



POKER VIBRATOR - (ELECTRIC OR ENGINE)

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 (electric or engine driven) is designed for immersion in wet concrete pours (footings and form work) to assist in the removal of air pockets and assist in the release of trapped water.

PERSONAL SAFETY

2. The 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. Take the necessary precautions when handling cement, as it may be harmful to the eyes and lungs. Continued cement contact with the skin may cause dermatitis, therefore wash hands thoroughly after contact with cement.
5. The engine driven equipment employs the use of petrol, which can cause fire and explosion if not handled in a safe manner.
6. Before attempting to operate the equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
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 working above ground level, always work from a level and stable platform, never from steps or ladders.
9. When using the equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
 - Ear defenders providing protection up to 93dB(A).
 - Safety waterproof boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.
 - Impact resistant goggles to EN166-B or BS2092 protection.
 - Appropriate industrial gloves.
 - Appropriate clothing for the work being undertaken.

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.

10. 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.

11. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and hazards (projections, cables, pipes, etc.).
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. Protect others from noise and wet cement.
14. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.
15. Do not use the 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 (drive unit, flexible drive and couplings, vibrating head, 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. Stop the equipment (disconnect from the mains supply if electrically driven) before cleaning or attempting to make any adjustments.
19. Before you start the equipment, you must know how to '**STOP**' it in an emergency.

OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

ELECTRIC 110v (YELLOW PLUG) POKER

20. Only use a 110v portable transformer (minimum of 2.2kva tool rating). Plug the poker into the residual current device (RCD) before connecting the transformer to the 230v power supply.
21. Only suitably rated, heavy-duty 110v extension cables, not longer than 50m (160ft), must be used between the transformer and the equipment. Do not use 230v extension cables.
22. Never use the equipments cable to carry, drag or move the equipment. If a support strap is supplied, always use over the shoulder to support the equipment, leaving both hands free to control the poker.
23. When routing extension cables leave uncoiled and avoid immersion in liquids and trapping the cable in windows, doorways and other areas that could cause damage to the cable. Avoid laying the cable in areas that are subject to site traffic. Ensure all connections are kept dry.
24. Ensure the equipment and power socket are switched '**OFF**' before connecting to the power supply.
25. Ensure the poker shaft is securely connected to the drive unit. If not, push the shaft into the unit, first lining-up the button on the shaft with its locating hole in the unit.
26. Before switching on the equipment, ensure the poker is submerged in wet concrete.
27. To switch the equipment on, push the '**I**' symbol on the on/off switch.
28. To switch the equipment off, push the '**O**' symbol.

ENGINE (PETROL) DRIVEN POKER

29. Never run the equipment inside buildings, or in poorly ventilated locations, where there may be risk of serious or fatal injury from inhaling exhaust (toxic) fumes. **See warning above.**

CONTINUED ON OVERLEAF >>>

30. This equipment is heavy, enlist the help of others to move and position it on firm and level ground. Do not start the engine with the poker drive shaft connected.
31. Check the fuel and oil levels and top-up as necessary.
32. Refuel with petrol only.
33. The engine must not be running whilst refueling. Warm engines must be allowed to cool down first.
34. Do not smoke whilst refueling.
35. Clean the area around the fuel filler cap then, remove it.
36. Using a clean funnel, pour petrol 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.
37. Replace the fuel filler cap securely.
38. Turn the fuel tap to the '**ON**' position.
39. Turn the ignition on/off switch to the '**ON**' position and '**CLOSE**' the choke lever.
40. Hold on to the equipment with one hand and with the other, 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.
41. Once the engine has started and warmed-up, '**OPEN**' the choke and switch the engine '**OFF**'.
42. Refit the poker drive shaft by lifting the retaining pin on the drive unit and sliding the shaft into the unit. Check that it is held securely. Re-start the engine.
43. To stop the engine, turn the 'on/off' ignition switch to the '**OFF**' position and turn the fuel tap to the '**OFF**' position.
44. Stop working and switch-off the machine if someone approaches you

COLLECTION & PICK-UP

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

**USING THE EQUIPMENT**

45. In cold weather, allow the equipment to 'warm-up' before attempting to use it.
46. Position the equipment to ensure all the concrete areas you are to work on are easily accessible.
47. Should the vibrating head not vibrate, gently tap the nose on a hard surface.
48. Do not attempt to bend the flexible drive round sharp bends.
49. Never attempt to disengage the flexible head whilst the equipment is running.
50. When the flexible drive is disengaged, keep the drive access opening clean.
51. Do not allow the head of the poker to vibrate on hard surfaces.
52. Do not touch any part of the poker when it is vibrating.
53. Always insert and withdraw the poker from the concrete in slow and steady motion.
54. Work the poker back and forwards slowly in the wet cement for best results.
55. Turn the equipment off and allow it to stop vibrating before withdrawing it from the cement.
56. Clean the equipment immediately after use.

SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE

57. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
58. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
59. Immediately you have finished using the poker, wash it down with clean water to remove all traces of cement.
60. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from dust dirt and other debris.
61. When the equipment is left unattended for long periods (i.e. overnight), ensure it is made secure to prevent unauthorized use or loss.