Follow these safety guidelines

Before you operate your new wood chipper, follow these safety rules:

- Read the owner's manual and know how to properly use the chipper.
- Dress for the job. Always wear work gloves and safety glasses or goggles. Wear sturdy, rough-soled work shoes, and shirts and pants that are close fitting. Make

sure your hair is up and out of the way. Remove any jewelry that could become caught in moving parts.

- Position the chipper on level ground away from slippery surfaces.
- Keep pets and children out of your work area.
- Keep your work area clear of any debris that could cause you to stumble.

Wood chipper tips

important to note that electric shredder-grinders are pretty much limited to shredding leaves.)

Wood chippers also come in models with multiple uses, such as sweeper-blowers, chipper-shredder-vacuums, and chipper-blower-vacuums – any one of them is helpful for collecting and grinding leaves as well as branches. Hose attachments allow you to clean gutters and window wells.

Instead of raking leaves, bending over, and lifting the piles into bags, you can use a wood chipper model that allows you to tilt down the hopper and vacuum up the leaves. The leaves are then pulverized down from about eight leaf bags into one compact $2\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel collection bag.

Options galore

Weigh the above choices and add the following options to suit your needs:

- Tow bar. Hook your wood chipper to your lawn tractor to make it easy to tote to remote areas of the yard.
- **Blower**. Direct the flow of chips and debris into a trailer or other holding container.
- Collection bag. As you shred material, the chipper can dispense it directly into an optional attached bag, eliminating raking and bagging for redistribution.
- Screens. Additional steel screens feature perforations of various sizes to allow you to produce potting soil or grind shells or poultry feed and pulverize stones.
- Blowback shield. This safety device inhibits coarse, unshredded material from blowing back out the hopper.
- Covers. Heavy-duty vinyl sheeting, fitted to your particular model, protects the chipper while in storage.
- Electric start. Turn a key to start the wood chipper.

What you'll pay

Prices for wood chippers vary depending on the size and options you choose. For a no-frills model with 6-hp. engine and capable of chipping a 2½-inch log, expect to pay from \$400 to \$900. Models with a 9-hp. engine capable of chipping 3½-inch logs start at about \$1,600.

For a professional-quality chipper equipped with a 16-hp. engine and capable of handling up to 4½-inch logs, prices start at about \$4,000. ■

Wood Chippers Made by MacKissic, Inc.



Leaf Shredder-Chippers

Available in 2 models with 6 or 9 hp Briggs & Stratton INTEK engine, chips up to 2-7/8" dia. branch

Chipper-Shredders (Heavy-duty Hammermill Type)

Available in models to fit homeowners, professionals or rental needs with engines ranging from 6 to 16 hp and able to chip branches from 2-7/8" to 4-1/2" diameters

Tractor Mounted Chipper-Shredders

2 Models: TPH-12 will chip up to 3-1/2" branches and TPH-183 will chip up to a 4-1/2" diameter.

Leafcycler

Three models with 5 to 9 hp Briggs & Stratton engines. Units incorporate blower, chipper, and mulcher-bagger in one machine & can chip up to a 2-7/8" dia. branch.

Vacuum-Chipper-Bagger

Model VCB258 with 8 hp. Tecumseh XL engine includes chipper for branches up to 2-7/8" dia. along with the vacuum-bagger functions.

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