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## HEAVY BREAKER - (Compressed Air)

### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS

It is in the interests of those operating this equipment, and for the safety of others, that these **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS** are carefully read and understood before operating this equipment.

### PURPOSE

1. This equipment is designed for breaking-up roadways, brick, concrete and asphalt and compacting surfaces using the appropriate tools.

### PERSONAL SAFETY

2. This equipment is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it. It must not be operated by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. If the equipment is not used in a safe, careful and controlled way, personal injury or injury to others may result.
4. Before attempting to operate this equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
5. Compressed air can be hazardous when not used in a safe, careful and controlled way, personal injury or injury to others may result. **NEVER DIRECT COMPRESSED AIR AT PEOPLE OR ANIMALS.** Be careful not to accidentally direct compressed air onto you own bare skin.
6. Vibration from this equipment may be at a level that could be hazardous to the user, if operated for extended periods. Always wear gloves and ensure hands are warm before starting work and they remain warm and dry. Do not grasp the equipment too tightly, only sufficient to safely control the machine. If you experience tingling, numbness or loss of strength in the fingers – stop working immediately. Take frequent breaks and exercise the hands and arms to minimise risks.
7. Before starting your work, think and plan ahead to ensure you, and others around you, will be working in a safe environment.
8. When using this equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
  - Ear defenders giving protection for levels up to 86dB(A).
  - Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.
  - Impact resistance goggles to EN166-B or BS2092, Grade 1.
  - Dust mask providing a minimum protection up to EN149 ffp2(s).
  - Appropriate industrial gloves.

**NOTE: Other types of work, or environment, may require a higher level of PPE.**

### OPERATING AREA SAFETY

9. Before commencing work, ensure that the area you are to operate the equipment in is a safe environment. Erect safety barriers and warning signs as necessary.
10. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and hazards (projections, cables, pipes, etc.).
11. Do not attempt to operate compressor equipment in confined or enclosed spaces without adequate ventilation due to the risk of inhaling toxic exhaust fumes, which can prove fatal.

12. Before commencing work, warn others who may be working in the vicinity of the equipment, to keep clear. If possible place safety barriers around your work area.
13. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.
14. Protect others from noise, dust and debris.
15. Do not use this equipment where there is a danger of igniting fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.

### BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

#### SAFETY CHECKS

16. If you have been supplied with user instructions for operating an air compressor, read them in conjunction with the instructions below.
17. Visually inspect the equipment and all its accessories (machine, air supply, hoses, tool bits, safety barriers, etc.) for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage, undue wear, etc.). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
18. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipments controls. Make sure you understand their purpose and function.
19. Before commencing work, check for hidden electrical cables and pipe work.
20. Before you start the equipment, you must know how to **STOP** it in an emergency.

### OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

#### USING THE EQUIPMENT

21. Do not use compressed air to do any of the following tasks:
  - To clean work areas, air tools or clothes.
  - Use near any oxygen generated flame heating, or cutting, equipment.
  - Use near any source of fire or flame.
  - Use to supplement any form of breathing or ventilation equipment.
22. Use the correct type of tool bit for the work being undertaken.
23. Do not operate the equipment at a greater air pressure that that recommended.
24. Ensure the shank of the tool bit is lightly oiled before insertion into the machine.
25. The equipment must always point down and contacting the surface before switching-on.
26. Always use both hands to hold and control the breaker.
27. This equipment must only be used pointing down at surfaces at ground level.
28. Before switching-on, the equipment must be at right angles to the surface being worked on to help prevent the tool bit sliding on the work surface.
29. Ensure air hoses are kept well clear of the tool bit at all times.
30. Before starting work, check for any apparent air leaks.
31. Be aware of the reactive forces when the tool bit first contacts the work piece.

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32. Ensure you have a firm footing before commencing work. Keep the work area clear of rubble, clear at regular intervals.
33. Breaking brick, concrete, masonry and asphalt may create large amounts of dust and debris; cover items and surfaces that may be come affected.
34. Do not allow the machine to labour, reduce the pressure on the equipment.
35. Do not use the equipment as a lever to prise the work surface open.
36. Should the tool bit becomes jammed in the work surface, stop the equipment and release the jammed tool bit from the machine and replace it with another one. Now use the equipment to break the surrounding surface of the jammed tool bit to retrieve it.
37. Always allow the equipment to stop working before placing the equipment on the ground.
38. Stop working and switch-off the machine if someone approaches you.
39. Stop the equipment and release the air pressure before moving it or making any adjustments or changing the tool bits.

### **SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE**

40. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
41. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
42. When leaving the equipment unattended, switch-off and release the air pressure.
43. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from dust, dirt and other debris.
44. When the equipment is left unattended for long periods (i.e. overnight), ensure it is made secure to prevent unauthorised use or loss.

### **COLLECTION & PICK-UP**

45. For safety reasons this equipment requires you to use a **VAN** or an **ESTATE**.

