



Safety Instructions

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT.



17.11 Post Hole Borers

- This equipment is designed to be operated by someone with normal ability. Persons with a disability or injury must assess whether their disability, when using the equipment, will affect their health and safety and the safety of others.
- It should only be operated by someone with experience of similar equipment.
- This equipment must not be used by anyone whose competence is impaired, for example by drink or drugs.

- 1 These post hole borers must be operated correctly according to the manufacturer's or owner's operating instructions, which are available on request if required.
- 2 **CHECK** that all persons and animals are clear of the area.
- 3 **ONLY** a competent and adequately trained person should operate this machine. **ENSURE** that the person assisting is also competent and trained to help with the operation.
- 4 Wear personal protective equipment as necessary; hard hats, safety boots, hearing protectors and gloves.
- 5 Loose clothing, sleeves etc should be avoided. Long hair should be tied back. Wear overalls wherever possible.
- 6 Before you start the machine make sure you know how to stop it.
- 7 Keep hands well clear of the blades when starting or operating the machine.
- 8 **DO NOT** over reach when operating the machine. Stand firmly on both feet.
- 9 **CHECK** that all deflector guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with these missing or defective
- 10 **NEVER** leave the machine running whilst unattended. Switch off and wait until the machine has completely stopped before leaving the area.
- 11 If you are approached by anybody, stop the machine immediately.
- 12 **DO NOT** let children operate the machine
- 13 Before making any adjustments switch off or isolate from the power source.
- 14 After adjustments have been made ensure that all tools are removed from the work area.
- 15 Be aware that his machine has a tendency to "kick back" if the auger encounters large stones or roots. **DO NOT** try to fight this if it happens. Switch off, remove the auger and remove the obstacle before continuing.
- 16 **DO NOT** pick up and carry the machine with the motor running.
- 17 After stopping the motor allow time for the machine to stop rotating (if the machine is **NOT** fitted with an automatic brake).
- 18 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

Post Hole Borers Powered by Electricity

- 19 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The post hole borer will be either 110V or 230V.
- 20 The use of a low voltage machine at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 21 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 22 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 23 When using a 230V machine the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:
 - a) Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the chasing machine and its power cable.
 - b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
 - c) Pass the power cable over the shoulder to keep it clear of the blade and position the rest where it is less likely to be damaged.
 - d) The tools, cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:
 - **CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
 - Make sure that cables are not damaged and are free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)

- **CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
 - **ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
 - **CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or equipment. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
 - **CHECK** the outer casing of the chasing machine for damage and check for loose or missing parts or screws
 - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
 - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.
- 24** A post hole borer using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 22(d) above.
- 25** **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 26** If the automatic cut-out operates, **ALLOW** the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 27** **DO NOT** use the machine in damp, wet or flammable conditions.
- 28** **DO NOT** carry the machine with the finger on the operating control.
- 29** **DO NOT** carry the machine by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 30** Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the machine.

Post Hole Borers Powered by Petrol or Diesel Engines

- 31** Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself on how to stop it.
- 32** **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 33** Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 34** Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 35** **CHECK** that there is no combustible material on the exhaust system. The exhaust and silencer get very hot.
- 36** In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off **IMMEDIATELY**.
- 37** When noise levels are uncomfortably high over 80dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 38** If higher noise levels occur regularly when it is necessary to shout to be heard, (85dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.



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This leaflet is one in a comprehensive series of equipment safety instructions available from the CPA