

MOST IMPORTANT - RISK ASSESS!!!

Before you commence any work at your chosen work area, you should undertake some preliminary **hazard identification and risk control** precautions. Ideally more than one person should do this. This is undertaken by:

1. Physically inspecting the work site
2. Reviewing the best way/job steps required to complete the task
3. Reviewing the Safe Work Information supplied with the equipment
4. Reviewing other reference documentation and expert advice

The hazard identification and control process steps are defined as:

1. Identify the Hazards (eg. 240V power drill use around wet areas)
2. Assess the Risk (multi earth paths - possible electrocution)
3. Select the Control Measure (eg. dry the area; use an RCD; use a cordless drill etc)
4. Re-assess the Risk (risk of electrocution now negligible). This is undertaken to ensure that the risk control measures adopted have not introduced any new risks to the work area.

HELP

If the unit does not operate correctly or you are unhappy with its performance, return it to the nearest Kennards Hire Centre for exchange or phone for assistance. **Do not attempt repairs yourself.**

Refer to your hire contract for details of our **AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER.**

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE)**CLOTHING**

Clothes shall be appropriate and close fitting, with no loose articles such as cuffs, ties, necklaces, rings etc, which can be caught in rotating machine parts.

Long hair shall be constrained through netting, tying or other close fitting apparel.

RAMMER (2 STROKE FUEL)**TO START**

1. Open fuel tap (lever down)
2. Close choke
3. Open throttle
4. Take up rope play in recoil and, then pull start rope swiftly to start
5. When machine starts, open choke gradually until fully open
6. Allow machine 5 minutes to warm up at idle

OPERATE

1. Open throttle to "full power", position sharply and machine will commence to tamp.
2. Throttle back as far as possible, keeping machine tamping evenly. Do not fight it or hold it too tight. 3/4 throttle is usually the easiest operating range. Maximum compaction of soil has been reached when excessive kickback is noticed in the Rammer (hard to handle).

Note: The guiding handle is designed so that when applying downward pressure the Rammer will keep working rather than becoming a vibrator.

TO STOP

1. Move throttle from "full power" to "idle" sharply, machine will then idle.
2. Allow engine to idle for 1 minute.
3. Close fuel/stop tap.

TO TRANSPORT

Place in an upright position. This will minimise the risk of flooding the engine. When lifting it is advisable for 2 people on either side of the machine to do the lift, being very careful to avoid pinch points.

PLATE COMPACTOR (4 STROKE FUEL)**TO START**

1. Turn fuel tap on (lever down).
2. Close choke.
3. Close throttle.
4. Take up rope play in recoil and, then pull swiftly to start.
5. When machine starts open choke gradually until fully open
6. Allow machine 2 minutes to warm up at idle.

This operating and safety brochure is intended as a guide only for the safe operation of this equipment. It does not override license requirements nor is it a substitute for a structured operating lesson.

If you are unsure about any aspect of the equipment or its capabilities or if you are in doubt as to its proper usage, feel free to consult our trained employees for instruction or the answers to any questions you may have regarding the safe operation of this equipment.

SAFETY DO'S**General Safety Do's**

DO take your time to **Read this User Guide** and other Safety material (e.g. decals, manufacturer's instructions) completely and in its entirety BEFORE operating the Rammer/Compactor unit.

DO seek medical advice from your doctor if you have any medical condition that may be affected by the operation and manual handling of the Rammer/Compactor unit.

DO ensure that the equipment is suitable for your needs and working environment.

DO ensure the supplier/hirer shows you how to use the equipment and that you fully understand and are familiar with the Rammer/Compactor equipment and its operations including emergency shut down/response.

DO ensure that the equipment is assembled and used according to the manufacturer's and hirer's instructions.

DO check controls for proper response.

DO wear appropriate PPE as illustrated.

DO ensure that the PPE you use has an Australian Standards compliance label.

DO always keep both hands on guide handle when operating machine.

DO always be aware of where your feet are in relation to the Rammer/Compactor Plate.

DO always operate in a clear hazard free work area.

DO ensure that you have clear access and egress to the work area whilst on the job.

DO ensure the work environment is well lit with all aspects of the job easily seen and discernable.

DO beware of hot engine parts.

DO shut down the Rammer/Compactor machine if a fault is detected (e.g. fuel line leakage).

DO check the condition of the machine at the start and end of each shift and report any damage or defects.

DO ensure that all guards are correctly attached and in good condition.

DO always be sure rammer will not tip over when not in use or when transporting.

DO maintain proper footing and balance at all times and avoid standing on uneven, rough, excessively wet or slippery surfaces.

DO be aware of "pinch areas" and keep body parts such as fingers and feet away.

DO use lifting points provided.

Petrol Safety Do's

DO always operate petrol units in well-ventilated areas. A build up of petrol fumes (carbon monoxide) can KILL...

DO not let people near hot surfaces such as exhaust pipes.

DO always turn fuel tap "off" when compactor or rammer is not in use.

SAFETY DON'TS**General Safety Don'ts**

DO NOT operate Rammer/Compactor units if tired or suffering any medical condition, or if under the influence of alcohol or drugs, which may cause lethargy or danger to you or others.

DO NOT ever leave a compactor or rammer running unattended.

DO NOT allow other people, children or pets into work/danger areas. (Barricade off if necessary)

DO NOT use Rammer/Compactor that is damaged or may have become damaged in any way (e.g. guarding), or that you suspect may be damaged (e.g. safety devices).

DO NOT start the machine if a fault is detected.

DO NOT operate equipment without guards correctly fitted.

DO NOT touch exhaust guard or engine cooling fins as burns could result.

DO NOT ever force the unit or use the unit to do a job for which it was not designed.

Petrol Safety Don'ts

DO NOT use choke to stop engine.

DO NOT smoke while operating Rammer/Compactor.

DO NOT smoke while in the vicinity of petrol, petrol containers or petrol-powered equipment

DO NOT smoke while refueling the unit.

DO NOT refill fuel tank while engine is running.

DO NOT overfill the fuel tank. If a spillage occurs, ensure that the area is dry before starting the motor.

DO NOT start or use the unit within 3 metres of any fuel containers.

DO NOT ever operate petrol units in areas that contain flammable liquids or gas, or confined spaces and poorly ventilated spaces.

OPERATE

1. The throttle lever operates the compactor.
2. Move the throttle lever from the "OFF" position to the "Full power" position.
3. When the engine speed reaches operation speed, the centrifugal clutch engages.
4. Do not operate the throttle lever slowly as this will cause the clutch to slip and the machine will not drive correctly.

Note: If fitted, the water system will provide about twenty minutes sprinkling with the water lock in the fully open position and the compactor operating at full speed.

TO STOP

1. Allow engine to idle for 1 minute.
2. Close fuel tap.
3. Push "stop" button.

TO TRANSPORT

Place in an upright position. This will minimise the risk of flooding the engine. When lifting it is advisable for 2 people to use the lifting handles on either side of the unit.

GENERAL HELPFUL HINTS

For Effective Compaction, appropriate moisture must be present in the soil surface. This is because the water plays the function as the lubricant among the particles. If the soil is excessively dry, spray water to give sufficient moisture prior to compaction work. Water should not be too much or too little.

For compaction of an area with excessive water, repeat compacting, waiting for the water, which has appeared on the surface after every compaction run to dry out. This will result in firm and strong ground with less void and high density.

Work progressively over the area to be compacted, this will avoid the compactor "digging in" at a particular point. Avoid over compaction. If using on sand, wet the sand before starting to compact the area. Some pavers may crack. This is often due to a weakness in the pavers or bedding. Carpet, Masonite or a layer of sand can be used between pavers and compactor to minimise cracking.

When using for bitumen compaction, use water system (if fitted) to stop "pick up".

Matching Compaction Equipment with Soil Conditions - the desired level of compaction can best be achieved by matching the type of soil with the proper method of compaction.

Normally, soils are found in mixtures of clay and granular materials, making the selection of compaction equipment more difficult. It is best to choose the machine that is correct for the larger percentage of the mixture.

Clay Soils: Clay is cohesive - its particles stick together, therefore, to best compact this material, a machine with a high impact force is required to ram the soil, forcing the air out to arrange the particles. A rammer is the best choice.

Granular Soils: Since granular soils are not cohesive and the particles require a shaking or vibratory action to move them, a plate compactor is the best choice.

Note: For compacting of asphalt pavement or its repair works, either a Rammer or Plate Compactor equally achieves a sufficient compaction result.

MAINTENANCE ON SITE**Everyday**

Check all screws on engine cowling are tight.

Brush away dirt and dust from engine.

HANDLING

Lay protective sheet on surface for transporting.

To avoid manual handling injuries, adopt safe posture for lifting and manoeuvring of the unit, if necessary obtain help to manually lift and move the unit.

SPECIFICATIONS**Compactor**

Weight (various) - 61kg and 88kg
Plate Sizes (various) - (280mm x 330mm) & (560mm x 500mm)
Fuel - Unleaded - Four Stroke
Tank capacity - 4 Litres

Rammer

Weight (various) - 32kg and 64kg
Plate Size (various) - (250mm x 100mm) & (300mm x 300mm)
Fuel - Two Stroke
Tank Capacity - 3 Litres

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