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

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Banner Plant
PART OF HENRY BOOT

Heavy Breaker

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 all of this leaflet

BEFORE you use the Breaker

1. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
2. This heavy duty breaker is designed for breaking up roadwork, concrete and asphalt surfaces; and compacting, using the appropriate tools.
3. The action of this breaker can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If operators have not used a breaker before, they should familiarize themselves with the machine on some straightforward work before starting on the main task.
5. The work should be planned ahead and thought out to make sure that it will be carried out safely.
6. The following items of personal protective equipment must be worn as a minimum:
   Impact resistant goggles
   Dust mask
   Ear muffs
   Safety boots
   Gloves
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This breaker 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 Breaker

1. Wear protective equipment including ear defenders and goggles.
2. The breaker should not be switched on until the tool is on the work surface. It should not be switched on if the tool has no load.
3. Keep the cable clear of the tool bit and any sharp edges on the work.
4. Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting the hands. If fingers start to tingle or feel numb operators should take a short break from using the machine. Fingers should be exercised to encourage blood flow.
5. To help prevent vibration affecting the hands, the machine should be operated for shorter periods. Hands should be kept warm – wearing gloves may help to do this.
6. If operators think the cable may be cut or damaged in any way, the machine must be switched off and unplugged before inspecting it.
7. Care should be taken not to accidentally pull the plug from the socket.
8. Switch off and remove the plug from the socket before leaving the breaker unattended.
9. 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 reference at a future date

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Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this breaker 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 nearby who could cause a distraction.
3. Protect other people from the noise, debris and dust. Warn others to keep away, put barriers around the work area.
4. Check that there are no buried electric cables, gas or water pipes where the work is being carried out.
5. Breaking brick and masonry makes a large amount of dust and debris, cover any surfaces or objects that may be damaged, or difficult to clean.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever this machine is used. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. Impact resistant goggles must be worn when using this machine.
3. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 102 dB(A) – appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving protection up to this level must be worn as a minimum.
4. An appropriate dust mask is required when breaking material that causes dust.
5. Safety boots must be worn
6. Anybody working nearby will also need to wear personal protective equipment.

BREAKER

1. Check the machine, cables, plugs and tool bits. If anything is found to be damaged, do not use the breaker – contact the hire company.
2. Check that the plug on the machine matches the available supply. Connections must not be forced or improvised.
3. Machines with a cylindrical yellow industrial plug fitted are designed to run off a special 110v supply. The hire company will have provided a portable transformer if the machine needs to be powered from a normal mains 230v supply. If a portable transformer has been supplied, care must be taken when moving it as it may be heavier than it looks and could cause injury. Machines designed to run directly from 230v mains will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug.
4. The breaker should always be gripped with two hands while working.
5. Vibration from using this breaker can be hazardous. Hands should be warmed up before starting work, and gloves should be worn to keep hands warm whilst working.
6. This breaker must only be used pointing down, on floors or roads.
7. Operators should check how the on/off switch operates – before switching the breaker on it must be known how to stop it.

TOOL BITS

1. Switch the breaker off, and unplug it before changing the tool bit.
2. The tool shank should be clean and lightly oiled before insertion into the breaker.
3. Only the correct tool bits specifically for this breaker must be used. No other tool bits should be used.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

The machine will only operate on one voltage; it will be 110v or 230v.

110v machines will have a yellow industrial plug fitted. 230v machines will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug. Read the instructions below for the machine.

110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)

1. If using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the 230v 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 special instruction, only a suitably rated heavy duty 110v extension cable should be used, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). The extension cable must only be used between the transformer and the machine.
3. The extension cable should be laid out carefully, avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. It should be fully unrolled or it will overheat and could catch fire.
4. Extension cable connections must be kept dry and safe.

230 VOLT MACHINES (SQUARE PIN OR BLUE PLUG)

1. Use a residual current device ("rcd") plugged directly in to the 230v socket. Plug the machine into the rcd. This will help to protect against electric shock if the cable or machine get damaged.
2. Use the "TEST" button to check that the rcd is working each time the machine is used. Reset the rcd according to the instructions supplied with it.
3. If an extension cable is needed, only a suitable rated heavy duty cable should be used, not longer than 50 meters (160 feet). Plug it directly into the rcd.
4. The extension cable should be laid out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it.
   It should be fully unrolled or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Extension cable connections must be kept dry and safe.

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