



## SMALL DUMPERS - (Diesel)

### 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 transporting small quantities of building materials (sand, hardcore, waste material, etc.) over short distances, primarily around building sites.

### PERSONAL SAFETY

2. This equipment is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either a 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, injury to others and damage to other equipment and structures may result.
4. Do not attempt to operate this equipment unless you have had previous experience operating similar equipment, or the requisite course of instruction from an authoritative body.
 

**Note: A Certificate of Training Achievement (CTA) for Construction Plant Operators is a requirement on most building/construction sites.**
5. Operators of this equipment should have a current Site Safety Awareness Certificate.
6. Be aware of the conditions of insurance before operating this equipment (see under 'INSURANCE' below).
7. Before attempting to operate this equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
8. No attempt must be made to either load or unload this equipment from its transporting vehicle unless you have previous experience in such operations (see 'UNLOADING FROM A TRAILER' below).
9. Before starting your work, think and plan ahead to ensure you will be working in a safe environment.
10. When operating this equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
  - Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.
  - Ear defenders giving protection for levels up to 95dB(A).
  - Safety helmet to EN397 or BS 5240.
  - High visibility vest or similar reflective clothing.

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

### INSURANCE

11. You are responsible for the safe custody of this equipment whilst it is on hire, under the terms of the insurance. You must indemnify, through insurance, the hire company against loss or unreasonable damage (i.e. vandalism etc.).

**Note: Some hire companies can offer insurance at an additional cost.**

12. It is the hirer's responsibility to take all necessary care to make this equipment (i.e. remove the ignition key, battery, lock the fuel cap, etc.) against theft and vandalism at all times.
13. Be aware that if you are involved in a road accident, or damage a third parties property; the insurance cover may not protect you.

**Note: If in any doubt concerning any aspects of the insurance cover, consult the hire company or the insurance company.**

### OPERATING AREA

**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.

14. The equipment must not be operated on public highways unless it complies with the necessary traffic regulations, has the necessary insurance cover and the operator has the appropriate driving licence.
15. Before commencing work, ensure that the area you are to operate the equipment in a safe environment.
16. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions, soft ground, trenches, slopes, holes, low tree branches, scaffolding, etc. that may present a hazard.
17. Ensure that whilst operating the equipment that there is no one is near you that could distract you.
18. Be aware that operating this equipment may damage pipes or cables laid just beneath the surface.
19. Ensure that there are no overhead power lines less than 5m (16ft) above the raised and tilted bucket.
20. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.
21. Before commencing work, warn others who may be working in the vicinity of the equipment, to keep clear. If possible, place safety barriers and signs around your work area.
22. Never run the equipment inside buildings, or in poorly ventilated locations, where they may be risk of serious or fatal injury from inhaling exhaust (toxic) fumes. **See warning above.**
23. Where at all possible, protect others working in the vicinity, from the noise, debris, and dust.
24. Do not use this equipment where there is a danger of igniting fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.

### OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

#### SAFETY CHECKS

25. Visually check your equipment and all its accessories for serviceability (completeness, damage and undue wear). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
26. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipments controls. Make sure you understand their purpose and function.
27. Check daily the equipments tyres (pressure and condition), correct functioning of the bucket and oil and fuel levels.

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28. Never transport passengers on any part of the equipment.
29. Before you start the equipment, you must know how to **STOP** it in an emergency.
30. You must operate the equipments amber flashing light when operating on or near a public highway, around industrial premises, construction/building sites, etc.

## OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

**Note: If the hire company has provided you special or additional instructions, you must follow them. Otherwise, follow the instructions given below.**

### UNLOADING FROM A TRAILER

31. No attempt must be made to either load or unload this equipment from a transporting vehicle unless you have previous experience in such operations.
32. If possible, load/unload the equipment in an area that is level that provides ample room for manoeuvring.
33. To provide additional stability, leave the towing vehicle attached to the trailer.
34. If jacks are fitted to the trailer, these must be lowered and secured before loading/unloading the equipment.
35. Ramps to aid loading/unloading must be of the correct type (i.e. size, load bearing etc.) and be securely fixed to the trailer at the correct angle.
36. Always 'drive' the equipment off the trailer and reverse on to it. Never attempt to 'roll' or 'freewheel' the equipment on and off the trailer.
37. Always have an additional person(s) present to provide assistance when loading or unloading this equipment.

## STARTING THE EQUIPMENT (Electric Start)

38. Ensure the hand brake has been fully applied; the gear lever is in '**NEUTRAL**' and that the '**STOP CONTROL**' knob is pushed fully home.
  39. Rotate the ignition key part way to engage the '**COLD START**' device and hold it in that position for 20 seconds, then rotate the key further to start the equipment whilst keeping the throttle '**OPEN**'.
  40. If the equipment fails to start after a few seconds, repeat the procedure at step 39 (above) again, maintaining the key at the '**COLD START**' position a few seconds longer.
- Note: If the equipment has previously been running, there is no requirement to operate the 'COLD START' device.**
41. To stop the engine, pull out the '**STOP CONTROL**' knob, never use the '**DECOMPRESSION**' lever and remove the ignition key.

## STARTING THE EQUIPMENT (Manual Start)

42. Ensure the hand brake has been fully applied; the gear lever is in '**NEUTRAL**' and that the '**STOP CONTROL**' knob is pushed fully home.
43. Operate the '**COLD START**' device (generally located close to the fuel pump).
44. Lift the engine cover (and make secure), locate the '**DECOMPRESSION**' lever and move it to the '**DECOMPRESSION**' position.
45. Fit the starting handle to the shaft; turn it anti-clockwise to engage the ratchet mechanism. Also check also that the handle slides on and off the shaft easily.
46. Grasp the starting handle firmly in one hand, **BUT DO NOT WRAP YOUR THUMB AROUND THE HANDLE**; keep it in line and on the same side as your remaining fingers. Failure to do this, should the engine 'kick-back', may result in serious injury to your thumb.

47. Crank the engine vigorously before lowering the '**DECOMPRESSION**' lever gently and smoothly. The engine should start. If it doesn't, repeat the actions from step 42 to 47. Once the engine is running, slide the starting handle off the shaft and stow it securely.
48. Never stop the engine using the '**DECOMPRESSION**' lever. This may damage the engine and will be regarded as misuse by the hire company. Only use the proper '**STOP**' control.

## DRIVING THE EQUIPMENT

49. Never permit anyone to ride on any part of the equipment.
50. Always be aware of what is happening around you.
51. Before starting-off, ensure your route is safe and clear of steep slopes, ditches, obstructions and obstacles.
52. Always stop the equipment on firm, level ground and clear of other traffic.
53. Stay in the vehicle until you have parked correctly. Always apply the handbrake when stationary.
54. Make sure you understand fully the manner the equipment behaves and performs, especially it's steering (remembering the characteristics of rear wheel steering), before undertaking any work.
55. Operate the equipments amber flashing light when using the equipment (driving or stationary).

## TIPPING & SWIVELLING THE SKIP

56. Ensure the parking brake has been applied and the gear lever is in '**NEUTRAL**'.
57. Some dumpers have the facility to swivel the skip to the side. Only swivel and tip when you are seated in the vehicle.
58. Dismount from the equipment if the skip is being loaded from an excavator (or other form of powered loader) or by hand.
59. Do not attempt to load the skip if it is in a partially tipped position.
60. Ensure the load in the skip is evenly distributed, not over loaded and not at a height that prevents vision over the top of the skip.
61. Do not attempt to increase the load capacity of the bucket by including additional devices (i.e. sheets of timber or sheet metal).

## TOWING (if towing eye is fitted)

62. Small appliances/equipment/plant may be towed providing that the kerb-side weight of the equipment being towed does not exceed 85% kerb-side weight of the towing vehicle.
63. Always use the correct towing attachments (i.e. towing pin/shackle).
64. Before towing ensure the skip is partially filled (to aid traction) and then drive in a low gear.

## REFUELLING

65. Before refuelling, move the machine to a safe environment and **STOP** the engine and allow it to cool down.
66. **DO NOT SMOKE WHILST REFUELLING**, as diesel is inflammable.
67. Ensure the area around the filler cap is clean.
68. Use a funnel and clean diesel when refuelling.
69. Be careful not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine. Should a spillage occur, wipe clean and dispose of all fuel soaked material carefully and safely.
70. Replace the fuel cap and secure correctly.

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## **SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE**

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- 71. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
- 72. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
- 73. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from debris.
- 74. 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**

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

