GENERAL

stihl fs 56rc weedeater parts list

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Stihl FS /56RC Weedeater Parts List: A Complete Guide

When you own a Stihl FS 56RC weedeater, you're working with one of the most reliable and powerful tools on the market for cutting grass, weeds, and light brush. Like any high performance machine, it's built from a variety of specialized components that work together to deliver consistent power and durability. Whether you're a professional landscaper, a homeowner maintaining a lawn, or a hobbyist who enjoys DIY maintenance, understanding the parts that make up your Stihl FS 56RC is essential. This guide provides a comprehensive parts list, explains each component's function, and offers practical advice for maintenance, troubleshooting, and sourcing replacement parts.

Why Knowing Your Weedeater's Parts Matters

Stihl's FS 56RC is engineered for heavy duty use. Over time, even the most robust equipment can develop wear or experience unexpected failures. If you know where each part is located and what it does, you can:

- Diagnose problems faster and more accurately.
- Replace components without buying a whole new unit.
- Extend the life of your weedeater and keep it running efficiently.
- Save money by buying only the parts you need.
- Ensure safety by replacing worn or damaged parts before they pose a risk.

Below is a detailed parts list that covers the most common components found on the FS 56RC, along with descriptions, maintenance tips, and where to source them.

Stihl FS /56RC Weedeater Parts List

1. Engine & Fuel System

- Engine Block (1.1 L, 2 Stroke) – The heart of the machine; produces the power needed to drive the cutting head.
- Carburetor – Mixes fuel and air; a key component for throttle response and engine performance.
- Fuel Filter – Prevents debris from entering the engine; typically located near the fuel line.
- Oil Pump – Circulates oil to lubricate moving parts; essential for engine longevity.
- Oil Reservoir (Oil Tank) – Holds the engine oil; usually removable for easy refilling.
- Fuel Tank – Stores gasoline; often a detachable 1 liter or larger tank.
- Fuel Line – Connects the tank to the carburetor; flexible and resistant to heat.

2. Cutting Mechanism

- Cutting Head – The rotating cutting bar that does the work; features a cutting blade and a protective guard.
- Blade (Cutting Blade) – The actual cutting element; usually made of high strength steel.
- Blade Guard (Protective Shield) – Covers the blade to prevent debris from splashing and to keep users safe.
- Blade Retainer (Clamping Mechanism) – Holds the blade firmly in place; often a spring or bolt system.
- Guide Rod – Keeps the cutting head aligned and stable during operation.

3. Drive & Transmission

- Drive Shaft – Transfers power from the engine to the cutting head.

- Gearbox (Transmission) – Adjusts torque and speed; typically a simple two speed gear set.
- Drive Wheel (If applicable) – Allows the weedeater to move on the ground; some models use a small wheel or a handle for pushing.

4. Handle & Ergonomics

- Handle (Grip) – Usually a rubber or textured grip for comfort and control.
- Handle Extension (Optional) – Extends the reach for taller users or difficult angles.
- Handle Cover (Protective Cover) – Shields the user's hand from heat and vibration.

5. Safety & Control Components

- Throttle Lever – Controls engine speed; located on the handle.
- Safety Switch (Emergency Stop) – Allows quick shutdown of the engine.
- Blade Lock (Safety Lock) – Prevents accidental blade activation.
- Gear Selector Switch – Switches between low and high gear (if available).
- Protective Guard (Blade Guard) – Already mentioned under cutting mechanism; also serves as a safety barrier.

6. Electrical & Lighting (Optional)

Some FS /56RC models include a small LED light for night work.

- LED Light Assembly – Mounted near the handle or cutting head.
- Battery (If cordless variant) – Provides power for the light and, in some models, for the motor.
- Charging Port – Connects the battery to a charger.

7. Miscellaneous Parts

- Spare Parts Kit – Often includes a set of small screws, bolts, and washers.
- Oil Seal – Seals the oil pump and prevents leaks.
- O Ring (Seals) – Keeps fuel and oil from leaking at joints.
- Fasteners (Bolts, Nuts, Washers) – Hold components together; often made of stainless steel.
- Replacement Handles – For users who prefer a different grip style.

Common Issues and How to Fix Them

1. Engine Stalling or Poor Performance

Stalling can result from a clogged carburetor, dirty fuel filter, or low oil level. Check the carburetor for fouling, clean or replace the fuel filter, and ensure the oil reservoir is full. If the problem persists, inspect the spark plug and replace it if necessary.

2. Blade Vibration or Noise

Excessive vibration often indicates a worn or misaligned blade. Remove the cutting head, check the blade guard and retainer for wear, and replace the blade if it's dull. Tighten all mounting bolts and realign the guide rod.

3. Fuel Leaks

Fuel leaks typically stem from a cracked fuel line or a faulty seal. Inspect the line for cracks or wear, replace the O rings, and ensure the fuel tank cap is sealed properly.

4. Oil Leaks

Oil leaks usually occur at the oil pump seal or the oil filter. Replace the oil seal or filter and tighten all connections. Use a high quality silicone sealant if recommended by Stihl.

5. Handle or Grip Wear

Handles can become slick or cracked over time. Replace the handle or grip with a new one from the parts list, ensuring it matches the model's specifications.

Maintenance Tips for Longevity

- Regular Cleaning – After each use, wipe down the cutting head and handle to remove debris.
- Lubrication – Apply a light oil to the blade guard and any moving joints to prevent rust.
- Fuel Management – Use fresh, high octane gasoline and add a fuel stabilizer if storing the weedeater for long periods.
- Oil Changes – Change the oil every 30–50 hours of use, or as recommended in the owner's manual.
- Periodic Inspections – Check all bolts, screws, and fasteners for tightness; replace any that are worn or corroded.

Where to Buy Stihl FS /56RC Parts

There are several reliable sources for replacement parts:

- Authorized Stihl Dealers – The most trustworthy option; they carry genuine parts and offer warranty support.
- Online Retailers – Websites such as Amazon, eBay, and specialized power tool suppliers list OEM and aftermarket parts.
- Local Hardware Stores – Some large hardware chains carry basic components like fuel filters and oil seals.
- Stihl Parts Catalog – Stihl's online parts catalog allows you to search by model number and part number.

Cost Considerations

Replacement parts for the FS 56RC vary in price based on the component and whether you choose OEM or aftermarket options. Generally:

- Engine Components – $50–$150 for major parts like the carburetor or oil pump.
- Blade & Cutting Head – $30–$70 for a new blade or head assembly.
- Handle & Grip – $20–$40 for a new handle or grip.
- Safety Switches & Controls – $15–$30 per component.
- Miscellaneous Fasteners & Seals – $10–$25 for a set of screws and O rings.

Buying in bulk or from reputable suppliers can reduce costs. Remember to factor in shipping time if ordering online.

How to Replace Common Parts Yourself

Most users can replace simple parts with basic tools. Below is a step by step guide for a few common replacements.

Replacing the Cutting Blade

1. Turn off the weedeater and disconnect the fuel line.
2. Remove the cutting head by loosening the mounting bolts.
3. Detach the old blade using the blade retainer mechanism.
4. Install the new blade, ensuring it is properly aligned.
5. Secure the blade retainer and reattach the cutting head.
6. Re attach the fuel line and test the weedeater.

Changing the Fuel Filter

1. Locate the fuel filter housing on the fuel line.

2. Remove the housing screws and take out the old filter.
3. Insert a new filter, making sure it is seated correctly.
4. Re install the housing and tighten the screws.
5. Check for leaks before operating.

Replacing the Oil Seal

1. Drain the old oil from the reservoir.
2. Remove the oil pump cover and locate the seal.
3. Unscrew the old seal and install a new one.
4. Reassemble the pump cover and refill the oil.
5. Start the engine and look for leaks.

Safety Precautions

- Always wear protective gloves and eye protection when working on the weedeater.
- Disconnect the fuel line or remove the fuel tank before making any mechanical adjustments.
- Ensure the weedeater is on a stable surface and the cutting head is locked in place before starting the engine.
- Follow Stihl's recommended torque specifications when tightening bolts.
- Dispose of used oil and fuel responsibly, following local regulations.

Final Thoughts

The Stihl FS /56RC weedeater is a robust, versatile tool that can handle a wide range of cutting tasks.

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