## Useful Reference Points • www.hae.org.uk/businessguard

Before Starting Work...

For guidance on managing

construction health risks go to www.hse.gov.uk/construction

Using the Auger

Plan working positions and the route to be taken around the holes to be dug. Avoid ground

where there is building debris such as bricks, wire or timber offcuts. Once the auger has been started, it can be lifted it into position. Operators must check that

they have a secure grip and footing before starting work. Always hold the machine securely with both hands on the handgrips and be prepared for

As soon as the guide tip of the auger has broken the soil surface, use full throttle to

Stay alert and always be ready to stop the engine straightaway if the auger starts to jam. If the Auger isn't stopped, the body of the machine will spin around and control will be lost.

If the machine starts to labour and slow down do not force it so hard. Lift the machine with

the auger turning to allow soil, clay and stones to be freed from the hole. Steady drilling keeping the auger speed up is more effective than aggressive pressure.

Extensions should be added only when the auger has penetrated into the ground as far as

Release the auger and lift the machine clear. Locate an extension onto the auger spindle

and lock it into place. Now locate the borer on to the top of the extension and lock it into

If the auger appears to be starting to become blunt, do not force the machine. Contact the

If the auger jams, stop the engine straightaway. Set the gear lock and turn the entire machine anti-clockwise to screw the auger out of the ground. Disengage the gear lock as

Watch out for signs that vibration from the work may be affecting your hands. If fingers start

to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from cutting work. Exercise the fingers to

To help prevent vibration affecting hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep

he auger does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

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on the handles and the tip of the auge

follow them. Otherwise, follow the

This section describes the starting procedure for most augers. If the hire

There will be a gear lock on the gearbox. Only use this when freeing a jammed auger. At all other times it should be

when first attempting to start an engine

The choke control should only be used

when starting the auger – it needs to be

marked START or RUN. Push the control

The main control lever has two positions. Under normal running, it is at the position

partly open for starting. This may be on the motor housing, or by the throttle

The through ever is on the handlebar, positioned for operation with the input funditional part is also a part-through interlock, which will hold the through the part of the starting the part operation.

find the controls before trying to start it.

This section describes the controls found on most augers. Check the machine to

le machine may have a scompression valve. This is only used

forward to the position marked

2. Lay the machine on the ground, resting

instructions given below.

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start the engine.

STOP to stop the auger.

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

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When moving on to the next hole, carry the machine carefully, with the engine idling. Take care not to trip on the soil from the recently dug hole or other obstacles.

If someone approaches, stop work and let the machine idle until they are clear.

Stop the engine to make any adjustments or clear debris tangled in the auger. Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.

any unexpected increase in turning force if the auger meets an obstructio

Wear the protective equipment including boots and gloves

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it can.

continue drilling.

hire company to reset the cutting edge.

oon as the auger is free.

ourage blood circulation.

opening the throttle, before starting

let the engine warm up by gently

mpression valve, and pull the starter

control to the open position, set any

position and the engine will idle. Set the choke control to the open position.

the throttle - it will revert to its normal

then pull it quickly and strongly. Don't

handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine,

Be prepared for the auger turning when

eft hand. Do not stand or kneel on the

Hold the machine down firmly with the

throttle position and use the interlock to

Move the throttle lever to about half

set it. It needs to be set each time a tresh attempt is made to start the engine.

If the auger has a decompression valve,

closed position if the engine has not yet

choke control should also be in the open position. Only set the choke lever to the

choke control is in the open position. If the engine has run but is still cold, the

If the engine is warm, check that the

Move the control lever to the start

only resting lightly on the ground and is

with the engine controls and throttle lever on the top. Make sure that the auger is

Check that the gear lock is off.

14. In cold weather, it may be necessary to

13. If the engine did not start, set the choke

**12.** If the engine is now running, briefly open

11. Guide the cord back so that it recoils

10. With the right hand, pullout the starter

pull it too far, or it may break.

handles or engine housing.

hands warm – wearing gloves may help do this.

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petrol, or gas cylinders.

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move the tuel can to a safe, cool place.

If any fuel is spilled on clothes, change

If any fuel is spilled on the ground, wipe

Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose

Use a funnel when refuelling. Do not spill

Shake the fuel can to mix the petrol and

Clean the filler cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.

If possible move the machine away from

measure of two stroke oil to 25 measures

given special instructions on how much oil to use, follow them. Otherwise, use 1

oil with petrol. If the hire company have

Use a fresh mixture of two stroke engine

Make sure that all of the controls are understood. Before starting the machine,

may have happened, contact the hire company to reset the cutting edge.

the cutting edge. If it appears that this

Prolonged use of the auger may blunt

supplied by the hire company. Make sure that the auger is locked securely in

it must be known how to stop it.

Stop the engine and let it cool down.

or perrol (40 ml per litre).

any fuel on people or the machine.

11. Put all tuel caps back on properly, and

ventilation will almost always be required

## going to be carried out. **5.** Check that there are no hidden electric to caetles, er water pipes, or post or water pipes. Or the provided and the piper work is

- If the holes are to be left open for more than a very should .9
- preventing anyone stepping into a hole either be covered with substantial boarding or some similar method of
- using this machine. Particular jobs or protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum which should be worn when The following items of personal **CRATORS**
- <u>ح</u>: of protection. environments may require a higher level
- This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 107 dB(A) wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level.
- Gloves should be worn to protect hands, working with the machine, .5
- especially when handling the auger.
- sarety boots must be worn when
- **'**G orking with this machine.
- Make sure that there is no loose or

1639 Safety Guidance

It is important to read this entire leaflet

**BEFORE using the 1 Man Post Hole Auger** 

Petrol mixture is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire

This auger is designed to drill holes in soil or clay using the

appropriate attachments. Do not use it for anything else. Carelessness or misuse could cause a serious or fatal

Make sure that there are no hidden electricity cables, gas or water pipes, or other obstructions where drilling is going to

**1 Man Post Hole Auger** 

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.

Plan the work and think ahead to make sure that the work will always be carried out safely.

The following items of personal protective equipment must be worn as a minimum: ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 107 dB(A); safety boots; gloves.

This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or

This machine is designed for operation by two able bodied adults. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

Do not use this machine where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from

poisoning. Never use it in domestic premises and only use it in other indoor situations if its

suitability and the ventilation required has been fully assessed. Mechanical extraction

Make sure the area is clear and safe and that no-one is nearby who could cause a

Warn other people to keep away from the working area: put up warning signs or barriers.

Every effort has been made by HAE/EHA to ensure that the information given in this document and supporting materia

from the use of any such document/material. Only Acts of Parliament and Statu have the force of law and only the courts can authoritatively interpret the law.

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them straight away.

rne work area.

No smoking.

BEFUELLING

it up or cover it with soil.

of fuel soaked cloth carefully.

equipment indoors or in confined spaces could cause fatal carbon monoxide

acting HACEHA to ensure that the monitoring of preventing the obcompared to support eading. HACEHA cannot accept responsibility for any loss or liability perc of any such document/material. Only Acts of Parliament and Statutory Ins

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oe drilled. Only use the correct augers as

Fit the appropriate auger for the holes to

onua to be damaged, do not use the

tank, handles, and auger. If anything is

Check the machine, including the tuel

and wear gloves to keep hands warm

Vibration from working with this machine for long periods can be hazardous.

protective equipment.

Anyone who is working nearby will also

Warm hands up before starting work

ger - contact the hire company.

**POST HOLE AUGER** 

while working.

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- ilapping clothing could get caught in the

(Continued overleaf...)

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