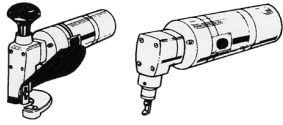




Safety Instructions

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE OPERATING THE SHEARS OR NIBBLER.



3.1 Metal Shears & Nibblers

- 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.

Shears are used for cutting sheets of metal with blades.

Nibblers are used for cutting sheets of metal or plastic with a reciprocating punch.

- 1 The tool 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 work area.
- 3 Loose clothing, sleeves etc should be avoided. Long hair should be tied back. Wear overalls wherever possible.
- 4 Wear personal protective equipment as necessary; safety goggles or glasses when there is danger of flying debris and gloves when handling sharp metal.
- 5 **CHECK** that the material to be worked on is securely held or clamped before starting.
- 6 **CHECK** that the punch or blades are sharp and in good condition.
- 7 **ALLOW** the tool to reach full speed before starting a cut.
- 8 Switch off and unplug the electrical supply before making adjustments to the tool.
- 9 When operating the tool hold it firmly with both hands using the correct handles and stand firmly on both feet.
- 10 **DO NOT** force the tool. An even feed reduces the chances of an accident due to jamming or breakage.
- 11 **DO NOT** allow the work area to become cluttered. Keep the floor and benches clean.
- 12 **DO NOT** carry the tool around when it is running.
- 13 **DO NOT** leave the tool unattended without switching off and unplugging the electrical supply.

Nibblers (only)

- 14 **DO NOT** use the cutter if it becomes overheated as shown by blue or black discoloration. Remove it and replace it with a new one and use machine oil to cool the cutter by coating the cutting line.
- 15 When noise levels are uncomfortably high over 80dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 16 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.

The Electrical Supply

- 17 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The tool will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 18 The use of a low voltage tool at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 19 Use tools with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 20 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 21 When using a 230V tool 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 equipment and its power cable.
 - b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
 - c) Position power cables where they are less likely to be damaged.
 - d) The 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 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 equipment 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.
- 22** A 110 volt tool should be checked weekly as in 21(d) above.
- 23** **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 24** If the automatic cut-out operates, **ALLOW** the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 25** **DO NOT** use electrical tools in damp, wet or flammable conditions.
- 26** **DO NOT** carry a tool with the finger on the operating trigger or button.
- 27** **DO NOT** carry the tool by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 28** **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.



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