

Strimmer

Safety Instructions

April 2014

General

- Never use the strimmer while people, especially children, or pets are nearby.
- Only use in daylight or in good artificial light.
- Do not operate strimmer if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not wear radio or music headphones. Safe operation requires your full attention.
- Keep in mind that the operator or user is responsible for accidents or hazards occurring to other people or their property.

Double Check

- Ensure you are familiar with the locations of the strimmer shutoff button, and make sure it is functioning correctly.
- Never operate the machine with defective guards, or without safety devices, for example deflectors, in place.

Protective Clothing

- Wear goggles to protect your eyes from flying debris and cut grass. Not only will it reduce the risk of eye-damage but it will mean you won't be squinting as you use the device, meaning your vision will be better.
- Ear guards will be required to protect from the considerable sound produced.
- Gloves for good grip and some form of ankle covering.
- Steel capped boots are a good idea, and some kind of protective legwear would not go amiss and would protect against accidental injury.

Communication - ensure that everyone around you realises how to behave when you are using the strimmer and that they are aware you will not be able to hear them. Agree on a hand-signal for stop beforehand, so that they can ask you to shut the machine off without stepping too close.

Petrol - ensure you've filled the strimmer with petrol before you use it each time, avoiding the machine spluttering and failing on you, at which point you'd have to wait for it to cool down before adding more petrol. **You must not refuel a hot or active tank.**

WARNING-Fuel is highly flammable.

- store fuel in containers specifically designed for this purpose.
- refuel outdoors only and do not smoke while refuelling.
- add fuel before starting the engine. Never remove the cap of the fuel tank or add fuel while the engine is running or when the engine is hot.
- if fuel is spilled, do not attempt to start the engine but move the machine away from the area of spillage and avoid creating any source of ignition until fuel vapours have dissipated.
- replace all fuel tank and container caps securely.

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Stance - do not use the strimmer above ground level, and do not overreach. Maintain your balance and footing at all times and the risk of accident will be greatly reduced.

Hints & Tips

Clear The Area - all it requires before you start is a quick walk over the area you will be strimming, to remove any pieces of rock or plastic items that would damage the blades and get kicked back at you when strimming.

Adjust The Harness - do this before you turn the strimmer on, getting it into the right position for your working stance. If you do not do this, you will become uncomfortable very fast when using the strimmer and would create unnecessary reasons to be turning it off and on to readjust.

Spark Plug - disconnect this when the equipment is left unattended. Check the manual for more instructions relating to this.

Transport Securely - ensure that when you're transporting the strimmer you've secured in a sensible position to avoid the possibility of petrol leakage.

Maintenance and Storage

- Keep all nuts, bolts and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
- Never store the equipment with fuel in the tank inside a building where fumes can reach an open flame or spark.
- Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
- Replace worn or damaged parts for safety.
- If the fuel tank has to be drained, this should be done outdoors.
- Never allow untrained personnel to service machine. Understand service procedure before doing work.
- Stop engine and disconnect spark plug. Wait for all movement to stop before adjusting, cleaning or repairing.
- Shut off fuel while storing or transporting. Do not store fuel near flames or drain indoors.
- Keep hands, feet, clothing, jewellery and long hair away from moving parts. If possible, do not make adjustments with the engine running.
- Keep all parts in good working condition and all hardware tightened. Replace all worn or damaged decals.