



AFFORDABLE HIRE

General Safety Guide

Your safety is our top priority

Please read and follow this guide before operating any hired equipment

1. Risk Assessment & Operator Capability

- **Assess the Risks:** Before beginning any work, conduct a thorough site risk assessment to identify potential hazards like overhead power lines, underground services, or unstable ground.
- **Know Your Limits:** Only operate equipment if you have the necessary skills, physical capability, and required legal licenses or certifications to do so safely.
- **Do Not Operate If Impaired:** Never operate any tools or machinery while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication, or if you are feeling fatigued.
- **Stop If Unsure:** If you feel unsafe or are uncertain about how to operate the machinery at any point, stop immediately and contact Easy Hire for guidance.

2. Read the Manual First

- **Mandatory Reading:** Always read the specific instruction manual for your hired tool before use.
- **Where to Find It:** All equipment manuals are digital and accessible on our website.
- **Website Link:** Visit <http://www.easyhiretools.com.au> to download your manual.

3. No Modifications or Maintenance

- **Do Not Alter:** You must not modify, adjust, or alter any hired tools.
- **No DIY Repairs:** Do not attempt to carry out maintenance or repairs yourself, all our tools have been fully serviced and inspected prior to your hire commencement.
- **Contact Us:** Always consult Easy Hire first if you experience equipment issues.

4. Concrete Cutting, Grinding, and Dust Control

- **Silica Dust Hazard:** Cutting, grinding, or drilling concrete creates respirable crystalline silica dust. Inhaling this fine dust causes irreversible lung damage and silicosis.
- **Asbestos Warning:** Do not cut, demolish, or disturb any building materials before confirming they are 100% asbestos-free. Even minimal exposure to airborne asbestos fibres is extremely dangerous.
- **Water Suppression:** Always use the tool's integrated water suppression system to wet-cut or wet-grind whenever possible. This traps dust at the source before it becomes airborne.
- **Dust Extraction:** If dry-cutting or dry-grinding is required, you must connect the tool to an approved M-class or H-class HEPA dust extraction vacuum system.
- **High-Grade PPE:** The operator and anyone standing in the vicinity must wear a correctly fitted P2 or P3 rated respirator/dust mask, disposable overalls, and safety eyewear.
- **Isolate Work Areas:** Use barriers to seal off the work area and prevent dust from spreading to bystanders, adjacent rooms, or public spaces.

5. Battery and Charging Safety

Use Supplied Chargers Only: Recharge equipment batteries only using the specific chargers supplied by Easy Hire.

- **Fire Risk Mitigation:** A charger suitable for one battery pack type can create a significant fire risk when used with an unapproved battery pack.
- **Designated Battery Packs:** Operate cordless equipment only with the matching, specifically designated battery packs provided with the tool.
- **Prevent Short Circuits:** When the battery pack is detached and not in use, keep it away from metal objects (such as paperclips, coins, keys, nails, or screws) that could bridge the terminals.
- **Terminal Safety:** Shorting the battery terminals directly together can cause violent sparks, severe burns, or ignite a fire.
- **Battery Fluid Leaks:** Heavy damage or misuse may cause liquid to escape from the battery. Avoid all bodily contact.
- **First Aid Steps:** If accidental contact occurs, flush the skin immediately with water. If liquid contacts the eyes, seek immediate medical assistance.

- **Corrosive Hazards:** Escaping battery liquid is highly caustic and can cause severe skin irritation, chemical burns, or permanent eye damage.
- **Ventilation Control:** Always charge batteries in a well-ventilated, dry indoor environment.
- **No Obstructions:** Never cover or block the ventilation cooling slots on either the battery pack or the charging dock.

6. High-Pressure Washing & Paint Spraying Safety

- **Injection Hazard:** High-pressure jets can pierce skin, causing severe internal tissue damage, amputation, or blood poisoning. Seek immediate medical emergency care if skin penetration occurs.
- **Never Point Spray:** Never point or direct high-pressure water or spray paint equipment at any person or animal. Treat all equipment as loaded and hazardous.
- **Residual Pressure:** Systems remain pressurized even when turned off. Always engage the trigger safety lock, shut off the power source, and trigger the gun to release trapped line pressure before changing tips or servicing.
- **Proper Stance:** Hold the spray gun firmly with both hands. High-pressure recoil can cause a kickback, potentially knocking the operator off balance or off ladders.
- **Chemical Safety:** For hazardous materials (paints, thinners, chemical detergents), always obtain a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) from your supplier to ensure safe handling, ventilation, and disposal.
- **No Closed Spaces:** Never operate petrol-powered pressure washers indoors or in poorly ventilated areas due to fatal carbon monoxide risks.

7. High-Pressure Air, Water, and Paint General Rules

- **No Human Consumption:** Do NOT use compressed air for breathing air or human consumption.
- **No Body Cleaning:** Do NOT use compressed air, pressure washers, or spray guns to clean clothing, footwear, or bare skin.
- **Eardrum & Eye Risk:** High-pressure air and fluid streams can rupture eardrums, cause permanent blindness, or peel skin.

8. Electrical Safety Standards

- **Testing & Tagging:** All electrical equipment and extension leads have been test and tagged by a qualified Easy Hire Representative prior to your hire.
- **Isolation Procedures:** Ensure equipment is fully disconnected from power sources before changing attachments, blades, abrasives, or drill bits.
- **Switch Integrity:** Safety switches must never be bypassed or locked in the "on" position with tape or wire.
- **RCD Protection:** Use only power outlets protected by a Residual Current Device (RCD). If a permanent RCD is unavailable, a certified portable RCD must be used. RCD's are available for hire from Easy Hire.
- **Underground Services:** Prior to any cutting or demolition, consult authorities to locate hidden electrical cabling (www.byda.com.au).
- **Environmental Hazards:** Do not operate electrical equipment in wet or damp environments.
- **Lead Management:** Do not use extension leads longer than 20 metres to avoid voltage drops and ensure they are fully uncoiled to prevent overheating.
- **Lead Protection:** Inspect leads for damage before use. Keep leads off floors, away from moisture, and protected from crushing.
- **Explosion Risk:** Do not use electrical appliances where operation could trigger an explosion of gases, vapours, liquids, or dusts.

9. Hydraulic and Lifting Equipment

- **Mechanical Integrity:** Never handle or move a hydraulic line or system while it is operating or under pressure.
- **Safe Leak Checks:** Never check for hydraulic leaks with hands, fingers, or bare skin.

10. Working at Heights and Scaffolding

- **Firm Foundations:** Position equipment on firm, stable bases and ensure working platforms are completely level with adequate head clearance.
- **Three-Points of Contact:** Maintain three limbs in contact when ascending or descending ladders or structures. Wear clean, dry, non-slip footwear.
- **Exclusion Zones:** Ensure no people can access the area directly below the working height. Work strictly within legislated exclusion zones from power lines.
- **Weather Hazards:** Do not work at heights during wind, rain, snow, or stormy conditions. Check your local regulatory authority for height legislation.
- **Elevated Work Platforms (EWP):** Use EWPs where possible. Ensure stabilizers or outriggers are fully deployed with ground pads used.

- **Scaffold Safety:** Platforms 2 metres or higher must have handrails, mid-rails, and kickboards fitted. Scaffolds 4 metres or higher must only be built, altered, or dismantled by a qualified scaffold erector.
- **Scaffold Rules:** Erect according to instructions. Lock castor wheels before use. Never sit or climb on handrails. Never move scaffolding while personnel are on the platform. Climb using interior ladders.
- **Ladders and Trestles:** Do not use trestles as ladders. Use ladders and trestles only in fully open, locked positions. Set single/extension ladders at a 4:1 slope. Extension ladders must extend 1 metre past the platform. Stand at least 100cm below the top of a ladder. Do not carry heavy or awkward loads up ladders. Avoid over-reaching. Use approved handrail systems or fall arrest harnesses when on trestles 2 metres or higher.

11. Towing & Trailer Safety Checks

- **Check Capacities:** Ensure your vehicle's towing capacity matches the loaded trailer weight.
- **Secure Hitch:** Double-check that the coupling is locked onto the tow ball properly.
- **Attach Chains:** Cross the safety chains under the drawbar and clip them securely.
- **Test Lights:** Verify that indicators, brake lights, and taillights work correctly.
- **Inspect Tyres:** Check that trailer tyres have adequate tread and correct air pressure.
- **Engage Jockey Wheel:** Ensure the jockey wheel is fully raised, wound up, and locked.

12. Transporting and Securing Equipment

- **Use Correct Vehicles:** Only transport machinery in vehicles or trailers rated for the weight.
- **Tie-Down Properly:** Secure all items using heavy-duty ratchet straps or chains before driving.
- **Load Safely:** Distribute weight evenly and keep the heavy side forward of the axle.
- **Lock and Protect:** Lock towed trailers and use covers to protect gear from weather.

13. Clothing & Apparel Requirements

- **Wear Suitable Clothes:** Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery that may be caught up in moving parts.
- **Constrain Hair:** Long hair shall be constrained through netting, tying, or other close-fitting apparel.
- **Sun Protection:** Where applicable, protect yourself outside with long-sleeved clothing, sun protection, and a hat.

14. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **Assess the Risks:** Always wear the appropriate PPE required for your specific tool.
- **Standard Safety Gear:** This may include safety glasses, ear protection, and gloves.
- **Footwear Check:** Wear steel-cap boots or heavy-duty footwear appropriate for the work environment.

15. Refuelling Requirements

- **Correct Fuel Only:** Check the manual or equipment labels for the required fuel type (e.g., Unleaded, Diesel, or 2-Stroke mix).
- **Engine Off:** Always switch off the engine and let it cool completely down before refuelling.

16. Cleaning & Returns

- **Return Clean:** All tools and equipment must be returned in a clean condition.
- **Cleaning Fee:** Dirt, mud, concrete, or debris left on equipment will incur a cleaning fee.
- **Avoid Fees:** Please wash down machinery and clear out debris before your hire period ends.

Please Note: By paying the hire fee, you agree to comply with these safety conditions and all other terms and conditions outlined by Easy Hire. Our full Terms and Conditions are available on our website and are subject to change.