

Sprocket Information Manual



Sprocket Information

For more information on sprockets you can also look at our essential info on sprockets.

Unlike the other manuals there is less to be said of chainsaw drive sprockets. They do come in different shapes and sizes but there is not the same variety as there is with bars and chains. Drive sprockets and rims are often neglected but regular replacement will give far longer life from your bar and chain.



There are two types of sprockets – spur sprockets and rim and sprockets. These can sit inside the clutch (inboard) or outside the clutch (outboard). With some chainsaws you have both options. With other chainsaws you can only have one or the other.



Spur Sprocket

With a spur sprocket the chain sits directly around the star shaped part of the sprocket. Spur sprockets last longer than rims but when they have worn out you need to change the whole sprocket.



Rim and Sprocket

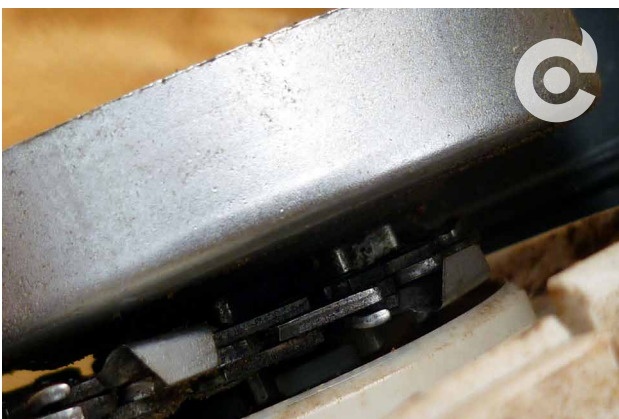
With a rim and sprocket the chain sits onto the rim which then in turn sits on the sprocket. Rims wear out faster but are easier to change and are cheaper.



Chain Around Outboard Spur



Chain Around Outboard Rim



Chain Around Inboard Spur



Chain Around Inboard Rim

On some chainsaw models you will notice in the results of the selector guide there is often a choice of 2 rims. This means you can change the gearing of the chainsaw. An Oregon 7-7 rim for instance will give more torque/less chain speed while an Oregon 7-8 rim will give less torque/more chain speed.



Rim and Sprocket with 7-7 rim

7 inner splines and 7 outer drive ports



Rim and Sprocket with 7-8 rim

7 inner splines and 8 outer drive ports

If you are an experienced chainsaw user you can tailor the rim to the equipment you're using and the logs you're sawing. Novice and less experienced users should always choose the more torque/less chain speed option i.e. in the example the Oregon 7-7 rim. This is the standard rim that will come with the chainsaw.