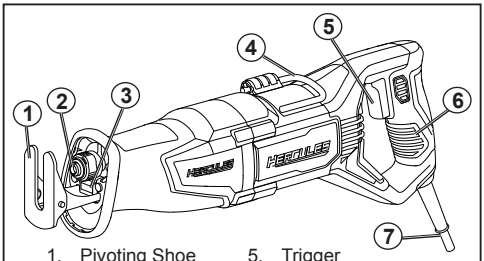
SETUP–BEFORE USE

Read the ENTIRE IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION section at the beginning of this manual including all text under subheadings therein before set up or use of this product.

Power Supply Requirements

120VAC, 60Hz

Functions



1. Pivoting Shoe
2. Blade Clamp
3. Work Light
4. Hook
5. Trigger
6. Handle
7. Power Cord

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Read the ENTIRE IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION section at the beginning of this manual including all text under subheadings therein before set up or use of this product.

Tool Changing

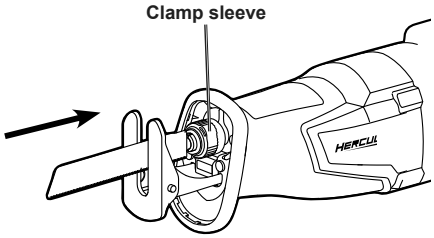
⚠WARNING

TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY FROM ACCIDENTAL OPERATION:
Make sure that the Trigger is in the OFF position and unplug the tool from its electrical outlet before performing any procedure in this section.

Installing / Removing Blade

1. Rotate the sleeve of the Clamp counterclockwise and insert the saw blade (sold separately) fully into the Clamp. Release the sleeve to close the Clamp.
2. Check that the Saw Blade is firmly locked in place and that the teeth are pointed downward.
3. To remove blade, rotate the sleeve of the Clamp counterclockwise to open the Clamp. Remove blade from Clamp and then release the sleeve.

WARNING! To prevent serious injury: Before connecting the power cord for each use, wear work gloves and pull on the Saw Blade to make sure it is securely locked in the Clamp.

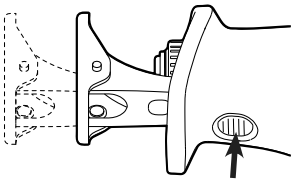


Adjusting Hook

1. The Hook may be used to hang the saw, if desired.
2. Grasp Hook and pull out. Rotate Hook to desired position.
3. Return Hook to holding position when not in use.

Adjusting Pivoting Shoe

1. Press the Pivoting Shoe Lock in and adjust the Pivoting Shoe to the desired location.
2. Release the Pivoting Shoe Lock to lock Shoe in place.



Pivoting Shoe Lock

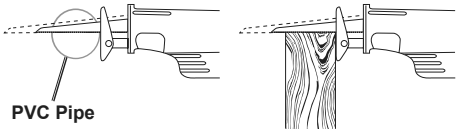
Setting and Testing

1. Set the Trigger to the OFF position and ensure the Blade is correctly attached to the Saw.
2. Connect the power cord to the outlet.
3. Be sure saw blade is not touching any surface and squeeze Trigger to start the tool. Continue to run the tool for 30 seconds.
4. If abnormal noise/vibration occurs or the blade loosens, have the problem corrected before further use.
5. Release the Trigger. Allow the saw to come to a complete stop before setting it down.

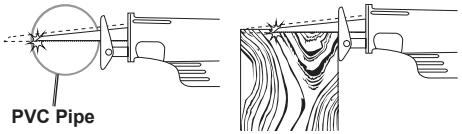
Workpiece and Work Area Set Up

1. Designate a work area that is clean and well lit. The work area must not allow access by children or pets to prevent distraction and injury.
2. Secure loose workpieces using a vise or clamps (not included) to prevent movement while working.
3. There must not be objects, such as utility lines, nearby that will present a hazard while working. This is especially critical for plunge cuts.
4. Using a glove, push blade holder all the way back. The workpiece must be thinner than minimum blade extension.
5. **CAUTION! To prevent injury, do not use on workpieces thicker than the minimum blade extension at their maximum thickness.** Blade tip can strike workpiece and may shatter.

Properly Sized Workpieces



Workpieces that are Too Thick



HERCULES

General Instructions for Use

1. Set Trigger to OFF position, then plug Saw into 120VAC, 60Hz grounded outlet.
2. Grip Saw firmly with both hands, rest the front of the Pivoting Shoe on workpiece with the blade above the work.

CAUTION! Do not start the Saw if the Blade is in contact with anything.

3. Press the Trigger to start the tool. The Work Light will turn on when Trigger is pressed and turn off when Trigger is released.
4. The tool has variable speed. To increase speed, apply more pressure to Trigger. To decrease speed, apply less pressure.

Note: When cutting softer materials, use a faster speed. When cutting harder materials, use a slower speed.

5. Allow the Saw to come up to full speed before touching the workpiece.
6. Guide the saw blade into the workpiece.

WARNING! TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY: Keep the Shoe pressed firmly against the workpiece while cutting to prevent kickback.

7. Maintain a smooth motion, guiding the blade through the material as it is cut. Follow the cut. Do not press too hard. If the Saw slows down as it is cutting, apply less pressure on the Saw.
8. To stop the Saw, release the Trigger.
9. Allow the Saw to come to a complete stop before setting it down.
10. To prevent accidents, unplug the tool. Clean, then store the Saw indoors out of children's reach.

Plunge Cutting

Plunge cut into plywood, sheetrock, and thin board panels. **Do not attempt to plunge cut into thick, hard wood or metal panels.**

1. Mark the cut line.
2. Place Pivoting Shoe on workpiece with blade parallel to cut line, and NOT touching the workpiece.

WARNING! To prevent serious injury due to kickback, do not start a plunge cut with the blade touching the workpiece.

3. Press the Trigger.
4. Allow the saw to come up to full speed, then slowly rotate saw on the Pivoting Shoe as the blade contacts the workpiece. Hold the saw firmly.
5. Continue to slowly rotate the saw until the blade has penetrated through the workpiece. Press the Pivot Shoe firmly against the workpiece and continue to make the cut.
6. To stop the saw, release the Trigger.
7. Allow the saw to come to a complete stop before removing from cut.
8. To prevent accidents, unplug Saw after use. Clean, then store the Saw indoors out of children's reach.

Metal Cutting

1. Install a metal cutting blade.
2. Coat the cutting surface with cutting oil to prevent the blade from overheating.
3. Follow *General Instructions for Use on page 8*.

MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING INSTRUCTIONS

Procedures not specifically explained in this manual must be performed only by a qualified technician.

⚠WARNING

TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY FROM ACCIDENTAL OPERATION:
Make sure that the Trigger is in the OFF position and unplug the tool from its electrical outlet before performing any procedure in this section.

TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY FROM TOOL FAILURE:
Do not use damaged equipment.
If abnormal noise or vibration occurs, have the problem corrected before further use.

Cleaning, Maintenance, and Lubrication

1. **BEFORE EACH USE,** inspect the general condition of the tool. Check for:
   - loose hardware
   - misalignment or binding of moving parts
   - damaged cord/electrical wiring,
   - cracked or broken parts
   - any other condition that may affect its safe operation.
2. **AFTER USE,** wipe external surfaces of the tool with clean cloth.
3. For blade changing instructions see *Installing / Removing Blade on page 6*.
4. **⚠WARNING! TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY: If the supply cord of this power tool is damaged, it must be replaced only by a qualified service technician.**

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Causes	Likely Solutions
Tool will not start.	1. Cord not connected.	1. Check that cord is plugged in.
	2. No power at outlet.	2. Check power at outlet. If outlet is unpowered, turn off tool and check circuit breaker. If breaker is tripped, make sure circuit is right capacity for tool and circuit has no other loads.
	3. Tool's thermal reset breaker tripped (if equipped).	3. Turn off tool and allow to cool. Press reset button on tool.
	4. Internal damage or wear. (Carbon brushes or Trigger, for example.)	4. Have technician service tool.
Tool operates slowly.	1. Forcing tool to work too fast.	1. Allow tool to work at its own rate.
	2. Extension cord too long or cord diameter too small.	2. Use correct extension cord.
Performance decreases over time.	1. Carbon brushes worn or damaged.	1. Have qualified technician replace brushes.
	2. Blade dull or damaged.	2. Keep blades sharp. Replace as needed.
Excessive noise or rattling.	Internal damage or wear. (Carbon brushes or bearings, for example.)	Have technician service tool.
Overheating.	1. Forcing tool to work too fast.	1. Allow tool to work at its own rate.
	2. Blade dull or damaged.	2. Keep blades sharp. Replace as needed.
	3. Blocked motor housing vents.	3. Wear ANSI-approved safety goggles and NIOSH-approved dust mask/respirator while blowing dust out of motor using compressed air.
	4. Motor being strained by long or small diameter extension cord.	4. Eliminate use of extension cord. If an extension cord is needed, use one with the proper diameter for its length and load. See *Extension Cords* in *Grounding* section on page 4.

Follow all safety precautions whenever diagnosing or servicing the tool.
Disconnect power supply before service.

Record Product's Date Code Here:_____

Note: If product has no date code, record month and year of purchase instead.

Note: Replacement parts may be available for this item.
To view all currently available replacement parts, please visit harborfreight.com/parts
Specify UPC 193175553713 when ordering parts.

3-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

This HERCULES tool is warranted to the original purchaser to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of three (3) years beginning on the date of purchase. To obtain warranty service, visit your local Harbor Freight retail store. Warranty registration is not required. The product or part must be returned to us with proof of purchase (e.g. in-store receipt or packing slip/invoice) and may require shipment by purchaser to a service center at purchaser's expense. If our inspection verifies a covered defect in materials or workmanship during the warranty period, we will, at our option, repair or replace the defective product. We will return repaired products within a reasonable time at our expense, but if we determine that there is no defect, or that the defect resulted from causes not within the scope of our warranty, then we will return the product to you if you pay return shipping costs.

This warranty does not cover any failure or damage that we determine is due directly or indirectly to normal wear and tear, misuse, use not for the intended purpose or not in accordance with the product manual, abuse, accident, rental, modification or alteration, unauthorized repair, improper installation, neglect, lack of maintenance, or any other failure not arising from defective materials or workmanship. Fraudulent returns or claims will be denied. The repair or replacement described in this warranty shall be your sole and exclusive remedy. THIS WARRANTY IS EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER EXPRESS WARRANTIES, WRITTEN OR ORAL, AND ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE DISCLAIMED TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW AND OTHERWISE LIMITED TO THE DURATION OF THE EXPRESS WARRANTY HEREIN. HARBOR FREIGHT SHALL NOT BE LIABLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES OR COSTS ARISING FROM THIS WARRANTY OR THE USE OF THIS PRODUCT. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THESE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND YOU MAY ALSO HAVE OTHER RIGHTS WHICH VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

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