

Safety First

If you are collecting the equipment for someone else please make sure this sheet is given to the equipment user to read. This sheet should be given to the site supervisor if the equipment is being hired for commercial use so that the information is available to all users.

Before starting any job, be sure to spend a few minutes planning and understanding the hazards and risks of the job. Do this by:

- Thinking about and observing your surroundings
- Running through the steps of the job in your mind
- Identifying the hazards, how you can get hurt and how you'll prevent it
- Knowing what plant and equipment you need
- Only starting when you can do the job safely
- Ensuring you are trained or experienced for the task
- Communicating with everyone involved

Points to Consider when planning a task. Can you:

- Come into contact with an energy source (e.g. heat, electricity, substance under pressure) or hazardous materials
- Be struck-by or against anything?
- Be caught-in, on or between anything?
- Slip, trip or fall on the same or too a lower level
- Strain or sprain a muscle?
- Cause damage to plant equipment or property?
- Spill or pollute something?

General Equipment Guidance

- Always carry out a prestart inspection on equipment prior to use
- Ensure you are fully aware of the safety features of the equipment and how it operates
- Only use the equipment for its intended purpose and within its specified limitations
- Never remove any guarding or modify the equipment in any way
- If the equipment requires any adjustments or has attachments or fittings that require changing, ensure the machine is isolated from the energy source such as power
- If in doubt, contact the local Hirepool branch for assistance
- Never lock switches in “on” position with tape, wire or by any other means

Fuel Powered Equipment & Carbon Monoxide

Poisoning Risks

- Fuel powered equipment must never be used in poorly ventilated areas. This can lead to the build-up of carbon-monoxide. Carbon Monoxide is a colourless and odourless poisonous gas. Inhalation may lead to death or serious illness. Always ensure good circulation of air with a fresh supply of outside air.

Possible Required Safety Equipment



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Always select the correct PPE for the task – follow the machine manufacturers guidelines and the results of your own risk assessment
- Use double protection (face and eyes) when using high velocity equipment that may shoot debris
- Ensure clothing is close fitting with no loose parts that may get caught in rotating machine parts.

Electrical Equipment

- Ensure electrical equipment you are using has a current electrical test and tag
- Always ensure electrical leads and tools are not damaged prior to use
- Do not use electrical items where there is a risk of explosion from gas, vapour, liquid, dust or other explosive or flammable substances
- Always ensure leads are fully uncoiled to prevent overheating during use
- Do not use electrical equipment in wet environments
- Always ensure that power outlets are protected by an RCD (residual current device). Use an approved portable RCD if your outlet is not fitted with one

Hazardous Substances

- Fuel vapours are explosive – always refuel in a well ventilated space
- Never smoke when refuelling and also ensure there are no other ignition sources nearby
- Equipment must be switched off when refueling

Asbestos Work

- Any contractor performing work involving asbestos is required to have an Asbestos Removal Plan as per New Zealand Guidelines for the Management and Removal of Asbestos. This includes procedures for decontaminating equipment and notifying affected parties of the potential hazard.
- If you are using this equipment for asbestos work you must notify Hirepool and are required to provide evidence of decontamination prior to returning it. It is an offence under the HSWA not to do so.
- WorkSafe New Zealand recommend that you do not use power tools around asbestos, if possible. The Health and Safety at Work (Asbestos) Regulations 2016 restrict the use of power tools for asbestos work. Always consult the regulations for guidance before using power tools and other equipment including angle grinders, sanders, saws, drills, brushes and brooms.