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SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

ONE MAN POST HOLE DIGGER

The instructions recommended within this document apply to normal risk conditions. If the One Man Post Hole Digger is to be operated in a dangerous or hostile environment, the user/client hiring this equipment from Pirie Hire Pty Ltd is responsible for conducting an appropriate risk analysis, and applying suitable controls to mitigate those additional risks.

GENERAL SAFETY

- The One Man Post Hole Digger can only be operated if it is in a safe and sound operating condition by a competent operator.
- No smoking, drugs or alcohol is permitted.
- Operator must stay within the safe operating load limits of the machine.
- Ensure all operating functions are working prior to use.
- Operator to wear appropriate PPE (safety footwear, ear protection etc).
- Worksites on or near roads must have separation from the flow of traffic.
- Operation of unit is best on firm and level ground.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery.
- Do not operate near other people.
- Ensure adequate fresh air is available if using machine in a small area.
- Check to ensure there are no underground services at the point of the bore.
- Do not leave machine unattended while still in operation.
- Switch off machine before refuelling.



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OPERATING CONDITIONS

- Carry out a visual inspection on machine prior to use. If any leaks are spotted, do not operate machine.
- Check fuel and oil level before use.
- Ensure you receive basic instructions on starting machine & operating functions.
- Do not allow children to operate the machine, and always ensure area is clear when starting up in case of accidental movements.
- Never use machine in confined spaces.
- Never open radiator cap when machine is running or hot.
- Refer to operator's manual for all other requirements.
- Ensure there are no slip/trip hazards in the area.
- Avoid standing on loose ground.
- Ensure auger pin is inserted correctly
- Turn switch to the "ON" position and pull cord to start.
- Use both hands at all times.
- Withdraw auger regularly to withdraw the debris.
- Do not drill into rocky or excessively hard ground.
- Do not leave unattended while auger is running.



The above instructions must be followed at all times. If any one of these instructions are not possible, contact the Pirie Hire staff immediately for assistance.

For a basic tutorial on the operation of a One Man Post Hole Digger, watch this clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lijyq04qvE0>



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ONE MAN POST HOLE DIGGER - RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Area/Hazard	Consequence	Likelihood	Controls
Machine striking somebody <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile Plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serious Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up an exclusion zone around machine while operating Communication where possible Do not exceed machine operating limits and specifications Operate to the weather conditions Slow, steady operation of controls
Machine contacting underground cables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serious Injury Fatality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operator to assess area and use a spotter Dial before you dig to ensure there are no underground cables or pipes
Hearing loss and asphyxiation from exhaust fumes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term hearing damage Breathing issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear hearing protection Avoid operation in enclosed spaces If necessary, wear a respirator in confined areas
Explosion or fire when refuelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical/Static 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serious Injury Fatality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switch machine off before refuelling Avoid fuel touching hot engine parts Ensure fuel cap is sealed correctly
Falling while operating machine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manual technique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always maintain 2 points of contact with hands when using machine Ensure machine is switched off when people are near attachment to avoid accidental hydraulic movement