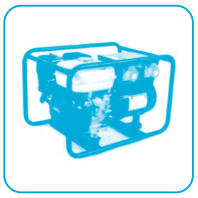
For guidance on managing construction health risks go to
www.hse.gov.uk/construction

Redistributed under licence from HAE by Frank Key Tool Hire Ltd. Licence expires on 30/09/2020

Frank Key. PLANT & TOOL HIRE

Diesel Generator

Read this entire leaflet before using the Diesel Generator



1. Plan the use of the generator so that it can always be used safely.
2. A competent person must authorise use of the generator for some of the applications outlined in this leaflet.
3. The services of a qualified electrician will be required if the generator is to be used to supply an installed or large system, or for some of the other uses outlined in this leaflet.
4. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
5. Diesel is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
6. This equipment is designed to generate electricity up to its rated current, at its rated voltages.
7. The action of this generator can cause injury or damage if the equipment is not used in a careful and controlled way.
8. If you have not used a generator before, and you plan to connect the generator to anything other than a single tool or appliance, ensure a competent person checks that what you are doing is safe.
9. The following items of personal protective equipment are a minimum:

   Ear defenders or plugs giving protection for levels up to 85dB(A);
10. This generator must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
11. This generator is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

Every effort has been made by HAE/EHA to ensure that the information given in this document and supporting material is accurate and not misleading. HAE/EHA cannot accept responsibility for any loss or liability perceived to have arisen from the use of any such document/material. Only Acts of Parliament and Statutory Instruments have the force of law and only the courts can authoritatively interpret the law.

HAE HIRE ASSOCIATION EUROPE

Hire Association Europe
2450 Regents Court
The Crescent
Birmingham Business Park
Solihull B37 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109
Email: mail@hae.org.uk
website: www.hae.org.uk

Using the Diesel Generator

1. Keep a close check on any cables that are being used – especially extension cables. If they appear to be damaged in any way, stop the generator and replace them.
2. The generator has fuses or circuit breakers to protect it in case of overload. If a fuse appears to have blown, ensure a competent person replaces it.
3. The generator may switch itself off if it gets too hot. Allow it to cool down before restarting. If this happens repeatedly, check with a competent person or the hire company.
4. Stop the generator before leaving it unattended.
5. If the equipment does not work properly, do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference

v:112016

Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use the generator where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol or gas cylinders.
2. Using this equipment indoors or in confined spaces could cause **fatal** carbon monoxide poisoning. **Never** use it in domestic premises and only use in other indoor situations if its suitability and the ventilation required has been **fully** assessed. Mechanical extraction ventilation will almost always be required.
3. The generator should be sheltered from the rain and water and on a firm and level surface.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn when using the generator. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 85dB(A) – Wear appropriate ear defenders or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
3. Anybody who is also working near the generator will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

GENERATOR

1. Check the generator, engine, sockets, and all equipment. Do not use anything found damaged – contact the hire company.
2. Ensure that you understand all of the controls. Before starting the generator, know how to stop it.
3. The generator may not be suitable for use with some power tools that have electronic speed control and sensitive electronic equipment such as laser surveying, video, or computer equipment. Check with the hire company before use.

ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

1. The electrical supply from a generator should be treated with greater care than normal mains electricity.
2. If the generator is to be connected to anything other than a single tool or appliance, a competent person should check this is being done in a safe manner.
3. A competent qualified electrician is required to connect the generator to an installation or large system.
4. Do not use distribution boxes, or more than one tool or cable connected to the generator, without consulting a competent person.
5. If extension cables are required, they should be kept as short as possible. Lay them out carefully where they will not get damaged, and so that the connections will not get wet. You will need to keep a close check on their full length.
6. You should use only double insulated tools, marked ⧈. Do not use earthed tools (those that need an earth wire) without consulting a competent person.
7. Check the generator's power rating against the power usage of your tools. The generator's rating will be shown on its case. 1 kVA means it can supply about 800 watts, 5 kVA means about 4,000 watts. Check the labels on each of the tools to find their power usage, or check with a competent person. Make sure that the tools will not draw more power than the generator can supply.
8. In any event, certain site conditions will require that the generator is earthed and bonded. This must be done by a competent qualified electrician.

REFUELLING

1. No smoking.
2. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3. If possible, move the generator away from the work area.
4. Clean the filler cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the diesel tank.
5. Use a funnel and clean diesel when refuelling. Do not spill any diesel on yourself or the machine.
6. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose of diesel soaked cloth carefully.
7. If any diesel is spilt on the ground, wipe it up or cover it with soil.
8. If any diesel is spilt on clothes, change them straight away.
9. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move the fuel can to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE MACHINE

1. The generator should be on a level surface.
2. Switch off or disconnect all electrical equipment that is being used with the generator.
3. Check that the oil level has not fallen too low. This may automatically prevent the engine running.
4. Check that the engine and generator controls are set correctly, and that the fuel is turned on.
5. The generator will have a handle start, or a recoil start. Read the instructions following for the machine.

RECOIL START

1. Make sure that the machine is held firmly so it will not move when pulling the starter.
2. Pull the starter handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, then pull it quickly and strongly. Do not pull it too far, or it may break.
3. Guide the cord back into place so that it recoils correctly.

HANDLE START

1. Fit the starting handle.
2. Do not wrap thumb around the handle. If the engine backfires while cranking, the handle will spin backwards and could break your wrist.
3. When the engine has started, take the handle off and store it in the proper place.

HAE HIRE ASSOCIATION EUROPE

Hire Association Europe
2450 Regents Court
The Crescent
Birmingham Business Park
Solihull B37 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109
Email: mail@hae.org.uk
website: www.hae.org.uk

Any unauthorised reproduction – manually or electronically – is STRICTLY prohibited
©Copyright Hire Association Europe April 2011

Useful Reference Points • www.hae.org.uk/businessguard