

For guidance on managing construction health risks go to www.hse.gov.uk/construction





0504 Safety Guidance COMPRESSED AIR



Using the Breaker

- Wear protective equipment including ear defenders and goggles.
- Do not operate the breaker until the tool is on the work surface. Do not start if the tool has no
- Keep the air hose clear of the tool bit and any sharp edges on the work.
- 4. Ensure there are no apparent air leaks.
- 5. At intervals, while working, stop and check for air leaks or other possible faults.
- Always grip the breaker correctly with two hands while using it.
- Stop the breaker and shut off the air supply before making any adjustments.
- Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting your hands. If your fingers start to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from using the breaker. Exercise your fingers to encourage blood circulation. Ask the hire company for a copy of the HAE leaflet no. 2150 - Handarm vibration or visit www.hse.gov.uk/vibration
- To help prevent vibration affecting your hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep your hands warm - wearing gloves may help do this.
- 10. Stop work and shut down if approached by someone.
- 11. Shut down and release the air pressure before disconnecting any part of the equipment.
- If the hose appears to be damaged in any way shut off the air and release the pressure before inspecting it. Do not use damaged or leaking hoses replace them.
- 13. Shut off the air and release the pressure before leaving the breaker unattended.
- 14. If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for reference at a future date

















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pressure. Contact the hire company. down immediately and release the 9. If the equipment develops a leak, shut

Check the level regularly. is topped up with the recommended oil. inducation container on the compressor tools seizing up. Check that any the compressed air to prevent any air supplies a minute amount of oil-mist in 8. Some compressed air equipment

release the pressure first. hose while the system is pressurised, 7. Do not connect or disconnect any tool or

recommended. 6. Do not use at a greater pressure than

without correct equipment.

be used in an unauthorised way and clean clothes or work areas. It must not 5. Compressed air must not be used to

barticles could be dangerous to health. from portable tools, the airborne dust 4. Do not use it to blowout dust and debris

penetrate or blow splinters in. 3. Do not blast air onto skin. It can

even through clothing. people or animals. It can cause injury S. Do not point a jet of compressed air at

correct equipment. it in an unauthorised way or without the injunes it it is misused, you must not use 1. Compressed air can cause serious

COMPRESSED AIR

it up, know how to stop it. the equipment operates - before starting 6. Check the controls and find out how all

way and has no kinks or twists in it 5. Make sure the air hose is safely out of the

down, on floors or roads. 4. This breaker must only be used pointing

www.hse.gov.uk/vibration no. 2150 - Hand-arm vibration or visit company for a copy of the HAE leaflet usuds warm while working. Ask the hire starting work, and wear gloves to keep hazardous. Warm up hands before 3. Vibration from using this breaker can be

two nands wnile working. 2. Always grip the breaker correctly with

confact the hire company. to be damaged, do not use the breaker hoses, and tool bits. It anything is found 1. Check the machine, air supply and

BREAKER











Breaker

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 Breaker

- 1. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
- If you have not used a compressed air breaker before. familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
- Compressed air can be hazardous. Take care not to injure yourself or others.
- If a compressor is being used to supply the compressed air, the safety instructions provided with the compressor must be read.
- This heavy duty breaker is designed for breaking up roadwork, concrete and asphalt surfaces; and compacting, using the appropriate tools.
- The action of this breaker can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
- The following items of personal protective equipment must be worn as a minimum: Goggles; dust mask - FFP3 minimum; ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 80dB(A); safety boots; gloves.
- This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- This breaker is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either a temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.













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protective equipment. ueed to wear appropriate personal Anyone who is working close-by will also

> 2. Safety boots must be worn. causes dust.

worn when breaking material that minimum of FFP3(s) protection) must be An appropriate dust-mask (with a

protection for this level as a minimum. ear muffs or plugs giving hearing levels up to 80 d B(A) - wear appropriate 3. This equipment is likely to cause noise

when working with this machine. Impact resistant goggles must be worn

or protection. environments may require a higher level using this machine. Particular jobs or minimum that should be worn whenever protective equipment (ppe) are the 1. The following items of personal

SHOTARING

damaged, or difficult to clean. surfaces or objects that may be amount of dust and debris - cover any Breaking concrete makes a large

hire company if cable detection work is being carried out. Contact the capies, gas, or water pipes where the 6. Check that there are no buried electric away, put barriers around the work area.

debris, and dust. Warn others to keep Protect other people from the noise, cause distraction.

sud that no-one is close-by or could

equipment is required.

4. Make sure that the area is clear and safe

closed space unless the area is well nze rue compressor inside a building or injury from breathing toxic fumes do not To reduce the risk of serious or tatal or gas cylinders.

explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol breaker, where there is a danger of S. Do not use the compressor, or the

the instructions below. compressor should be read. Read also, instructions provided with the rue compressed air, rne sarety If the compressor is being used to supply

WORK AREA













