

## Using the Circular Saw

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders and goggles.
2. Make sure the dust collection system (if fitted) is connected and working.
3. Always hold the saw firmly with two hands when working.
4. To prevent damage to your blade, check that there are no nails, screws or metal embedded in your work piece.
5. Let the saw run up to speed before applying it to the work piece.
6. Let the blade stop completely before withdrawing it from the work piece.
7. Stop the machine and remove the plug before making any adjustments.
8. Keep the cable clear of the blade and any sharp edges on your work.
9. If you think the cable may be cut or damaged in any way, switch off and unplug at the mains before inspecting it. If the cable attached to the circular saw is damaged, stop using the machine. Contact the hire company. If an extension cable has been damaged, do not use it again.
10. Take care not to accidentally pull the plug from the socket.
11. Switch off and remove the plug from the socket before leaving the circular saw unattended.
12. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
13. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.

## Circular Saw

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 Circular Saw**

1. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
2. This circular saw is designed to cut wood, chipboard, mdf and similar materials using the appropriate blade. It is not designed for any other purpose. Do not use it for cutting anything that may contain asbestos.
3. The abrasive wheel rotates very fast and can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If you have not used a circular saw before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
5. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles: EN166 or BS2092; dust mask - a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection; Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972; industrial quality gloves; residual-current device (RCD) if using a 230 volt (mains) supply.
7. A personal first-aid kit should be available.
8. This circular saw must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
9. This circular saw is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.
10. Although circular saws are designed for one person operation you should always be careful you do not lift beyond your own capabilities.



## WORK AREA

1. Do not use this circular saw where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
3. Protect other people from the dust. Set up an exclusion zone around the area where the circular saw is being used with physical barriers, barrier tape and signs. Keep children and animals away when using this equipment.
4. Work should stop immediately should anyone, other than those directly assisting with the work, enter the exclusion zone.
5. Clear the area of trip hazards such as rubble, rubbish etc.
6. Do not use this saw in the rain or where it might get wet.
7. If you are cutting into a floor or fixture check that there are no hidden electric cables, gas or water pipes where you are going to cut.
8. Any work that is not part of a fixture should be securely clamped or held in a vice.
9. Cutting certain materials makes a large amount of dust - cover any surfaces or objects that may be damaged, or difficult to clean.

## OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You will need to wear an appropriate dust mask (with a minimum of EN149:2001FFP3 protection) when you are in contact with material that causes dust.
3. You must wear safety boots (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
4. You must wear industrial quality gloves.
5. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear identical personal protective equipment.

## CIRCULAR SAW

1. Check your machine, cables and plugs and guards. If anything is found damaged, do not use the circular saw contact the hire company.

# Before Starting Work...



2. Check that the plug on your machine matches your supply. Do not try to force connections or improvise them.
3. Machines with a cylindrical yellow industrial plug fitted are designed to run off an 110v supply. The hire company will have provided a portable transformer if you need to power the machine from a normal mains 230v supply. If a portable transformer has been supplied, take care not to injure yourself when moving it about - it may be heavier than you think.

Machines designed to run directly from 230v mains will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug.

4. Make sure that the guard is in place, moves freely and slides back to cover the blade when the saw is not in use.
5. Do not lock or jam the guard in the open position exposing the teeth of the blade.
6. This machine has a chip ejection aperture or nozzle through which most of the sawdust and chips are blown. If the hire company has supplied sawdust collection equipment, attach it to this nozzle. If you have no sawdust collection equipment keep well clear of this nozzle.
7. Do not use this circular saw in the rain or where it might get wet.
8. Check on how the on/off switch operates - before you switch the circular saw on, you must know how to stop it.

## BLADES AND RIVING KNIFE

1. Switch the circular saw off, and unplug it before changing the blade.
2. Do not stop the blade by using sideways pressure while it is still in the work piece.

3. The riving knife is designed to locate in the saw cut just behind the blade and prevent the work piece from tightening on the blade and causing it to jam.
4. The riving knife should only be removed or retracted if you are plunge cutting in the middle of your work piece. It should be replaced or reinstated immediately afterwards. Do not attempt plunge cutting unless you are competent to do so.
5. Use only the right blades for the machine and for the material being cut.
  - Do not use deformed or cracked blades.
  - Do not use blades made of high speed steel.
  - Ensure the direction rotation arrow on the blade is in the same direction as marked on the circular saw.
  - Ensure the diameter of the blade is suitable for the machine.
  - Ensure the thickness of the blade is suitable for the riving knife
  - Make sure the riving knife is adjusted correctly.
6. The hire company will advise you and/or supply the correct blades.
7. Always tighten the spindle nut correctly. The saw will have a spindle lock or two flats on the spindle. The hire company will have supplied the appropriate tools.

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Your machine will only operate on one voltage: it will be 110v or 230v.

110v machines will have a yellow industrial plug fitted. 230v machines will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug. Read the instructions below for your machine.

## 110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)

1. If you are using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the 230 volt socket. Do not use any 230v extension cables.
2. If you need to use an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company has not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty 110v extension cable, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). You must only use an extension cable between the transformer and the machine.
3. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
4. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

## 230 VOLT MACHINES

### (SQUARE PIN OR BLUE PLUG)

1. Use a residual current device (RCD) plugged directly in to the 230volt socket. Plug your machine into the RCD. This will help to protect you against electric shock if the cable or machine gets damaged.
2. Use the "TEST" button to check that the RCD is working each time you use it. Reset the RCD according to the instructions supplied with it.
3. If you need to use an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company has not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty one, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the RCD.
4. Lay it out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

## Summary:

110V: Wall socket > transformer > any necessary extension cable > circular saw.

230v: Wall socket > RCD > any necessary extension cable > circular saw.