



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

Using the Brushcutter

1. Wear the protective equipment including ear defenders, helmet, face-shield and safety boots.
2. Attach the brush cutter to the harness carefully.
3. Make sure there is no-one in the area where the work is to be carried out.
4. Keep the cable clear of the cutting blade at all times.
5. Always hold the brush cutter with both hands as well as using the harness.
6. Make sure the cutting head is running at full speed before starting to cut into the brush.
7. Keep the cutting head at or near ground level.
8. Beware of debris and dirt that may be thrown up by the blades.
9. If the brush cutter starts to labour and slow down do not force it so hard. Do not overload the brush cutter.
10. The machine needs to be switched off if the operator is approached.
11. If adjustments are needed to the blades or guards, switch the machine off, unplug and wait until the blades have completely stopped. Gloves must be worn to protect the hands while making the adjustments.
12. If the cable is believed to be damaged in any way, switch off and unplug the socket before inspecting it. If the cable attached to the brushcutter is damaged, stop using the machine. Contact the hire company. If an extension cable has been damaged, do not use it again.
13. Switch off and unplug before leaving the machine unattended.
14. If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
15. Please keep this leaflet until the work is complete.

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



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

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

©Copyright Hire Association Europe April 2011

Any unauthorised reproduction - manually or electronically - is STRICTLY prohibited

1. Use a residual current device (RCD) plugged directly into the 230V socket. Plug the machine into the rcd. This will help to protect against electric shocks if the cable or the machine is damaged. Use the 'TEST' button to check that the rcd is working each time it is used. Reset the rcd according to the instructions supplied with it.
 3. If an extension cable is needed, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any special instructions then only a suitable rated heavy duty extension cable should be used, no longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the rcd.
 4. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might get trapped, and places where vehicles could run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
 4. Make sure that the extension cable connections are dry and safe.
- ### 230 VOLT MACHINES (SQUARE PIN OR BLUE PLUG)
1. Use a residual current device (RCD) plugged directly into the 230V socket. Plug the machine into the rcd. This will help to protect against electric shocks if the cable or the machine is damaged.
 2. Use the 'TEST' button to check that the rcd is working each time it is used. Reset the rcd according to the instructions supplied with it.
 3. If an extension cable is needed, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any special instructions then only a suitable rated heavy duty extension cable should be used, no longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the rcd.
 4. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might get trapped, and places where vehicles could run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
 5. Make sure that the extension cable connections are dry and safe.
- ### 110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)
1. If using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the socket. Do not use any 230V extension cables.
 2. If an extension cable is needed, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any instructions, then only a suitable rated heavy duty 110V not given any instructions, then only a suitable rated heavy duty 110V



110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)

1. If using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the socket. Do not use any 230V extension cables.
2. If an extension cable is needed, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any instructions, then only a suitable rated heavy duty 110V not given any instructions, then only a suitable rated heavy duty 110V

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

8. Wear gloves when fitting or adjusting the blades or the guards.
9. Only use the correct cutting attachments and fit them in the correct manner. Do not improvise.
10. Make sure the guard around the cutting blades is in place and adjusted correctly.
11. When working, always hold the brushcutter correctly with both hands as well as using the harness.
12. Make sure that the operator understands all of the controls, before starting to use the brushcutter and also how to stop it.



Before Starting Work...

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

Brushcutter

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read this entire leaflet BEFORE using the Brushcutter

1. Electricity can be hazardous and must always be used with great care.
2. The brush cutter is designed for cutting brush, undergrowth, grass, and robust weeds, using the appropriate attachments.
3. The sharp blades on the cutting head rotate very fast and can cause injury or damage if the machine is not in a careful and controlled way.
4. If the operator has not used a brush cutter before, they must familiarise themselves with how the machine works before using it.
5. Plan ahead to make sure the work is carried out safely.
6. The following items of personal protective equipment must be available for use:
Face shield – EN 166 or BS2092
Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 105 dB(A);
Safety helmet to EN397 OR BS5240;
Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972;
Dust mask – a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection;
Gloves;
Rcd if using a 230 volt (mains) supply.
7. The machine should not be used by minors or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. The machine is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using the machine.



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.

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

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



1. Do not use the brush cutter where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to the machine.
3. Protect other people from the noise and injury, keep others at least 10 metres (32 feet) away.
4. Before starting clear the area of stones, wire, stout branches and other debris that could foul the cutting blades. Wear gloves to do this.
5. Plan and maintain a safe path for the electrical cable.
6. Do not use the brush cutter in the rain or where the electrical parts will get wet.
7. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever using the brush cutter. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection. A face shield must be worn (EN166 or BS2092). The brush cutter may throw up stones, crushed slugs, animal droppings or other debris from the area that is being worked on.
3. The equipment is likely to cause noise levels of up to 105 dB(A) – (BS5240) when working with the machine. Tie up and long hair to prevent it getting caught in the cutting blades should be worn or near ground level.
5. Brush cutters should only be used at without using the harness.
4. Do not operate this brush cutter fitted, or a blade industrial plug. Have either a normal square pin plug to run directly from 230V mains will have either a normal square pin plug to run directly from 230V mains will have either a normal square pin plug to run directly from 230V mains will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a yellow industrial plug fitted. The machine will only operate on 110V machines. It will be 110V or 230V.
2. Use the 'TEST' button to check that the rcd is working each time it is used. Reset the rcd according to the instructions supplied with it.
3. If an extension cable is needed, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any special instructions then only a suitable rated heavy duty extension cable should be used, no longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the rcd.
4. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might get trapped, and places where vehicles could run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that the extension cable connections are dry and safe.
6. Safety boots must be worn (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
5. Safety boots must be worn (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
4. Gloves will need to be worn especially when changing or sharp blades.