FREEDOM

18V Cordless Drill

MODEL FT1001

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

■ IMPORTANT: Please read this manual carefully before using your tool. Keep it in a safe place for future reference. Failure to follow instructions may result in serious injury.

FREEDOM 18V CORDLESS DRILL

Thank you for choosing Freedom Tools!

Please read this manual carefully before using your new drill. Keep it handy for future reference.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- Freedom 18V Cordless Drill (FT1001)
- Instruction Manual

NOTE: Battery pack and charger are sold separately.

INTENDED USE

Your Freedom Cordless Drill is designed for

- Drilling holes in wood, metal, plastic, and other materials
- Driving screws into various materials
- Removing screws

This tool is NOT intended for

- Mixing paint, concrete, or other materials
- Any use not described in this manual

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number: FT1001

Voltage: 18V DC

Battery Type: Lithium-Ion

Chuck Size: 3/8" (keyless)

Speed Range

- Low Speed (Position 1): 0-350 RPM
- High Speed (Position 2): 0-1300 RPM

Torque Settings: 17 + 1 (drill mode)

Charging Time: 3-5 hours

Weight: Approximately 3.5 lbs (with battery)

KNOW YOUR DRILL - PARTS IDENTIFICATION

1. Speed Selector Switch (1 = Low, 2 = High)
2. Torque Adjustment Ring (1-17 + drill symbol)

3. Keyless Chuck (3/8")
4. LED Work Light
5. Forward/Reverse Switch
6. Variable Speed Trigger
7. Battery Level Indicator
8. Battery Level Test Button
9. Battery Pack (18V Li-Ion)
10. Battery Release Buttons
11. Motor Ventilation Slots
12. Battery Charging Port
13. Charger Connector Socket
14. AC Power Supply Unit (100-240V)
15. Charger Indicator Light

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

■ WARNING: Failure to follow these safety instructions may result in electric shock, fire, serious injury, or death.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS - Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference.

GENERAL POWER TOOL SAFETY

WORK AREA SAFETY

• Keep your work area clean and well-lit. Cluttered or dark areas increase the risk of accidents.
• DO NOT operate power tools near flammable liquids, gases, or dust. Power tools create sparks that can ignite fumes or dust.
• Keep children and bystanders at least 10 feet away while operating this tool.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

• Even though this is a cordless tool, keep the charger away from rain and moisture.
• Never use the charger if the cord or plug is damaged.
• Keep the charging cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges, and moving parts.
• If you must use an extension cord with the charger, use only cords rated for outdoor use.
• If working in damp locations, use a residual current device (RCD) protected outlet or circuit.

PERSONAL SAFETY

• Stay alert. Don't use power tools when you're tired or under the influence

of drugs, alcohol, or medication.

- Always wear safety glasses or goggles. Also use a dust mask, non-slip safety shoes, hard hat, and hearing protection when appropriate.
- Prevent accidental starting. Make sure the trigger is OFF before inserting the battery.
- Remove adjustment tools before turning on the drill. A wrench left on a rotating part can cause injury.
- Don't overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Dress appropriately. Don't wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep long hair tied back. Loose items can get caught in moving parts.
- If your drill has a dust collection port, make sure it's connected and working properly.

TOOL USE AND CARE

- Use the right tool for the job. Don't force a tool to do something it wasn't designed for.
- Don't use the drill if the switch doesn't turn it on and off properly. A tool that can't be controlled is dangerous and must be repaired.
- Remove the battery before making adjustments, changing accessories, or storing the tool.
- Store the drill out of reach of children. Never let anyone unfamiliar with power tools or these instructions operate this drill.
- Maintain your tools. Check for misaligned or jammed moving parts, broken parts, and any other condition that might affect operation. Have damaged tools repaired before use.
- Keep drill bits sharp and clean. Sharp bits are less likely to jam and are easier to control.
- Use only accessories recommended for this drill. Using the wrong accessories can be dangerous.

BATTERY SAFETY

- Only use the Freedom charger that came with this drill. Using the wrong charger can cause fires.
- Only use Freedom 18V battery packs with this drill.
- When the battery is not in the drill, keep it away from metal objects like paper clips, coins, keys, nails, and screws. These can short-circuit the battery terminals and cause burns or fire.
- Under extreme conditions, battery liquid may leak. If it touches your skin, wash immediately with soap and water. If it gets in your eyes, flush with water for 15 minutes and seek medical attention immediately.

DRILL-SPECIFIC SAFETY

■ WEAR EAR PROTECTION when impact drilling. Exposure to noise can cause hearing loss.

■ USE THE AUXILIARY HANDLE (if your model has one). Loss of control can cause injury.

■ HOLD THE DRILL BY THE INSULATED GRIP AREAS when drilling where you might hit hidden wiring. Contact with a live wire can electrify exposed metal parts and shock the operator.

SCREWDRIVER SAFETY

■ HOLD THE DRILL BY THE INSULATED GRIP AREAS when driving screws where you might hit hidden wiring. Contact with a live wire can electrify exposed metal parts and shock the operator.

BATTERY AND CHARGER SAFETY

BATTERY WARNINGS

• This tool is not intended for use by children or people with reduced physical, sensory, or mental capabilities without supervision.
• Children must be supervised to ensure they don't play with the tool.
• Read all battery and charger instructions before use.
• Use only the correct charger for your battery type.
• Never expose the battery or charger to moisture, rain, or water.
• The charging area temperature must not exceed 104°F (40°C). Never charge in direct sunlight.
• Defective or damaged batteries must be disposed of as hazardous waste at a proper collection facility. Never throw batteries in household trash, fire, or water.
• If the power cord is damaged, it must be replaced by the manufacturer or authorized service center.
• Use only original Freedom battery packs.
• Keep the charger surface clean and free of dust.
• Insert the battery correctly, matching the + and - terminals.
• ALWAYS remove the battery before working on the drill.
• When the battery is removed from the drill, cover the terminals to prevent short circuits.
• NEVER throw batteries into water or fire - EXPLOSION RISK!
• Protect the battery from impacts. Don't open it.
• Don't completely discharge the battery. Recharge it occasionally even when not in use.

UNDERSTANDING RISKS

Even when used properly, some risks cannot be eliminated

1. Lung damage if you don't wear an effective dust mask
2. Hearing damage if you don't wear hearing protection

3. Health problems from vibration if the tool is used for extended periods without breaks

■ ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD WARNING: This drill produces an electromagnetic field during operation. If you have a pacemaker or other medical implant, consult your doctor and the implant manufacturer before using this tool.

VIBRATION INFORMATION

This drill produces vibration during use. The actual vibration level depends on:

- What material you're drilling
- What type of bit you're using
- How hard you're pressing
- How long you use the tool

To reduce vibration exposure

- Take frequent breaks
- Maintain the tool properly
- Keep bits sharp
- Don't grip the tool too tightly
- Wear anti-vibration gloves

GETTING STARTED

CHARGING THE BATTERY (FIRST TIME USE)

Before using your drill for the first time, fully charge the battery

1. Insert the battery pack into the charger stand. Make sure the + and - terminals align correctly (correct polarity).
2. Plug the charger into a standard wall outlet (100-240V AC).
3. The indicator light will turn RED, showing the battery is charging.
4. When fully charged (3-5 hours), the indicator light will turn GREEN.
5. Unplug the charger from the wall outlet.
6. Remove the battery from the charger.

IMPORTANT CHARGING NOTES:

- The battery reaches full capacity after 3-5 charge/discharge cycles.
- The charger, adapter, and battery will feel warm during charging - this is normal.
- Always unplug the charger from the wall BEFORE disconnecting the battery.

BATTERY MAINTENANCE:

- Recharge when you notice reduced performance. Don't continue using a weak battery.
- Recharge at least every 6 months, even if not in use.
- DON'T overcharge. Remove the battery after 5 hours maximum.
- DON'T recharge immediately after charging. Let the battery rest for at least 15 minutes.
- If storing the drill for a long time, recharge the battery before use.
- If charging multiple batteries, wait at least 15 minutes between charges.
- NEVER leave a charging battery unattended.

INSTALLING THE BATTERY

1. Align the battery pack with the battery slot on the drill handle.
2. Slide the battery in until it clicks into place.
3. To remove: Press both battery release buttons and pull the battery out.

CHECKING BATTERY CHARGE LEVEL

Press the TEST button on the battery. The indicator lights show the charge level:

- 3 lights = Fully charged
- 2 lights = Medium charge
- 1 light = Low charge - recharge soon
- No lights = Dead - recharge now

OPERATING YOUR DRILL

INSTALLING DRILL BITS OR SCREWDRIVER BITS

1. Make sure the battery is removed.
2. Hold the back section of the chuck (the part closest to the drill body).
3. Rotate the front section of the chuck counterclockwise to open the jaws.
4. Insert the drill bit or screwdriver bit as far as possible into the chuck.
   - For screwdriver bits, use a bit holder/adapter
   - Choose the correct bit size to avoid damaging screws
5. Tighten the chuck by rotating the front section clockwise. Tighten firmly by hand.
6. Check that the bit is secure by trying to pull it out.

SELECTING DRILL SPEED (1 OR 2)

Your drill has two speed ranges

• SPEED 1 (LOW): 0-350 RPM

Use for: Driving screws, drilling large holes, drilling metal

• SPEED 2 (HIGH): 0-1300 RPM

Use for: Drilling small holes in wood, drilling plastic

To change speeds: Slide the speed selector switch to position 1 or 2.

■ **ONLY change speeds when the drill is completely stopped!**

SETTING THE TORQUE (CLUTCH)

The torque ring controls how much twisting force the drill applies. This prevents over-tightening screws and stripping screw heads.

Numbers 1-17: Use for driving screws

- Start with 1 (lowest torque) and increase if needed
- Higher numbers = more force
- The clutch will "click" when the set torque is reached

Drill Symbol: Use for drilling holes

- This setting provides maximum power
- The clutch is disengaged

FORWARD AND REVERSE

The forward/reverse switch controls rotation direction

- FORWARD (clockwise): For drilling holes and driving screws
- REVERSE (counterclockwise): For removing screws and backing out jammed bits

The switch shows directional arrows

- → = Forward
- ← = Reverse

■ **ONLY change direction when the drill is completely stopped!**

TURNING THE DRILL ON AND OFF

TO START:

- Squeeze the trigger

TO STOP:

- Release the trigger

VARIABLE SPEED CONTROL:

- Squeeze lightly = Slow speed
- Squeeze harder = Faster speed

This gives you precise control for starting holes and driving screws.

LED WORK LIGHT

The LED work light automatically turns on when you squeeze the trigger. This illuminates your work area for better visibility.

USING YOUR DRILL

DRILLING HOLES

1. Select the correct drill bit for your material

- Wood: Brad point or twist drill bits
- Metal: High-speed steel (HSS) twist bits
- Masonry: Carbide-tipped masonry bits
- Plastic: Standard twist bits

2. Mark your drilling location with a pencil or center punch.
3. Set the torque ring to the drill symbol position.

4. Select the appropriate speed

- Large holes or metal: Speed 1 (low)
- Small holes or wood: Speed 2 (high)

5. Position the bit at the mark and squeeze the trigger slowly to start.
6. Apply steady, moderate pressure. Let the drill do the work - don't force it.
7. For deep holes, periodically pull the bit out to clear chips.

IF THE BIT GETS JAMMED:

- Release the trigger immediately
- Switch to reverse
- Use low speed to back the bit out
- Don't force it - this can damage the bit or drill

DRIVING SCREWS

1. Select the correct screwdriver bit for your screw type

- Phillips head: Use Phillips bit (#1, #2, or #3)
- Flat head: Use flat blade bit
- Square drive: Use Robertson bit
- Star: Use Torx bit

2. Insert the bit into a bit holder/adapter, then into the chuck.
3. Set the torque ring to 1 (lowest setting).
4. Select Speed 1 (low speed).
5. Set the forward/reverse switch to forward (→).
6. Position the bit squarely in the screw head.
7. Hold the drill straight and apply steady pressure while squeezing the trigger.
8. If the screw isn't fully seated and the clutch clicks, increase the torque setting and try again.

TIPS FOR DRIVING SCREWS:

- Pre-drill pilot holes in hardwood to prevent splitting
- Keep the bit pressed firmly into the screw head to prevent stripping
- Use steady, even pressure
- Don't over-tighten - this can strip threads or break screw heads

REMOVING SCREWS

1. Insert the correct screwdriver bit.
2. Set the torque ring to a medium setting (8-12).
3. Set the forward/reverse switch to reverse (←).
4. Position the bit squarely in the screw head.
5. Hold the drill straight and apply firm pressure while squeezing the trigger.

6. If the screw is stuck, try

- Increasing the torque setting
- Applying penetrating oil and waiting a few minutes
- Using an impact driver instead

OPERATING TIPS

PREVENTING MOTOR OVERHEATING

- Don't run the drill at low speed for extended periods - this can overheat the motor.

- If the drill feels hot, stop and let it cool for 15 minutes.
- Keep the ventilation slots clear of dust and debris.

MAXIMIZING BATTERY LIFE

- Don't completely drain the battery before recharging.
- Store batteries in a cool, dry place (50-70°F is ideal).
- Recharge every 6 months even if not in use.
- Remove the battery if storing the drill for more than 30 days.

GETTING THE BEST RESULTS

- Use sharp bits - dull bits require more force and drain the battery faster.
- Match the bit to the material.
- Start holes at slow speed for better accuracy.
- Secure your workpiece with clamps - never hold it by hand.
- Wear safety glasses every time you use the drill.

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

■ ALWAYS REMOVE THE BATTERY BEFORE MAINTENANCE OR CLEANING!

CLEANING

- Wipe the drill with a dry or slightly damp cloth.
- NEVER use water, solvents, gasoline, paint thinner, or harsh chemicals -

these can damage the plastic housing.

- Keep the ventilation slots clean and free of dust to prevent overheating.
- Use compressed air to blow out dust from the motor vents.

CHUCK MAINTENANCE

- Occasionally apply a drop of light machine oil to the chuck threads.
- Open and close the chuck a few times to distribute the oil.

GENERAL INSPECTION

- Regularly check for:
- Loose screws or parts
- Damaged cords (on charger)
- Worn or damaged chuck
- Unusual noises or vibrations

STORAGE

- Store in a cool, dry place.
- Remove the battery if storing for more than 30 days.

- Keep out of reach of children.
- Store in the original case or a secure location.

REPAIRS

- For your safety, all repairs must be performed by an authorized Freedom

service center.

- Use only genuine Freedom replacement parts.
- Never attempt to disassemble the drill or battery pack.

TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM: Drill won't start

- Check that battery is fully charged
- Make sure battery is fully inserted and locked
- Check that forward/reverse switch is fully engaged (not in middle position)
- Try a different battery if available
- Let the drill cool down if it's been used heavily

PROBLEM: Drill runs but has no power

- Recharge the battery
- Check that you're using the correct speed setting
- Make sure the torque ring isn't set too low (use drill symbol for drilling)
- Use a sharp bit - dull bits require more power

PROBLEM: Chuck won't hold bit securely

- Make sure bit shank is clean and free of debris
- Tighten chuck more firmly
- Check that bit shank is straight (not bent)
- Chuck may be worn - contact service center

PROBLEM: Battery won't charge

- Check that charger is plugged into working outlet
- Make sure battery is fully seated in charger
- Clean battery and charger contacts with dry cloth
- Let battery warm up if it's very cold (below 40°F)
- Battery may be defective - contact customer service

PROBLEM: Drill overheats

- Let drill cool for 15 minutes
- Don't use low speed for extended periods
- Keep ventilation slots clear
- Don't overload the drill - use appropriate bits and speeds

PROBLEM: LED light doesn't work

- This is normal if battery is very low - recharge
- LED may be burned out - contact service center

SPECIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Model: FT1001

Type: Cordless Drill/Driver

Voltage: 18V DC

Battery: Lithium-Ion

Chuck: 3/8" keyless

Speed 1: 0-350 RPM

Speed 2: 0-1300 RPM

Torque Settings: 17 + drill mode

Charging Time: 3-5 hours

Charger Input: 100-240V AC, 50/60Hz

Weight (with battery): Approx. 3.5 lbs

DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING

■ DO NOT throw this tool or batteries in household trash!

Electronic waste and batteries contain materials that can harm the environment.

Please recycle

- Take to a local recycling center that accepts electronics
- Contact your local waste management authority for collection information
- Return to a Freedom Tools dealer that accepts old tools
- Check www.call2recycle.org for battery recycling locations

SYMBOLS AND LABELS

The following symbols may appear on your tool

■ Warning symbol - Read manual V Volts ~ Alternating current ■ Direct current ■ Recycling symbol ■ Wear hearing protection ■ Wear eye protection ■ Wear gloves ■ Wear dust mask ■ Electric shock hazard ■ Fire hazard

Thank you for choosing Freedom!