



For guidance on managing construction health risks go to

www.hse.gov.uk/construction





Using the Auger

- Wear the protective equipment including boots and gloves
- Plan working positions and the route to be taken around the holes to be dug. Avoid ground where there is building debris such as bricks, wire or timber offcuts.

 Once the auger has been started, it can be lifted it into position. Operators must check that
- they have a secure grip and footing before starting work.

 Always hold the machine securely with both hands on the handgrips and be prepared for
- any unexpected increase in turning force if the auger meets an obstructio
- As soon as the guide tip of the auger has broken the soil surface, use full throttle to
- Stay alert and always be ready to stop the engine straightaway if the auger starts to jam. If the Auger isn't stopped, the body of the machine will spin around and control will be lost.
- If the machine starts to labour and slow down do not force it so hard. Lift the machine with the auger turning to allow soil, clay and stones to be freed from the hole. Steady drilling keeping the auger speed up is more effective than aggressive pressure.
- Extensions should be added only when the auger has penetrated into the ground as far as
- Release the auger and lift the machine clear. Locate an extension onto the auger spindle and lock it into place. Now locate the borer on to the top of the extension and lock it into If the auger appears to be starting to become blunt, do not force the machine. Contact the
- hire company to reset the cutting edge.
- If the auger jams, stop the engine straightaway. Set the gear lock and turn the entire machine anti-clockwise to screw the auger out of the ground. Disengage the gear lock as oon as the auger is free.
- When moving on to the next hole, carry the machine carefully, with the engine idling. Take care not to trip on the soil from the recently dug hole or other obstacles.
- Watch out for signs that vibration from the work may be affecting your hands. If fingers start to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from cutting work. Exercise the fingers to ourage blood circulation.
- To help prevent vibration affecting hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep hands warm – wearing gloves may help do this.
- If someone approaches, stop work and let the machine idle until they are clear.
- Stop the engine to make any adjustments or clear debris tangled in the auger. Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.
- ne auger does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference















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opening the throttle, before starting let the engine warm up by gently 14. In cold weather, it may be necessary to cord again. mpression valve, and pull the starter

coutrol to the open position, set any 13. If the engine did not start, set the choke position and the engine will idle. Set the choke control to the open position.

12. If the engine is now running, briefly open the throttle - it will revert to its normal the throttle - it will revert to its normal the throttle.

11. Guide the cord back so that it recoils pull it too far, or it may break. then pull it quickly and strongly. Don't

handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, 10. With the right hand, pullout the starter cantal signal sures. Be prepared for the auger turning when

handles or engine housing. eft hand. Do not stand or kneel on the

Hold the machine down firmly with the nold it open. throttle position and use the interlock to Move the throttle lever to about half

set it. It needs to be set each time a fresh attempt is made to start the engine. If the auger has a decompression valve, run at anı.

closed position if the engine has not yet choke control should also be in the open position. Only set the choke lever to the choke control is in the open position. If If the engine is warm, check that the

Move the control lever to the start Check that the gear lock is off. free to turn.

only resting lightly on the ground and is with the engine controls and throttle lever on the top. Make sure that the auger is

on the handles and the tip of the auge 2. Lay the machine on the ground, resting instructions given below.

company has given special instructions, follow the This section describes the starting procedure for most augers. If the hire

DNITRATS

There will be a gear lock on the gearbox. Only use this when freeing a jammed suger. At all other times it should be rom cold.

when first attempting to start an engine The choke control should only be used start the engine.

when starting the auger – it needs to be pressed before each fresh attempt to e machine may have a scompression valve. This is only used ЭЧТ STOP to stop the auger.

forward to the position marked marked START or RUN. Push the control The main control lever has two positions. Under normal running, it is at the position profession of FARE or PUM. Purch the position

partly open for starting. This may be on the motor housing, or by the throttle The throttle lever is on the handlebar, positioned for operation with the right hand. There is also a part-throttle interlock, which will hold the throttle party has party and the property of the party of the part find the controls before trying to start it. This section describes the controls found on most augers. Check the machine to

CONTROLS











1 Man Post Hole Auger

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read this entire leaflet **BEFORE** using the 1 Man Post Hole Auger

1639 Safety Guidance

- Petrol mixture is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
- This auger is designed to drill holes in soil or clay using the appropriate attachments. Do not use it for anything else. Carelessness or misuse could cause a serious or fatal
- Make sure that there are no hidden electricity cables, gas or water pipes, or other obstructions where drilling is going to
- Plan the work and think ahead to make sure that the work will always be carried out safely.
- The following items of personal protective equipment must be worn as a minimum: ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 107 dB(A); safety boots; gloves. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or
- - This machine is designed for operation by two able bodied adults. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

WORK AREA

- Do not use this machine where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
- equipment indoors or in confined spaces could cause fatal carbon monoxide poisoning. Never use it in domestic premises and only use it in other indoor situations if its suitability and the ventilation required has been fully assessed. Mechanical extraction ventilation will almost always be required
- Make sure the area is clear and safe and that no-one is nearby who could cause a istraction.
 - Warn other people to keep away from the working area: put up warning signs or barriers. (Continued overleaf...)













VP Hire Station

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move the fuel can to a safe, cool place. 11. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and

them straight away. If any fuel is spilled on clothes, change it up or cover it with soil. If any fuel is spilled on the ground, wipe

of fuel soaked cloth carefully. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose any fuel on people or the machine. Use a funnel when refuelling. Do not spill

Shake the fuel can to mix the petrol and Clean the filler cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.

If possible move the machine away from Stop the engine and let it cool down. or perrol (40 ml per litre).

measure of two stroke oil to 25 measures given special instructions on how much oil to use, follow them. Otherwise, use 1 oil with petrol. If the hire company have Use a tresh mixture of two stroke engine No smoking.

it must be known how to stop it. Make sure that all of the controls are understood. Before starting the machine, may have happened, contact the hire company to reset the cutting edge.

the cutting edge. If it appears that this Prolonged use of the auger may blunt

supplied by the hire company. Make sure that the auger is locked securely in



be drilled. Only use the correct augers as Fit the appropriate auger for the holes to ger - contact the hire company. onnd to be damaged, do not use the

tank, handles, and auger. If anything is

Check the machine, including the fuel

POST HOLE AUGER

while working. and wear gloves to keep nands warm Warm hands up before starting work Vibration from working with this machine for long periods can be hazardous. need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

Anyone who is working nearby will also

lapping clothing could get caught in the Make sure that there is no loose or orking with this machine. Sarety boots must be worn when

especially when handling the auger. Gloves should be worn to protect hands while working with the machine,

This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 107 dB(A) - wear appropriate ear muffs or pluge giving hearing protection for this level.

environments may require a higher level using this machine. Particular jobs or protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum which should be worn when The following items of personal

OPERATORS

preventing anyone stepping into a hole either be covered with substantial boarding or some similar method of If the holes are to be left open for more than a very short while, they should underground obstructions where work is going to be carried out.

WORK AREA (...continued)
5. Check that there are no hidden electric cables, gas or water pipes, or

Before Starting Work...