

- Wherever possible avoid the use of extension cables. If an extension cable is required, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company has not given any special instructions, only a suitably rated extension cable should be used, no longer in length than that specified by the manufacturer or as advised by the Hire Company. It should be plugged directly into the RCD.
- The cable should be laid out carefully, not presenting a trip hazard, avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where it may be run over by vehicles. It should be unrolled fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE EQUIPMENT AND BATTERY PACKS

- Transport the equipment with the battery pack removed.
- Ensure that equipment is suitably secured to prevent damage during transportation.
- Transport batteries in manufacturers carry-case wherever possible ensuring that battery packs are correctly housed in the dedicated mouldings within the case. During transport, batteries should be protected from excessive shock and vibration and isolated from any conductive materials that may come in contact with the terminals and cause a short circuit, for example, metal screws or fixings. Comply with the locally applicable regulations for transporting batteries.
- Store batteries in a cool and dry place. Cool storage will increase battery life. Never store batteries where they are exposed to direct sunlight, on sources of heat or behind glass. Store batteries away from fuel sources such as combustible materials, wooden benches/storage equipment, cardboard, fuels, oils, and gases.
- Always store the Plate Compactor with the battery pack removed.

- Do not store batteries on the charger. Always remove the battery from the charger when the charging operation has completed.
- Store the product and batteries where they cannot be accessed by children or unauthorised persons.
- Prior to each use, after either prolonged transport, and before and after prolonged storage, check the product and the batteries for damage.

USING THE PLATE COMPACTOR

- Wear the appropriate protective equipment including dust mask, gloves, ear protection and safety boots. Additional site-specific PPE requirements may also need to be observed.
- If your fingers start to tingle from vibration, stop using the plate compactor and flex your hands and fingers to keep them warm and encourage circulation. Find out more about vibration. Ask the hire company for a copy of the HAE leaflet no. 2150 – Hand-arm vibration or visit www.hse.gov.uk/vibration.
- Ensure that the plate compactor is kept clean and dry. Do not jet-wash the machine.
- Do not use the equipment in heavy rain.
- This machine moves forward under its own traction 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.
- Ensure that the plate compactor is switched off if leaving the machine unattended. Remove the battery to further prevent unauthorised use and/or loss of battery.
- If the compactor has transport wheels make sure they are fixed properly before moving the machine.
- If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
- You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it safe until you finish work.

Plate Compactor - Battery Powered

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 plate compactor.
- Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
- This compactor is designed for compacting hardcore, or the final levelling of paving blocks or other surfaces. It is not designed for any other purpose.
- The action of this plate compactor can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
- If you have not used a plate compactor before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task. Make sure that you are familiar with the controls and know how to switch the machine off before using it.
- The following items of personal protective equipment are minimum requirement: suitable eye protection, appropriate ear defenders or ear plugs, safety boots, industrial quality gloves, an appropriate face mask where dust is generated.
- A personal first-aid kit should be available.
- This machine must not be used by young persons, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- This plate compactor is designed for operation by an able-bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.
- Plate compactors are heavy machines, get help if you have to unload it from your vehicle. Do not lift beyond your own capabilities.



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

(Continued overleaf...)



Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Ensure that you are familiar with the working surroundings. Worksites can be hazardous.
2. Do not use this machine where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
3. Ensure the work area is clear and safe and that none is nearby to cause distractions.
4. Set up an exclusion zone around the area where the plate compactor is being used with physical barriers, barrier tape and signs. Keep children and animals away when using this equipment.
5. Work should stop immediately should anyone, other than those directly assisting with the work, enter the exclusion zone.
6. Clear the area of trip hazards e.g. rubble, rubbish etc.
7. Be aware that the compactor may damage pipes or cables laid just beneath the surface.
8. Ensure extra care is taken when working near to banks or trenches where there is a danger of the material collapsing.
9. When working within trenches or pits always pay attention to the side walls as the vibration from the machine could cause them to collapse.
10. Never leave the machine running unattended.
11. When operating the machine on sloped surfaces, always approach slopes from below and always stay above the machine on a slope. The machine could slip or tip over.
12. In keeping with manufacturers recommendations, do not use this machine in heavy rain. Rain can alter the condition of the worksite surface area. Always be aware of the condition of the surface after it has rained.
13. Operating the machine in poor visibility can result in serious injury or even death. Ensure that the work area is suitably lit. Use appropriate lights, safely positioned, to improve the visibility of the area where required.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever using the Plate Compactor. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. Wear appropriate close fitting safety spectacles or goggles (EN166).
3. Always wear an appropriate dust mask where dust is generated.



4. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 105 dB(A) – wear appropriate ear defenders or ear plugs (EN352). 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 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.
5. Safety boots must be worn with non-slip soles (EN ISO 20345).
6. Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery. Keep your hair and clothing away from moving parts. Loose clothes, jewellery or long hair can be caught in moving parts. Clothing must be sturdy but allow complete freedom of movement. Clothing must be free from flammable deposits (fuel, oil, etc.).
7. When combining PPE, it is necessary to check that it is compatible in order to ensure that it will provide reliable protection when being worn together.
8. Anybody who is working close by will also need to wear identical personal protective equipment.
9. This machine is heavy and must not be lifted single-handedly, either get help or use suitable lifting equipment. Do not lift or transport the machine when it is running.

PLATE COMPACTOR

1. Check your machine for any signs of damage or defects, including the battery pack. If anything is found to be damaged, do not use the Plate Compactor. Contact the hire company.
2. Always grip the plate compactor handle correctly with two hands while working.
3. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before starting the machine, locate the off switch.
4. Vibration from using this machine can be hazardous. Warm hands up before commencing work, and wear industrial quality gloves to keep hands warm while working. Find out more about the effects of vibration - Ask the hire company for a copy of the HAE leaflet no. 2150 – Hand-arm vibration or visit www.hse.gov.uk/vibration.



ACCESSORIES

1. When compacting asphalt or tarmac, use a water spray to prevent the surface sticking to the plate. Keep water sprays away from the motor housing and battery compartment.
2. Some surfaces, like paving blocks, need a rubber mat fixed to the plate to protect the top surface. Seek advice from the hire company.
3. If the plate compactor has transport wheels make sure they are safely stowed.

STARTING THE MACHINE

1. If the hire company has supplied special instructions, follow them. Otherwise, follow the instructions given below. Position the plate compactor at the work position before starting the machine.
2. Make sure that battery terminals are kept clean and dry and that the battery compartment is free from dirt or debris. Wipe battery terminals and compartment clean using a dry cloth only.
3. Make sure the battery pack is correctly located into the battery compartment.
4. Before operating the plate compactor ensure you are familiar with all controls and that you know how to safely switch the machine off before it is switched on

BATTERY CHARGING, USE AND CARE

1. Do not use, charge, or store the battery or equipment housing the battery in explosive environments.
2. Recharge only with the charger specified by the manufacturer. A charger that is suitable for one type of battery pack may create a risk of fire when used with another battery pack.
3. Do not touch the battery terminals with your fingers, tools, jewellery, or other electrically conductive objects.
4. When the battery pack is not in use, keep it away from other metal objects, like nails, screws, keys, coins, paper clips, or other small metal objects that can make a connection from one terminal to another. Shorting the battery terminals together may cause burns or a fire.

5. If the battery is misused and/or becomes damaged, liquid may be ejected from the battery; avoid contact. If contact accidentally occurs, flush with water. If liquid contacts eyes, additionally seek medical help. Liquid ejected from the battery may cause irritation or burns.
6. Never use or charge a battery that has suffered an impact or been damaged in any other way. Check the battery cartridges and equipment housing regularly for signs of damage or leaking fluids. Damage to batteries or fluid leaking from batteries must be reported to the hire company immediately.
7. Never expose batteries to direct sunlight, elevated temperature, sparking, or open flame. This can lead to fire or explosions.
8. Check the battery charger, cable, and plug before use. A damaged battery charger, cable and plug increase the risk of an electric shock.
9. Do not use the battery charger if anything is found to be damaged. Contact the hire company.
10. Only charge the battery indoors in a location with good airflow and away from sunlight. Do not charge the battery outdoors. Keep batteries away from rain, moisture, and liquids. Penetrating moisture can cause short-circuits, electric shock, burns, fire and explosion.
11. Do not operate the battery charger on easily flammable surfaces (e.g. paper, textiles) or in flammable environments.
12. Keep the battery charger away from children and animals.
13. Always keep the battery charger clean and dry. Dirt accumulation results in the danger of an electric shock.

230 VOLT CHARGERS

(13 AMP SQUARE PIN OR 16 AMP BLUE PLUG)

1. A residual-current device (RCD) or residual-current circuit breaker (RCCB) should be used, plugged directly into the 230v socket. The charger should be plugged into the RCD. This will help protect against electric shocks if the cable or equipment gets damaged.
2. The 'TEST' button should be used to check that the RCD is working each time it is used. The RCD should be reset according to the instructions supplied with it.



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



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Safety Guidance

V 122022



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2. The 'TEST' button should be used to check that the RCD is working each time it is used. The RCD should be reset according to the instructions supplied with it.