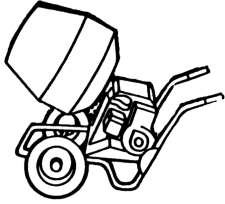




# Safety Instructions

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE STARTING THE MIXER.



## 6.1 Concrete Mixers

- This equipment is designed to be operated by someone with normal ability. Persons with a disability or injury must assess whether their disability, when using the equipment, will affect their health and safety and the safety of others.
- It should only be operated by someone with experience of similar equipment.
- This equipment must not be used by anyone whose competence is impaired, for example by drink or drugs.

- 1 The concrete mixer must be used correctly according to the manufacturer's or owner's operating instructions, which are available on request if required.
- 2 **CHECK** that children and animals are clear of the work area.
- 3 Wear personal protective equipment; a hard hat, gloves and waterproof boots are usually necessary.
- 4 **DO NOT** use the mixer in a flammable atmosphere.
- 5 Avoid handling cement and concrete with bare hands. It can cause painful "cement burns" on sensitive parts of the skin.
- 6 If you are splashed with cement on the skin, face or in the eyes, wash off immediately.
- 7 Care must be taken not to put your shovel inside the rotating drum when loading.
- 8 **DO NOT** put any part of the body inside the drum when it is rotating.
- 9 When unloading the mixed concrete hold the tilting wheel firmly with both hands and lower the drum slowly and carefully.
- 10 **CHECK** that the mix unloads into the centre of the barrow to prevent it from overbalancing.
- 11 If you leave the mixer unattended stop the motor.
- 12 At the end of each working day empty the drum and wash out thoroughly.
- 13 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

### Mixers with Electric Motors

- 14 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The mixer will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 15 The use of low voltage mixers at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 16 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 17 If you are going to use an electric mixer in rain or wet conditions it should be run at 110 volts. If it is necessary to use 230 volt equipment then check with the Hire Company that the terminal box is specially protected against wet.
- 18 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 19 When using a 230V mixer the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:
  - a) Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the tool and its power cable.
  - b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
  - c) Position power cables where they are less likely to be damaged.
  - d) The cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:
    - **CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
    - Make sure that cables are not damaged and free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)
    - **CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
    - **ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
    - **CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or equipment. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
    - **CHECK** the outer casing of the equipment for damage and check for loose or missing parts or screws
    - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
    - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.

- 20 Mixers using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 19(d) above.
- 21 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 22 If the automatic cut-out operates, **ALLOW** the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 23 **DO NOT** disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 24 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the mixer.

#### **Petrol and Diesel Mixers**

- 25 **CHECK** that guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with missing or defective guards on the engine.
- 26 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 27 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 28 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 29 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 30 **DO NOT** use the mixer in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.
- 31 If it has to be used in an enclosed area, ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.
- 32 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material lying on or against the exhaust system. The exhaust pipe and silencer get very hot.
- 33 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off **IMMEDIATELY**.
- 34 If warning lights show or gauges register outside normal limits, switch off the engine.
- 35 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. **ALLOW** the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap and topping up.
- 36 When noise levels are uncomfortably high over 80dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 37 If higher noise levels occur regularly when it is necessary to shout to be heard, (85dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.



**The UK's Leading Association for Plant & Equipment Hire Professionals**

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This leaflet is one in a comprehensive series of equipment safety instructions available from the CPA