



DRAIN RODS - (Manual)

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 clearing soiled pipes, blocked drains and cleaning chimneys using the appropriate attachment.

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. Stagnant, or dirty water may contain harmful bacteria. Always wear waterproof gloves and wash hands immediately should they come into contact with wastewater.
5. Before attempting to operate this equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
6. Manholes, drains and chimneys can be hazardous, therefore work safely.
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:
 - **Eye protection to provide to EN166 or BS2092 protection.**
 - **Dust mask to provide a minimum of EN149 ffp2(s) protection.**
 - **Appropriate waterproof gloves.**

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

OPERATING AREA SAFETY

WASTE PIPES & DRAINS

9. Manhole covers can be heavy, use correct remove tool and enlist the assistance of another person.
10. Manholes are normally confined spaces, which may contain a build-up of toxic fumes, ensure you work safely.
11. Never leave manholes unattended, replace the cover, or erect safety barriers.

CHIMNEYS

12. Old chimneys may contain loose brickwork or cement, be careful not to dislodge them.
13. Ensure the fireplace opening is sealed securely to ensure containment of the falling soot. If necessary, cover surrounding surfaces to prevent soot deposits gathering.

GENERAL

14. 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.
15. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and hazards.
16. Dispose of wastewater and soot in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.
17. 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.
18. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.

BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

SAFETY CHECKS

19. Visually inspect the equipment and all its accessories for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage, undue wear, etc.). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
20. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipment. Make sure you understand their purpose and function.

OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

USING THE EQUIPMENT

21. Commence by screwing and securing two lengths of rods together, using the correct size spanner. Ensure they are tightly locked together.
22. Select and attach the correct type of attachment head for the task to be undertaken.
23. Commence clearing/cleaning by pushing one end, with the attachment on, into the opening. As the rods are being pushed, rotate them in the direction that will not cause them to become unscrewed.
24. Connect subsequent additional rods securely as the previously attached rods disappear into the opening.
25. The rods have a degree of flexibility (bend), but to prevent breakage, do not attempt to bend them too far.
26. Stop working if someone approaches you.
27. If sweeping a chimney, employ a dry vacuum cleaner to remove the soot residue.
28. On completion of the task, ensure the equipment is thoroughly cleaned.

SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE

29. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
30. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
31. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from dust, dirt and other debris.
32. 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

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