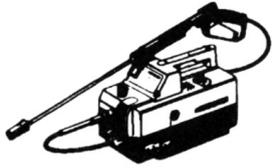




Safety Instructions

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT.



15.1 Pressure Washers

- 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.

Note: These instructions **DO NOT** apply to the specialised process of high pressure water jetting.

- 1 The pressure washer must be operated correctly according to the manufacturer's or owner's operating instructions, which are available on request if required.
- 2 This equipment should be used only by persons who have received adequate training.
- 3 **DO NOT** point the lance at other persons, animals or fragile materials such as glass. Water at pressure is extremely dangerous and can penetrate the skin, even at pressures as low as 35 bar (500 psi). Get immediate attention from your doctor or the hospital if this happens.
- 4 Wear personal protective equipment as conditions determine. Safety goggles and/or visor, hard hat, waterproof overalls and gloves are usually necessary. When cleaning off substances hazardous to health gloves and overalls must give special protection against these substances.
- 5 Protective clothing will **NOT** prevent the jet from penetrating the skin.
- 6 Select a work area that is flat, firm, well drained and will not get slippery with the water from the washer.
- 7 **CHECK** that all persons and animals are clear of the work area.
- 8 **DO NOT** work from a ladder, the reaction of the jet will cause the ladder to overbalance.
- 9 When working from scaffolding or a powered work platform a safety harness should be used and other safety measures might be necessary, as conditions require.
- 10 Use shielding screens where necessary to protect other persons and equipment from grit or solids washed out by the jets.
- 11 When starting work, if the equipment has the facility, increase the pressure **SLOWLY** until effective jetting is reached. Use the minimum pressure necessary to carry out the work.
- 12 **DO NOT** be distracted when carrying out jetting.
- 13 Be aware that the water spray can drift into other work areas and cause danger to others. **DO NOT** clean electrical equipment until it has been disconnected from the power supply. Protect the electrical parts from the water where possible.
- 14 **DO NOT** use hoses other than those supplied and make sure at all times that they are not kinked.
- 15 **DO NOT** use hot water, unless specified by the manufacturer.
- 16 **DO NOT** use detergents other than those supplied.
- 17 **DO NOT** run the equipment if there is any leakage and do not attempt to tighten a joint whilst under pressure.
- 18 **DO NOT** allow any wastewater that contains substances hazardous to health and/or certain other waste materials to run to the drains. It is your legal duty to prevent this or to seek advice in preventing it.
- 19 **CHECK** that all water pressure in the lines is released before leaving the machine unattended or before disconnecting any connector in the hose.
- 20 **DO NOT** make repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

Pressure Washer Powered by Electricity

- 21 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The pressure washer will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 22 The use of a low voltage machine at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 23 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 24 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.

- 25 When using a 230V pressure washer the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:
- Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the tool and its power cable.
 - The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
 - Position power cables where they are less likely to be damaged.
 - The machine, 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 and covers over electrical parts 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.
- 26 A machine using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 25(d) above.
- 27 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 28 If the automatic cut-out operates, **ALLOW** the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 29 **DO NOT** carry the gun with the finger on the operating trigger.
- 30 **DO NOT** disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 31 Unplug from the power supply before changing nozzles.

Pressure Washers Powered by Petrol or Diesel Motors

- 32 Position the equipment on firm and level ground. Secure if necessary to prevent accidental movement.
- 33 **CHECK** that guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with missing or defective guards.
- 34 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 35 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 36 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 37 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 38 **DO NOT** use the machine in a hazardous or explosive atmosphere, or where fuel has been spilt.
- 39 **DO NOT** run the equipment in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.
- 40 If the engine has to be used in an enclosed area, ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.
- 41 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material lying on or against the exhaust system. The exhaust pipe and silencer get very hot.
- 42 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off **IMMEDIATELY**.
- 43 If warning lights show or gauges register outside normal limits, switch off the engine.
- 44 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. **ALLOW** the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap and topping up.
- 45 When noise levels are uncomfortably high over 80dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 46 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

CPA. 27/28 Newbury Street, Barbican, London EC1A 7HU
Tel: 020 7796 3366 Fax: 020 7796 3399
Email: enquiries@cpa.uk.net www.cpa.uk.net

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