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1607 Safety Guidance
2 STROKE PETROL/OIL MIX v:072019

Frank Key. PLANT & TOOL HIRE

Two-Stroke Petrol Hedge Trimmer

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 hedge trimmer

1. Petrol mixture is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
2. This hedge trimmer is designed for cutting back and trimming hedges, shrubs and smaller plants.
3. The sharp trimming blade reciprocates very fast and can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If you have not used a hedge trimmer before, familiarise yourself with how the machine works before you start the main task.
5. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: Goggles – impact resistant (EN 166-B), ear defenders or suitable ear plugs . Wear a suitable gloves when using the hedge trimmer, A suitable face mask may also be deemed necessary. You must wear safety boots (EN ISO 20345:2011).
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This machine is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

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Using the Hedge Trimmer

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders to EN352, goggles or appropriate full face shield to EN166 and heavy duty work gloves made of a durable material (e.g.leather).
2. Make sure there is no-one in your area of work.
3. Always hold the hedge trimmer firmly with both hands.
4. Make sure the cutting blade is running at full speed before starting to cut into the hedge.
5. Do not try to cut thick twigs. This hedge trimmer is for trimming foliage.
6. Do not try to cut off all growth in one pass, remove it one layer at a time. Make sure that you can control the amount you are removing before you take off the final layer.
7. Beware of debris that may be thrown out by the trimming blade.
8. If the hedge trimmer starts to labour and slow down do not force it so hard. Do not overload the engine.
9. Stop the hedge trimmer if someone approaches you.
10. Stop the engine and make sure the trimming blade has stopped before making adjustments.
11. Stop the engine before leaving the machine unattended.
12. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
13. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work. Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference.

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

v:072019

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Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this hedge trimmer where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury from breathing toxic fumes, never run the hedge trimmer indoors or in poorly ventilated locations.
3. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
4. Protect other people from the noise and from injury. Keep people at least 10 meters (32 feet) away.
5. Before starting clear the area of wire, stout branches and other debris that could foul your hedge trimmer.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this hedge trimmer. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You must wear goggles (EN166-B) when you are working with this machine.
3. Wear ear defenders or ear plugs (EN 352). You should pick ear defenders or ear plugs that can be shown to give enough protection to limit the risk of hearing loss. You may need to check that the ear defenders or ear plugs you pick do not make things too quiet. When ear defenders or ear plugs are too good they make it hard to hear important orders or alarms.
4. Wear a suitable gloves when using the hedge trimmer. A face-mask may also be required.
5. You must wear safety boots (EN ISO 20345:2011).

HEDGE TRIMMER

1. Check your machine, engine, and all equipment. Do not use anything found damaged-contact the hire company.
2. Make sure that any guards on your hedge trimmer are in place and adjusted correctly.
3. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before you start the hedge trimmer, you must know to stop it.

REFUELLING

1. No smoking.
2. Use a fresh mixture of two stroke engine oil with petrol. If the hire company have given you special instructions on how much oil to use, follow them. Otherwise check the manufacturers manual to determine the correct oil/fuel mixture.
3. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
4. If possible move the machine away from your work area.
5. Clean the filter cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
6. Shake the fuel can to mix the petrol and oil.
7. Use a funnel when refuelling. Do not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine. Dispose of fuel soaked cloth carefully.
8. If you spill any fuel on the ground wipe it up or cover it with soil.
9. If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
10. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE HEDGE TRIMMER FROM COLD

1. Remove the blade cover.
2. Put your hedge trimmer down on firm level ground. Make sure the blade is clear of the ground.
3. Set the engine controls correctly. The choke should be enabled and the part throttle lock engaged.
4. Grasp the hedge trimmer firmly so it will not move when you pull the starter.
5. Pull the starter grip out slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, and then pull it quickly and strongly.
6. Guide the cord back into place so that it recoils correctly.
7. As soon as the engine has fired, squeeze and release the throttle to release the part throttle setting.
8. Turn the choke off when the engine is running smoothly.
9. If the cutting blade moves while the machine is idling do not use it. Return it to the hire company.

STARTING THE HEDGE TRIMMER WHEN HOT

1. Follow the same procedure as for a cold start without using the choke or part throttle setting.

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

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