

Using the Compactor

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders and safety boots.
2. This machine moves forward, and can be turned easily, while the motor is running. Be careful not to strain yourself by moving it while the engine is not running.
3. Always keep your hands, feet and any loose clothing away from moving parts of the compactor.
4. Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting your hands. If your fingers start to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from using the machine. Exercise your fingers to encourage blood circulation.
5. To help prevent vibration affecting your hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep your hands warm-wearing gloves may help do this.
6. When the compactor is not being operated, stop the engine and turn off the fuel valve. If you need to leave the compactor unattended, lay it down, or lean it against a strong support to prevent it being knocked over.
7. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
8. 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

Trench Compactor

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 Petrol/Oil Mix Trench Compactor

1. Plan the use of the Trench Compactor so that it can always be used safely.
2. Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
3. This compactor is designed for compacting soil and backfill.
4. The action of this trench compactor can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
5. If you have not used a trench compactor before, familiarise yourself with the machine in an open safe area before you start on the main task.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 96 dB(A); Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972; Gloves.
7. This machine must not be used by minors or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This trench compactor is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.



WORK AREA

1. Do not use this machine 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 it in other indoor situations if its suitability and the ventilation required has been **fully** assessed. Mechanical extraction ventilation will almost always be required.
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, debris and dust. Warn others to keep away, put barriers around your work area.
5. The compactor will damage any pipes or cables that are laid just beneath the surface.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 96 dB(A) – wear appropriate

Before Starting Work...



ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.

3. You must wear safety boots (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
4. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

TRENCH COMPACTOR

1. This is a heavy machine with a lot of the weight near the top. Get someone to help you when you are lifting it off a transport vehicle, and when you are lifting it into the upright, working position. Take care.
2. Check your machine, engine and all equipment. Do not use anything found damaged – contact the hire company.
3. Always grip the trench compactor correctly with two hands while working.
4. Vibration from using this trench compactor can be hazardous. Warm your hands up before you start work, and wear gloves to keep your hands warm while you are working.



5. This compactor is not suitable for use on rigid surfaces such as paving blocks. It will damage the final surface and may cause damage to the machine.
6. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before you start the machine, you must know how 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, use 1 measure of two stroke oil to 25 measures of petrol (40ml per litre).
3. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
4. If possible, move the machine away from your work area.
5. Clean the filler 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.

8. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose of fuel soaked cloth carefully.
9. If you spill any fuel on the ground, wipe it up or cover it with soil.
10. If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
11. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE ENGINE

1. Check that the engine and machine controls are set correctly. The choke should be pulled out with a part throttle setting.
2. Make sure that you hold the machine firmly so it will not move when you pull the starter.
3. Pull the starter handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, then pull it quickly and strongly. Don't pull it too far, or it may break.
4. Guide the cord back into place so that it recoils correctly.
5. As soon as the engine has fired, adjust the throttle and choke to ensure an even running engine.
6. If starting a warm engine, do not use the choke.