



BLOCK/SLAB SPLITTER

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 hand operated equipment is designed for cutting paving blocks/slabs and stone and is ideal for on-site applications.

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 any piece of equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
5. This equipment may be heavy, enlist assistance to move and position it.
6. Before starting your work, think and plan ahead to ensure you, and others around you, will be working in a safe environment.
7. Ensure the safety and operating instructions issued with the equipment are read and understood before using/operating the equipment, including any safety labels attached to the equipment.
8. When using this equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
 - **Impact resistant goggles to EN166-B or BS2092, Grade 1.**
 - **Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.**
 - **Appropriate industrial gloves.**

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.
11. Check the work area for obstructions, overhead cables, pipes, etc.
12. Always site the equipment on a firm and level surface.
13. 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.
14. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.

BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

SAFETY CHECKS

15. Before use, always visually inspect the equipment for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage, undue wear, etc.). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.

16. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipment. Make sure you understand it's purpose and function and how to 'STOP' it in an emergency.
17. Before commencing work ensure the necessary warning signs and protection barriers are in place.

USING & OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

USING THE EQUIPMENT

18. Ensure before commencing work that the cutting edges of both blades (upper and lower) are in good condition and that the support rails (pads for the blocks/slabs) are securely mounted on either side of the lower blade.
19. Always work and stand on stable and level ground. Adopt a comfortable stance and away from any obstructions or hazards.
20. Always keep fingers and feet clear of the cutting blades.
21. The equipment requires adjusting to create the correct size aperture to cater for different sizes/shapes of block/slab being split. This aperture requires to be slightly larger than the material being split. When splitting other sizes of block/paving, the size of aperture will require re-adjusting.
22. Do not attempt to split metal or wood using this equipment.
23. Do not attempt to modify this equipment in any way.
24. Correctly locate the block/slab in the aperture between the upper and lower blades and push down on the equipments operating handle with just sufficient force to slit the block or slab.
25. Remove the block/slab that has been split and ensure that any debris is cleared away from the equipment before attempting any further work.
26. Do not attempt to split more than one block/slab at a time.
27. Never attempt to adjust the position of a block/slab once the equipments handle is being operated.
28. Be aware that heavy blocks/slabs will separate and fall either side of the equipment on being split.
29. For safety always leave the equipments operating handle in the lowered position between slitting operations, and if the equipment is to be left unattended.
30. Always be aware of others around you and their safety. If anyone approaches you stop working.

SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE

31. Visually check the condition of the tool or equipment at the start of each day.
32. If the equipment does not operate correctly or efficiently do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
33. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from dust, dirt and other debris.
34. 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

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

