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MS 391

Our top-of-the-line chainsaw for farm and ranch.

Specifications





90% of reviewers recommend this product.

Read all 257 reviews

Write a review

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STIHL engine technology means low fuel consumption, longer run times and reduced emissions in this high-powered chainsaw. The MS 391 features our newest engine technology that adds fuel efficiency while reducing emissions as compared to other models. Though equal in weight, the MS 391 is more powerful than the MS 311. Add to that an optimal power-to-weight ratio and you have a chainsaw that's cut out for the big jobs in field, farm and ranch. Felling trees, cutting firewood and cleanup after the storm just got a whole lot easier with the rugged MS 391.

Are You Ready for a STIHL?

MS 391 Specifications - Mid-Range Use





Are You Ready for a STIHL?

Important Information

WARNING! The occurrence called "kickback" can cause serious or fatal injury. Always read the instruction manual carefully before using your saw. STIHL uses a green and yellow color-coding system to help you select a powerhead, bar and chain combination that complies with the kickback requirements of ANSI Standard B175.1 (gasoline-powered saws) and §30 of UL 1662/ ANSI Standard B175.1 (electric chainsaws). Ask your STIHL dealer about safe operating procedures and the advantages of the STIHL Quickstop® chain brake, STIHL Quickstop® Plus (Q) additional chain braking feature, STIHL reduced kickback bars and STIHL low-kickback saw chains.

STIHL recommends the use of green reduced kickback bars and green low kickback chains on all STIHL chainsaws.

* The actual listed guide bar length can vary from the effective cutting length based on which powerhead it is installed on.

Note: STIHL recommends use of fuel with no more than 10% Ethanol content. Using fuel with greater than 10% Ethanol content may cause damage to your equipment and may void your STIHL warranty. Learn More...

WARNING! Improper use of any power tool may cause serious or fatal injury. Read, understand and follow carefully the operating and safety instructions in your instruction manual before using such products.

STIHL products sold through U.S. STIHL Dealers are for distribution in the United States only.





Model Features



Reduced-Emission Engine Technology - Caring for Nature

The STIHL Inc. "Caring for Nature" seal identifies its powered products that are more environmentally conscious, producing zero or low exhaust emissions. STIHL Inc. defines "low exhaust emissions" as being cleaner than EPA and/or CARB exhaust emission standards.

More information

Standard Features



Common Features for Chainsaws

View the features common to many STIHL chainsaws.



Pre-Separation Air Filtration System

This time-saving technology boosts the efficiency of the engine's filter system, doubling the time between air filter cleanings. Air drawn into the engine is first separated via centrifugal force, ejecting the heavier dirt particles before being routed to the air filter. This pre-separation means less dirt to be captured by the air filter, resulting in less frequent cleaning and maintenance.

More information



Anti-Vibration System

STIHL has developed a system for minimizing the vibration levels of handheld outdoor power equipment. The STIHL anti-vibration system helps reduce operator fatigue and provides a more comfortable working experience.



IntelliCarb™ Compensating Carburetor

The IntelliCarb™ Compensating Carburetor is designed to automatically adjust the air/fuel ratio when the air filter becomes restricted or partially clogged and maintains the engine's correct RPM. IntelliCarb™ uses air from the clean side of the air filter to control the diaphragm and flow of fuel. As the air filter becomes dirty and less air is available for the carburetor, the IntelliCarb $^{\mathsf{TM}}$ system adjusts the fuel flow to compensate for the decrease in air flow. This is in contrast to typical carburetors that utilize this air from the "dirty" side of the air box.



Side-Access Chain Tensioner

The side-access chain tensioner makes it much more convenient for the user to adjust the saw chain with a bar wrench as opposed to the typical location of the guide bar adjustment screw.



Toolless fuel and oil caps with retainers

Simply lift the lever and twist the caps to remove or tighten. There's no need to use a tool to tighten or loosen.

Are You Ready for a STIHL?



Product reviews





Quality

4.6 / 5

Dependability

Value 4.4 / 5

90% of reviewers recommend this product.

Advanced filters

Star Rating Quality Dependability Power Value Age Do you own your own house? Outdoor tool expertise Pros Cons

Click on filters to refine your results.

Write a review

Sort by

★★★★ 5/5

February 7, 2018

Quality 5 / 5 Dependability 5 / 5

Power 5 / 5
Value 4 / 5

Beast!

James 7061

From: Dickson, TN Age: 35 to 44 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

I purchased this Stihl MS391 based on the legendary Stihl name which is synonymous with reliability. I've had several other brand name saws that do some jobs, but I needed something bigger and more powerful to accommodate several projects that my smaller saws just couldn't handle. I've read several reviews on this saw and others and after owning my saw for a little over month, I just can't understand why there are so many reviews discounting this model saw. I have never had a problem getting my saw to fire up. First pull it burps in the choke full on position, after moving the choke lever to the warm engine start position, 2nd pull it's off and running. With this being said, I recently had an anterior cervical discectomy where 3 levels of my cervical spine were rebuilt including the removal and replacement of a crushed disc in my neck. The decompression valve used to help in the assistance of starting the saw makes my life much easier as I have found this feature makes this saw much easier start than my other big box store much smaller saws. This leads me to believe that problems that other users have experienced with starting this saw most likely is the result of operator malfunction as I doubt that Stihl would put out chainsaws that do not start for customers after they test start them at the factory before being shipped out.

Pros Easy to Use, Reliable

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 0 Report inappropriate content

Reply

Jman83

★★★★★ 5/5

February 5, 2018



Great product

From: Norwich, KS 67118, USA Age: 25 to 34 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Intermediate Skill

This is a quality product, not the junk you find at the big box stores. After using some of the other chainsaws out there, I thought they were pretty sorry, then I bought the stihl ms391, & I knew right away it was a REAL saw that will last & not the typical disposable ones that are far too common. Stihl; keep it up, build quality products & you will always have my business.

Pros Easy to Maintain, Easy to Use, Reliable, plenty of power

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 0 Report inappropriate content

Reply

**** 5/5

February 5, 2018



Great features

Shamrockeyes

From: Norman, OK, USA Age: 65 or over Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

I chainsaw is easy to use and to start. It zipped through a bridge bean in no time. Best purchase I ever made. I should have bought one a long time ago

Pros Easy to Maintain, Easy to Use, Reliable

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 0 Report inappropriate content

Reply



/ 5 Great saw for the money.

1 ebidary 4, 2010

Quality 5 / 5 Dependability 5 / 5

5

Power 5 / 5
Value 4 / 5

WoodGuy391

From: Michigan, USA Age: 35 to 44 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

This saw cuts quick and easy. Only wish it could handle a 25" bar. I normally cut bigger trees and would like to put a bigger bar on the saw. Now I'm looking into a 261 professional saw. Which can handle a 25" bar, but has less cc.

Pros Easy to Maintain, Easy to Use, Light, Reliable

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 1 Report inappropriate content

Reply

Comments (1)

MickeysSaw

on February 8, 2018

I have a 25 inch bar on mine and have no problem at all cutting with no loss of power. Matter of fact I find it to be one of my best balanced saws that I own.

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 0 Report inappropriate content

Comments (1)

★★★★★ 5/5

January 14, 2018

Quality 5 / 5 Dependability 5 / 5 Power

5 / 5

Value 5 / 5

Great saw.

Kenny2
From: Prescott Age: 45 to 54 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool

I have had my saw about 12 years. I loved its easy to start, well running engine and the absorption dampening. Over the last 5 or so years I started purchasing "parts" 440 saws off of ebay and rebuilding them. None of my rebuilt saws run as superior as this 391. I had a three day yard clearing project and this saw still exceeds my expectations. Even after 12 years this started effortlessly and wound run all day.

Pros Easy to Maintain, Easy to Use, Reliable

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 5 No 1 Report inappropriate content

Reply

★★★★★ 5/5

Excellent power

January 14, 2018

Quality 5 / 5
Dependability 4 / 5

Power 5 / 5 Value

5/5

Mrob525

From: Dubuque, IA, USA Age: 18 to 24 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

After owning a few lower grade less powerful saws this was my first jump to a "big boy" saw. I generally use it for cutting large loads of firewood for heating in the winter. My only disappointment came on the first start. I got it home and after a few pulls it flooded quickly and was done for in further attempts. Took it to the dealer who replaced the plug and explained sometimes the first start is rough due to oils used in manufacturing. Home again started on 3 pulls and ran it without load for 5 minutes (burns off oils from manufacturing) after that in the timber 2-3 pulls cold and one quick one when warm and it starts

right up. Saw has plentiful power cutting through anything I find and good reliability. Watch the chain, it warms up quick and gets loose, don't let it slip. Other than that a great saw, very pleased with the bang for my buck.

Pros Easy to Use, Reliable, powerful

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 4 No 1 Report inappropriate content

Reply

This saw has ample power.

goose67

From: Indiana Age: 65 or over Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

Instruction manual is not very helpful in regards to starting the saw. My saw does not start if it has not been used for a few days if you follow the directions in the manual.

Very hard saw to start, generally always floods.

Would prefer the old style caps for fuel and oil.

Pros Easy to Maintain

Cons Difficult to Use, Unreliable

Was this helpful? Yes 6 No 10 Report inappropriate content

Reply

Comments (2)

stihlshocked039

on January 16, 2018

you are so right this saw is the hardest saw I ever had and I have had many stihls. Tried everything NO luck . Never seen anything like . Very bad for a 600.00 saw . Thinking about a new saw But it may not be a STIHL THIS TIME . After 45 years maybe tine to change

Was this helpful? Yes 0 No 2 Report inappropriate content

Randdon

on January 3, 2018

Goose, do you use the decompression button and get the choke to the full on position? Generally to start a Sthil Saw, depress the decompression button, Fully depress the throttle and safety and then put the choke on to the full on position (The second position past run) and pull once or twice until you hear the saw kick. Once the saw kicks, move the choke to position 1 and pull once or twice and the saw should start up running about 1/3 throttle approximately! Let it run a few seconds like that and grab the throttle to full open position which will kick off the choke and set the saw to the normal operating position. Until the saw starts ... DON'T touch the throttle! Hope that helps!

Was this helpful? Yes 3 No 0 Report inappropriate content

Comments (2)

December 26, 2017 Quality 5/5 Dependability 5/5 Power 5/5 Value

5/5

Great product

Dave610

From: Kodak Tn Age: 25 to 34 Do you own your own house? Yes Outdoor tool expertise: Highly Skilled

I bought this saw to run a 25In bar to do some logging on the farms we lease saw works great cuts good we have been sawing 20+ inch oak logs every few days with the saw not as bad on gas as I thought it would be either looking at buying another larger saw in the near future

Pros Easy to Maintain, Easy to Use, Reliable **Cons** kinda off blanced with a 25 inch bar

Yes, I recommend this product.

Was this helpful? Yes 7 No 1 Report inappropriate content

Reply

1 2 3 4 5 ... 10 next



You Will Also Need



Bar and Chain Oil

Don't let friction cut down your chainsaw's performance. STIHL bar and chain oil is specially formulated to adhere to your chainsaw's bar and chain, providing optimal lubrication. Special oils help prevent sap and pitch from clinging, prolonging cutting performance and the lifespan of your chain parts. Ideal for use in moderate temperatures, STIHL bar and chain oil provides quality protection for your chainsaw – har none



Woodsman Chainsaw Carrying Case

Just like our chainsaws, our case can handle multiple tasks. Use it to carry and transport your chainsaw to and from the work site. It is also ideal for storage when your workday is done. It's unique, removable bar scabbard has built-in tool holders to carry tools to the cutting site. Fits MS 170 to MS 460 with 20" bar. (Excludes MS 441 and wrap-handle saws.) Replacement parts available.



HP Ultra 2-Cycle Engine Oil

No matter how you slice it (or trim it or shred it), there's no better protection for your high performance 2-stroke engine than STIHL HP Ultra Oil. This 2-cycle engine oil has outstanding engine cleaning characteristics, plus "ultra" lubricating qualities that are superior to other 2-cycle engine oils. This fully synthetic oil is also highly biodegradable, degrading by 80% in 21 days. We're so confident this oil will protect your engine, we'll double your STIHL limited warranty* when you use it. It's that good.

*Double your warranty when you purchase either STIHL HP Ultra Oil (six pack) or STIHL MotoMix® Patented Premixed Fuel (one gallon minimum) with your STIHL product purchase. Double limited warranty protection applies to select STIHL gasoline-powered products purchased for personal non-income producing, household purposes only. Other restrictions apply. See dealer for details or refer to STIHL's Limited Warranty Policy.



Complete Filing Kits

Includes file guide, depth gauge, round file, flat file and two file handles in tool pouch. Kits available for the following chain types: STIHL PICCO™ Mini; 1/4" pitch chain; .325" pitch chain; 3/8" pitch chain; .404" pitch chain.

For Your Safety



Forestry Helmet System

The woods can hold many dangers. Stay one step ahead with the Forestry Helmet System from STIHL. The protection starts with a hard shell of ABS thermoplastic. It gets even better with a six-point, ratchet-style suspension system that absorbs shock and keeps the helmet stable while you work.

The system also features a Cool Guard sweatband to keep perspiration out of your eyes, as well as a built-in rain gutter to direct rain away from your face during inclement weather. Adjustable hearing protectors comfortably reduce noise while an epoxy-coated steel full-face screen helps protect from flying debris.

Hard hat meets ANSI Z89.1-2003 Type 1 Class G. Hearing protectors meet ANSI S3.19-1974 and have a Noise Reduction Rating (NRR) of 24 dB(A).



Performance Zip Chap

When you need dependable, long-lasting protective apparel, STIHL has the solution. Using rows of heavy-duty zippers, the Performance Series Zip Chaps provide full wrap-around protection for a user's lower leg area. The zippers run along the entire inseam of the chaps, helping to ensure a comfortable fit that is easy to put on and/or remove. The outer material is crafted from durable orange Cordura® nylon fabric, an all-weather material used in a range of premium outerwear brands. Inside, the chaps feature six layers of Avertic® Pro by Engtex® cut retardant material, designed to reduce the risk or severity of injury in the event of contact with the rotating saw chain on a gasoline-powered chainsaw. They are great protective chaps in both the heat of summer and the cold of winter.

The STIHL Performance designation identifies products for advanced users.

Available color: Orange Available length: 32", 36", 40", 44"

See it in action!

NOTE: Chaps are measured by overall length from the waist down. STIHL chaps have a tough outer shell of oil/water-resistant nylon, treated with rain/stain repellent.



Two-Tone Work Glasses

They're comfortable. They're functional. They're from STIHL. Featuring a hollowed-out frame, our Two-Tone Work Glasses are as lightweight as they are stylish. Designed with flexible rubber tips and nose pads, these glasses help you get the job done with greater comfort and fewer slips. Meeting ANSI standard Z87.1+ and offering 99% UV protection, the STIHL Two-Tone Work Glasses will have you covered in more ways than one.



STIHL Pro Mark™ Dynamic Protective Gloves

Power up any STIHL product while wearing STIHL Pro Mark™ Dynamic Gloves. Featuring multiple layers of cut-retardant materials – Avertic™ Pro and Dyneema fabrics by Engtex® – these gloves will help deliver the protection you need while operating your STIHL chainsaw. The palm and inner fingers are made of full-grain tanned leather, so you can work with comfort without sacrificing a firm hold. Accented with an orange rip-stop nylon backing, these dynamic gloves offer style and professional-grade protection. The STIHL Pro Mark™ Dynamic Gloves are water repellant, breathable and feature a Velcro wrist closure to help keep wood chips, snow, ice and other debris from getting inside.

Are You Ready for a STIHL?

Read what our customers say about STIHL chainsaws Chainsaw Safety and Maintenance - Video Product Instruction Manual (PDF) Product Safety Manual (PDF) STIHL Limited Warranty Contact Us

Are You Ready for a STIHL?