

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

Task / Equipment Description: Chainsaw use (fuel powered and electric)

Example photo only



Potential Hazards and Risks

- Exposed moving parts
- Electrical hazards
- Noise
- Manual handling injuries
- Vibration
- Slips, trips and falls
- Elevated temperatures and dust

DO NOT use this equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation.

Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



Full face shield



Safety shoes/boots



Eye protection



Gloves



Hearing Protection

Other PPE (describe): Close fitting, protective clothing

ALWAYS

Wear all PPE as per manufacturer's operating manual

Check equipment prior to use for damage and/or fault

Place chainsaw on the ground or stable surface and then start

Operate within calling distance of assistance in case of an emergency

NEVER

Never use equipment that is damaged or faulty

Never operate a chainsaw without a front hand guard

Never hold chainsaw in one hand or by one handle only

Never walk with chainsaw while blade is spinning

Never cut above shoulder height

Never remove or replace chain – return to Diamond Hire for assistance

This document does not replace training it is provided as a guide to the safe use of this type of equipment. Refer to the manufacturer's manual or training documents for further information. This is a non-specific document and must be assessed against your particular brand of equipment and the working environment. Where necessary a Task Specific Risk Assessment should be undertaken.

Safe Operating Procedure:

1. Pre-Operation – Safety Checks:
 - Identify ON/OFF switch
 - Undertake visual inspection of all parts
 - Check that chainsaw is in good repair
 - Check that chain is lubricated, sharp and the tension is correct
 - Never operate a chainsaw without a front hand guard (it protects the operator in a kickback situation) and
 - Wear adequate and appropriate PPE
2. Operation – Safety Procedure:
 - Start chainsaw while placed on ground or stable surface
 - Hold the chainsaw firmly with both hands and maintain a secure grip Using a loose grip can cause kickbacks
 - Always begin your cut at peak revs
 - Stand to the side of the cutting path of the chain saw
 - Do not cut above shoulder height
 - Never hold the chainsaw in one hand or by one handle only
 - Do not walk with chainsaw whilst blade is spinning
 - Do not use in wet conditions
 - Electric power units – ensure the extension cable is behind operator and beware of entanglement with operator and/ or branches
 - Remove from power source (electric units)
3. Post-Operation – Housekeeping:
 - Ensure blade has stopped spinning before removing waste material/work piece
 - Ensure blade has stopped spinning before placing it on the ground
 - Use the chain guard (scabbard) when machine is carried or not in use
 - Ensure equipment is returned to storage area or storage case after use
 - Secure chainsaw in vehicle to prevent turnover, chain oil spillage and damage
 - Clean plastic surfaces with a cloth and do not spray chainsaw with water