



Unauthorised reproduction is prohibited

Copyright © iCOM 2017  
T: 0845 094 0707

## WACKER RAMMER - (Petrol/Oil)

### 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 compacting soil and backfill.

### 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. This equipment employs the use of petrol, which can cause fire and explosion if not handled in a safe manner.
5. Before attempting to operate this equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
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.
  - Appropriate industrial gloves.

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

### OPERATING AREA SAFETY

**WARNING:** If used indoors or in confined spaces this equipment could cause fatal carbon monoxide poisoning. Never use it in domestic premises and if used in other indoor situations you must ensure you first assess its suitability and the ventilation required for safe use. Mechanical extraction ventilation will be required in almost every case.

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. Before commencing work, ensure that there are no buried electrical cables, gas or water pipes in the area you are going to be compacting.
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. Visually inspect the equipment and all its accessories (engine, 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.
17. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipments controls. Make sure you understand their purpose and function.
18. Do not attempt to operate this equipment in confined or enclosed spaces without adequate ventilation due to the risk of inhaling toxic exhaust fumes, which can prove fatal.
19. Before you start the equipment, you must know how to **STOP** it in an emergency.

### OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

#### USING THE EQUIPMENT

20. The equipment is heavy, seek additional assistance when moving it and unloading and loading on to transport.
21. Hold the rammer in the vertical position when in use.
22. Always use both hands to hold and control the rammer.
23. Warm your hands before you start operating the equipment, as vibrations and prolonged operation of the equipment can be hazardous. Wear gloves and take frequent breaks.
24. Do not use this equipment on solid surfaces (i.e. paving blocks) as this may damage the equipment.
25. Keep feet and clothing clear of the equipment when it is in use.
26. When the equipment is running and vibrating it will move forwards steadily. During this time, the rammer can be manoeuvred easily.
27. Stop working and switch-off the machine if someone approaches you.

### STARTING THE EQUIPMENT

**Note:** Below is a brief description of **STARTING** procedure for the majority of rammers. If the hire company has provided dedicated instructions for your type of machine – follows them.

28. Check the oil level (sight glass near the rammer shoe). It must be a quarter to half full.
29. Correctly set the controls on the engine and machine correctly.

CONTINUED ON OVERLEAF >>>

30. Open the fuel valve and close the choke by moving the blue lever to 'AUF' position.
31. Set the throttle four 'clicks' on the ratchet control located on the handle.
32. Press-in and hold the primer button on the carburetor for a few seconds.
33. Hold the rammer firmly with the left hand, with the right hand take-up the slack of the starter handle cord until you feel the starter has engaged with the engine. Now pull firmly on the starting handle. Once the engine has started, allow the starter cord to retract.
34. After starting, adjust the throttle for even engine running.
35. Open the choke by moving the blue lever to 'ZU' position.
36. For 'warm' starting, do not use the choke.
37. To start the vibrating action of the rammer, fully open the throttle.
38. To stop the vibrating action, close the throttle fully.

### **STOPPING THE EQUIPMENT**

39. Close the throttle and close the fuel valve.

### **EMERGENCY STOP**

40. Press the stop button on side of the engine (near the fuel tank) and close the fuel valve.

### **REFUELLING**

41. This is a two-stroke engine; refuel with a mixture of 25 measures of petrol and one measure of two-stroke oil (unless directed otherwise). The petrol and oil must be thoroughly mixed before pouring into fuel tank.
42. The engine must not be running whilst refuelling. Warm engines must be allowed to cool down first.
43. Do not smoke whilst refuelling. Move equipment away from work area before re-fuelling.
44. Clean the area around the fuel filler cap before removing it.
45. Using a clean funnel, pour mixture into the fuel tank. Care must be taken not to overfill or spill. Fuel spilt on the engine must be wiped dry, that spilt on the ground must be removed and the area covered with sand or earth. Fuel soaked clothes must be removed.
46. Replace the fuel cap securely.

### **SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE**

47. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
48. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
49. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from dust, dirt and other debris.
50. 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**

51. For safety reasons this equipment requires you to use a **LORRY**.

