



PLATE COMPACTORS — PETROL



SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. It is important to read all of this leaflet before you use the plate compactor.
2. Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
3. This compactor is designed for compacting hardcore, or the final levelling of paving blocks or other surfaces.
4. The action of this plate compactor can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
5. If you have not used a plate compactor before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
6. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
7. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment:



Dust mask — a minimum of EN149 ffp2(s) protection



Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 96dB(A)



Gloves



Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972

8. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs and alcohol.
9. This plate compactor is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

Work area

1. Do not use this machine where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. You must have good ventilation or extraction to remove the poisonous exhaust fumes and provide fresh air.
3. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
4. Protect other people from the noise, debris and dust. Warn others to keep away, put barriers around your work area.
5. The compactor may damage pipes or cables laid just beneath the surface.

Operators

6. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
7. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 96dB(A) — wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
8. You will need to wear an appropriate dustmask (with a minimum of EN149 ffp2(s) protection) when you are compacting material that causes dust.
9. You must wear safety boots (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
10. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

Plate compactor

11. Check your machine, engine, and all equipment. Do not use anything found damaged — Contact Torrent Trackage 24 Hour Hotline Number 0845 7697168.
12. Always grip the plate compactor correctly with two hands while working.
13. Vibration from using this plate compactor can be hazardous. Warm your hands up before you start work, and wear gloves to keep your hands warm while you are working.
14. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before you start the machine, you must know how to stop it.

Accessories

15. When compacting asphalt or tarmac, use a water spray to prevent the surface sticking to the plate.
16. Some surfaces, like paving blocks, need a rubber mat fixed to the plate to protect the final surface.
17. If your compactor has transport wheels make sure they are safely stowed.

Refuelling

1. No smoking.
2. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3. If possible move the machine away from your work area.
4. Clean the filler cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
5. Use a funnel and clean petrol when refuelling. Do not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine.
6. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose of fuel soaked cloth carefully.
7. If you spill any fuel on the ground, wipe it up or cover it with soil.
8. If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
9. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.

Starting the engine

1. Check that the engine and machine controls are set correctly.
2. Make sure that you hold the machine firmly so it will not move when you pull the starter.
3. Pull the starter handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, then pull it quickly and strongly. Don't pull it too far, or it may break.
4. Guide the cord back into place so that it recoils correctly.

Using the machine

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders and safety boots.
2. This machine moves forward, and can be turned easily, while the motor is running. Be careful not to strain yourself by moving it while the engine is not running.
3. Your machine may be fitted with a reverse gear — when reversing take care not to: reverse over your feet, trip over walking backwards or trap yourself in a corner.
4. Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.
5. If your compactor has transport wheels make sure they are fixed properly to move the machine.
6. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact Torrent Trackside 24 Hour Hotline Number 0845 7697168.
7. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.

GLASGOW: 0141 771 3337

BOLTON: 01204 371144

ROTHERHAM: 01709 558111

LICHFIELD: 01543 421900

BRISTOL: 0117 982 6622

HARLOW: 01279 423147

MAIDSTONE: 01622 710500

HOTLINE NUMBER: 0845 7697168