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Using the Floor Grinder

- All protective equipment must be worn including ear defenders and goggles.
- The floor grinder must always be gripped correctly with two hands while working.
- The machine must be running at full speed before lowering the abrasives carefully onto the surface.
- When grinding or scouring, the grinder must be moved over the floor in a circular scything motion. If using wire brushes the machine should be pulled backwards, taking care not to trip. This will avoid compacting the loosened surface debris by not walking over it.
- Care must be taken not to damage any finished floor surfaces by operating the machine while moving to the work area and positioning the floor grinder.
- If the machine starts to labour, reduce the depth of cut and make two passes.
- While working, a lookout must be kept for any obstructions on the path of the grinder, stop the grinder and clear them out of the way.
- As the abrasives wear the tilting handle must be adjusted to maintain a level contact between the abrasives and floor.
- Do not adjust the tilting handle in an effort to increase the pressure onto the floor. This will not do the job faster but will wear out the abrasive attachments much quicker.
- Periodically check, and tighten the wedges as necessary.
- The engine must be stopped if the abrasive attachments need to be changed or adjustments need to be made.
- Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting the hands. If the fingers begin to tingle or feel numb a short break must be taken from the work. The fingers must be exercised to encourage blood circulation.
- To help prevent vibration affecting the hands, the machine should be operated for shorter periods. Hands should be kept warm – gloves can be worn to help do this.
- Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.
- 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

Floor Grinder

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 all of this leaflet BEFORE using the Floor Grinder

- Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
- This floor grinder is designed for grinding concrete surfaces, removing loose surface material or ridges, preparing the surface for painting; it can also be used for removal of dry grease or paint. The appropriate attachments must be used.
- The action of this floor grinder can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
- If the operator has not used a floor grinder before, they should familiarise themselves with the machine on some straightforward work before starting on the main task.
- The work must be planned and thought out to ensure it will always be carried out safely.
- 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 EN149FFP3(s) protection;
Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 102 dB(A);
Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972;
Overalls and gloves.
- This machine must not be used by minors, or anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- This floor grinder 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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turned off.

- The fuel tap should be closed, and the fuel tap should be up the choke lever should be opened so the engine is idling. As the engine warms so the engine has started adjust the throttle so that it recoils correctly.
- If the engine has started adjust the throttle so that it recoils correctly.
- The cord should be guided back into place be pulled too far or it may break.
- The starter cord should be pulled slowly until it is apparent that the starter has engaged with the engine, it should then be pulled quickly and strongly. It should not be pulled too far or it may break.
- The drive unit should be held firmly so that it will not move when the starter is pulled. The throttle control should be opened a little.
- The fuel tap should be turned on.
- The fuel and oil levels should be checked. Instructions below.
- If the hire company has given special instructions, follow them, if not follow the instructions below.

STARTING AND STOPPING THE ENGINE

- A funnel should be used and clean petrol fuel tank.
- The engine must be stopped and allowed to cool down.
- If possible the machine should be moved away from the work area.
- The filter cap should be cleaned and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
- Any fuel should be wiped off the machine. The fuel soaked cloth should be disposed of carefully.
- If any fuel is spilled on the ground, it should be wiped up or covered up with soil.
- Any clothes with fuel spilled on them should be changed straight away.
- All fuel caps should be put back on properly and the fuel moved to a safe, cool place.

REFUELLING

- No smoking.
- The engine must be stopped and allowed to cool down.
- If possible the machine should be moved away from the work area.
- The filter cap should be cleaned and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.

Useful Reference Points • www.hae.org.uk/businessguard

The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever the machine is used. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.

- This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 102dB(A)-appropriate ear muffs or plugs must be worn giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
- Impact resistant goggles must be worn (EN166 – B or BS2092 grade 1) when this floor grinder is being operated.
- An appropriate dust mask must be worn (with a minimum of EN149 FFP3(S) protection) when material is being planned that may cause dust.
- Safety boots must be worn (EN345 or BS1870/4972).

OPERATORS

- Check the machine, engine, and all attachments – contact the hire company.
- Only the correct type of abrasive attachments must be used for the machine and for the job by the hire company.
- Vibration from using this floor grinder can be hazardous. Hands must be warmed up before starting the work and gloves must be worn to keep the hands warm whilst working.
- All of the controls must be understood. Before the machine is started it must be known how to top it.

FLOOR GRINDER

- People working nearby will also be required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is nearby and there are no distractions.
- Protect people from the noise, debris and dust. Warn people to keep away, put barriers around the work area.
- If the machine has a vacuum dust collection system then the machine should be operated with a dry surface. The dust collection will be more efficient.
- If there is no dust collection system then dampen down the surface to be worked on will help control dust.
- The machine may damage pipes or cables laid just beneath the surface.



Before Starting Work...