

Fence Post Driver

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read all of this leaflet BEFORE you use the Fence Post Driver

1. Plan work ahead to ensure safe working at all times.
2. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
3. The transformer is designed to reduce mains voltage to a lower, safer value. It can supply electricity safely up to its rated power.
4. Do not use it to do anything else – misuse or damage can cause electric shock or fire.
5. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) must be worn as a minimum: Protective boots with good grip and ankle support (complying with EN 345-1); Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers; Safety Helmet (EN397 or BS5240).
6. This device is designed to manually drive wooden fence posts into soil and should not be used for any other purpose.
7. There are various sizes available. The correct size should be selected with the Hire Company, matching the size of the posts to be driven.
8. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
9. This implement is designed for operation by two or more able bodied adults. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability should seek expert advice before using it.
10. Fence Post Drivers are heavy implements, get help if unloading it from a vehicle. Operators should not lift beyond their capabilities.



USING THE FENCE POST DRIVER – WORK AREA

1. Keep children and animals away when using this implement.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is nearby who could cause a distraction. Barriers and warning signs should be erected.
3. Driving Fence Posts may damage pipes, drains or cables laid beneath the surface. Check the areas carefully before starting work.
4. Clear the area of obstructions and vegetation to ensure a firm footing is possible.
5. Work on as firm and level area as possible.

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THE FENCE POST DRIVER

1. Check the Fence Post Driver to ensure it is safe to use. Check the handles and endcap are securely welded. If in doubt contact the Hire Company.
2. Fence Post Drivers are available in a variety of sizes. Make sure the appropriate size is used for the size of the fence posts being driven. Check with the Hire Company.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn when using this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection. Safety Helmet (EN397 or BS5240); Protective Boots with good grip and ankle support (complying with EN345-1O); Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers.
2. Anybody who is working nearby will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

USING THE FENCE POST DRIVER

1. Wear the PPE including a safety helmet, safety boots and gloves described above.
2. Make sure the area is clear and safe and no is nearby who could cause a distraction.
3. The work should be stopped is someone approaches.
4. Work from a firm and level surface as possible.
5. The Fence Post Driver is operated manually by two or more people, dependant on the size of the post.
6. Place the Fence Post Driver over the top of the fence post to be driven.
7. Fence Post Drivers are heavy implements, and will require at least two able bodied people to lift it over the top of the fence post. Operators should not lift beyond their capabilities. To maintain safety at this point it is important to wear a Safety Helmet.
8. Operators should take particular care to ensure the Fence Post Driver doesn't pivot in their hands and strike them on the head.
9. Particular care should be taken to keep fingers clear, do not trap them between the post and the driver.
10. Care must be taken when starting each new post when it is still loose in the ground and the Fence Post Driver has to be lifted above head height.
11. Drive the post into the ground by raising and lowering it with force into the post.
12. Driving posts into the ground requires each operator to work as part of a team. A team leader should be appointed and each member should understand the agreed commands.
13. If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the Hire Company.
14. Please keep this leaflet for reference until the work has been completed.

Keep this leaflet in a safe place until work is finished as it may need to be referred to again.

