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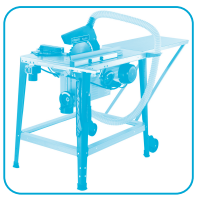
0316 Safety Guidance
110/230V v:032017

Banner Plant
PART OF HENRY BOOT

Saw Bench

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 Saw Bench



1. Electricity can be hazardous and must always be used with great care.
2. This saw bench is designed for cutting wood, and similar composite materials, such as chipboard, hardboard and MDF (medium density fibreboard). Do not try to use it to cut asbestos or metal.
3. The action of this saw bench could cause injury or damage if not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If the operator has not used a saw bench before they must familiarise themselves with the machine on some straightforward work before starting the main task.
5. The work should be thought out and planned ahead to ensure that it is carried out safely. The safe operation of this woodworking machine requires constant alertness and close attention to the work in hand.
6. The following items of personal protective equipment must be worn as a minimum: Impact resistant goggles: EN166 – B or BS2092 grade 1; Dust mask – a minimum of EN149 FFP3 (s) protection; Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 101 dB(A); Gloves; Residual current device (rcd) for 230 volt supply.
7. This saw bench must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This saw bench 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 Saw Bench

1. Wear the protective equipment including ear defenders and goggles.
2. Check that the saw is switched off and that the blade is stationary before adjusting guides, fences or cutting angles.
3. When cutting a bevel, with the saw blade at an angle, check that the blade fully clears any rip fence or cutting guide.
4. Check that the blade is adjusted to the correct height for the material to be cut. Do not attempt any rebating or grooving – the saw teeth must cut clear through the full depth of the material.
5. Make sure that all locking knobs and clamp handles are tight before starting any operation.
6. To prevent damage to the blade. Check that there are no hidden nails or screws in the wood that is about to be cut.
7. Check that the push stick is within easy reach, ready for use.
8. Use a proper grip or clamping device for cutting round section timber.
9. If someone is assisting with large sheets, make sure that they are ready, and standing well clear of the rear of the table.
10. Check that there are no obstructions on the table, and that the blade is clear before switching the saw on.
11. Keep hands away from the blade – at least 300mm (1ft) from the cutting line, and 150mm (6 ins) from the sides. A proper push stick must be used to handle small pieces of material.
12. Pay attention to the work, and always be prepared for unexpected movement of the material being cut.
13. Let the blade run up to full speed before feeding the wood up to it.
14. Feed the wood steadily onto the blade. Do not force it – this will result in a faster cut.
15. As the trailing edge of a larger sheet of material approaches the blade, the push stick must be used. Push the material until it has cleared the riving knife at the rear of the sawblade.
16. Keep both hands clear of the blade at all times.
17. Use the push stick to move offcuts or small pieces of material away from the blade.
18. Do not attempt to sweep away sawdust or debris while the saw is on. Switch off, and let the blade stop first.
19. Make sure that the machine ventilation slots do not become blocked with dust or debris.
20. Take care not to accidently pull the plug from the socket.
21. Switch off and unplug before leaving the machine unattended.
22. 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:032017

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WORK AREA

1. Do not use this saw bench 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 the ground is level and solid. There must be no tripping hazards, and adequate lighting. There should be no-one near to you or any other distractions.
3. Set up the saw bench on a firm flat surface away from where people or vehicles may pass.
4. Protect others from the noise, dust and hazard. Warn others to keep away; put up signs or barriers around the work area.
5. Do not use this saw in the rain or where electrical parts might get wet.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn when using this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. Impact resistant goggles (EN166 – B or BS2092 grade 1) must be worn when working with this bench.
3. This saw is likely to cause noise levels up to 101 dB(A) - appropriate ear mufts or plugs giving protection for this level must be worn.
4. Dust from softwood, hardwood and composite materials can be hazardous to health – an appropriate dust mask must be worn with a minimum of FFP3 (s) protection when cutting any material that causes dust.
5. Anybody working nearby will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
6. Make sure that no loose clothing or jewellery could be caught in the machine. Long hair should be tied back.

SAW BENCH

1. Check the saw bench, including guards, switches and cables. If anything is found to be damaged, do not use the machine: contact the hire company.

Before Starting Work...

2. Check that the plug on the saw matches the supply. Connections should not be forced or improvised.
3. Saws 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 is to be powered from a normal mains 230v supply. If a portable transformer has been supplied, take care when moving it about – it may be heavier than it appears.
   Saws designed to run directly from 230v mains will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug.
4. When cutting sheets of wood or composite material larger than the saw table an assistant will be needed. Use a table extension – contact the hire company if one has not been supplied.
5. Check that any table extensions, fences and cutting guides are properly fixed in their correct positions.
6. Check that a proper push stick is to hand, ready for use.
7. A proper gripping or clamping tool is required when cutting round section timber.
8. Sawdust is flammable and can present a risk of explosion – dispose of it carefully. Never put it onto a fire.
9. Make sure that all of the controls are understood. Before switching the saw on, it must be understood how to stop it.

SAW BLADES

1. Before plugging the saw in, check that the blade is the correct type recommended by the hire company for the material being cut.
2. If the blade needs changing, make sure that the replacement is the correct size for the sawbench. It should also be the type recommended by the hire company for the material being cut. Check that the riving knife is compatible with the blade.
3. Check that the saw is unplugged before starting to change he blade. Gloves must be worn.
4. Make sure that arbor and collar faces are clean, before fitting the new blade. Tighten the blade securely using the correct tools, but do not over tighten, as this will cause damage.
5. Double check that the blade is fitted correctly and with the right direction of rotation.
6. Check that the riving knife is adjusted correctly, and that the blade guard can hinge and drop back freely. Do not remove the riving knife.

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 230 volt socket. 230v extension cables should not be used.
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 instructions, only a suitably rated, heavy duty cable should be used, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). It should be plugged 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 unrolled fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that 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 directly 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 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, only a suitably rated, heavy duty cable should be used, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). It should be plugged 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 unrolled fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that extension cable connections are dry and safe.

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