

Terms and Conditions for Plant and Equipment to be hired by an Operator (CONSUMERS)

(2021 Version) Construction Plant-hire Association, Express Hire valid from 01/10/2024

IMPORTANT SAFETY WARNING

Before using any Plant and Equipment provided by us, we would draw your attention to the following points:
A You must ensure that all operations of the Plant and Equipment, in particular electrical equipment, have been inspected in safe and sound condition and that such use is in accordance with any relevant operating and safety instructions supplied with the Plant and Equipment.
B You must ensure that all electrical equipment is connected to the correct supply via suitable plugs or sockets. Where a temporary change in electrical plugs or sockets is required, this must be carried out by a qualified electrician who must also re-terminate the Plant and Equipment to its original condition. You must ensure that all electrical equipment is correctly earthed and insulated.
C You must ensure that all liquid fuels and compressed gases supplied for use with the Plant and Equipment are transported, stored and used in a safe manner in accordance with any safety instructions supplied with, or as instructed by, the manufacturer.
D We will provide you with safety and operating instructions for safe use of the plant and equipment. You must only operate the plant and equipment in accordance with the operating and safety instructions supplied with it or any other safety instruction given to you by us. If you do not understand any part of the relevant operating and safety instructions you must seek assistance from a suitably qualified person or us before using the plant and equipment. We will not accept any responsibility for any damage and/or injury caused by your failure to comply with operating and safety instructions supplied to you. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully covered by insurance for any risks involved in the use of the plant and equipment, such as personal injury or death to users of the plant and equipment or others. Cover also for theft of the machine or machine accessories.
E This safety warning is not in any way intended to exclude or limit our liability for death or personal injury caused by our negligence, breach of contract or other default.

(1) DEFINITIONS

In this Hire Agreement (the "Agreement"),
1.1 "Hire Charges" means the charges including the hire charges, operator fee delivery fee, and other fees (as applicable) charged to you by us in respect of the hire of the Plant and Equipment.
1.2 "Operator" means the operator provided to you to use with the Plant and Equipment to operate the Plant and Equipment.
1.3 "Outstanding Balance" means all amounts payable under this Agreement less the amount paid.
1.4 "Plant and Equipment" means the plant and equipment hired to you by us including any substitutions, replacements and additions made in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and any manuals, accessories or other item supplied with the Plant and Equipment.
1.5 "Site" means the location where you intend to use the Plant and Equipment, or the equipment is to be used.
1.6 "you", "your" means the hire (or hires) of the Plant and Equipment.
1.7 "we", "us", "our" means the owner of the Plant and Equipment, its successors, its employees and agents, and any business or other person to whom the owner transfers (by absolute assignment, by way of novation or by way of security) any or all of its rights or its rights and responsibilities (whether legal or equitable) under the Agreement.

(2) MAXIMUM PERIOD OF HIRE

The term of this Agreement will not exceed three calendar months, unless agreed or reviewed with Express Hire and payments are up to date.

(3) DEPOSITS

We may ask you to pay a reasonable deposit based on the value of the Plant and Equipment you hire. We will keep the deposit & card details until the Plant and Equipment is returned to us. The deposit will be returned to you if the Plant and Equipment is returned in the same condition as it was when hired to you (fair wear and tear excepted). However, when we repay the deposit, we will be allowed to deduct from it any monies you may owe us. The Supplier reserves the right to store the Customer's credit or debit card details on its password protected customer account system and further reserves the right to use such details against future rentals made by the customer, this card will also be used for end of month invoice payments.

(4) NON-BUSINESS HIRE

The Plant and Equipment is hired to you on the basis that it is used only for private or non-commercial use. You must not use the Plant and Equipment for commercial purposes.

(5) UNAUTHORISED RE-HIRING OF EQUIPMENT

You must not re-hire, sub-let or lend any of the Plant and Equipment to any third party or otherwise part with possession of the Plant and Equipment.

(6) SITE AND ACCESS

6.1 While we do not expect you to have any technical knowledge of the Plant and Equipment you are hiring, it is your obligation to inform us of any visible access or Site restrictions, which you think may cause difficulty. For example, restricted access, an unsafe working space, or overhead obstructions.
6.2 We may carry out a Site inspection; if we do, we will check both the means of access and the place(s) where you require the work to be carried out. It is your responsibility to undertake any Site preparation that we ask (for example, removing any goods or materials that might hinder the job). We shall not be responsible for lost work time if the Operator is unable to commence or continue work as a result of your failure to complete Site preparation as requested by us.
6.3 You must immediately notify us of any change in site conditions prior to their hire which might affect the safe use of the Plant and Equipment.
6.4 Whether or not we carry out an inspection, we may need to ask you for information about such things as the location of cesspits, drains and sewers. You must make every effort to ensure that the information you give us is accurate.
6.5 Where access is required over land you do not own, you undertake that you will obtain consent from the respective owners and to pay any charges they may make.
6.6 The Plant and Equipment must only be used at the Site. If you want to use the Plant and Equipment anywhere else, you must first get from us written confirmation that we allow you to do so.

(7) NAMEPLATES

You must not remove, deface or cover up any nameplate or identification marker number on the Plant and Equipment, nor put any mark on the Plant and Equipment, which might indicate or suggest that the Plant and Equipment belongs to you.

(8) TRANSPORTATION, LOADING AND UNLOADING

8.1 If you would like us to deliver and collect the Plant and Equipment, we will provide this service at a reasonable cost, which will be agreed by you prior to the hire.
8.2 Unless we have agreed to deliver and collect the Plant and Equipment, you are responsible for collecting it from our premises, and for delivering it back to our premises.
8.3 Where you transport the Plant and Equipment yourself, you are responsible for loading at the time of collection from our premises and for unloading at the time of delivering it back to our premises.
8.4 If one of our employees helps you in the loading or unloading of the Plant and Equipment you must tell them what you want them to do and how you want them to help. If the Plant and Equipment is damaged, or causes damage, whilst being loaded or unloaded, you will be responsible for the damage unless the damage is caused by our employee's negligence.
8.5 We do not offer plant trailers for hire, nor do we offer lifting straps, chains or ramps.

(9) DAMAGE TO SITE AND/OR ACCESS DURING DELIVERY AND COLLECTION

9.1 You acknowledge that the Plant and Equipment you have chosen to hire may cause superficial damage to the ground, particularly in wet weather (for example, ruts may be created, or paving stones may be cracked). You further acknowledge that the Plant and Equipment may also cause damage to underground services such as drains and sewers. If you have chosen to have the Plant and Equipment delivered to you, our delivery driver and/or operator will do their best to limit any such damage, but we cannot be held responsible for any damage of this sort. You are responsible for making good any damage caused to your property or adjoining land in obtaining access.
9.2 If you are particularly concerned to avoid superficial damage to the ground you must let us know as soon as possible. We may be able to provide extra protection though there will be an additional cost in doing so, which we will pass on to you.
9.3 Due to the nature of machinery and delivery vehicles (not exclusive), unfortunately fluid such as hydraulic oil, engine oil, coolant or fuel leaks can happen without prior warning, even with brand new equipment. It is the user's responsibility to protect and cover any surrounding environment where there may be a risk of leakage resulting in environmental damage (e.g., floor stains, water courses, drains - list not exclusive). Express Hire (Dorset) Ltd. is not liable for any environmental pollution or pollution clean-up due to any leakage from our equipment, or contamination resulting from any leakage as Express Hire (Dorset) Limited is not in control of the machine or circumstances prior to any potential leakage. It is Express Hire (Dorset) Limited's responsibility to maintain & repair its equipment due to wear and tear and on the occasions of damage. Environmental damage is the customer's responsibility.

(10) DELIVERY IN GOOD ORDER

10.1 We will ensure that the Plant and Equipment hired to you is in good working order and fit for the purpose for which the Plant and Equipment of that kind is normally used.
10.2 You must check the Plant and Equipment when it is provided to you and immediately notify us of any obvious faults or defects.

(11) SAFETY

11.1 You warrant that you will use the Plant and Equipment in accordance with the safety warning at the beginning of this Agreement.
11.2 You must read any relevant operating and safety instructions supplied with the Plant and Equipment and you must only use (or permit the use of) the Plant and Equipment in accordance with the operating and safety instructions supplied with it or any other safety instruction given to you by us. If you do not understand any part of the relevant operating and safety instructions, you must seek assistance from a suitably qualified person or us before using the Plant and Equipment.
11.3 You must also take your own sensible safety precautions (for example, you must take all reasonable measures to prevent children from playing on or near the Plant and Equipment at all times).
11.4 You must ensure that the Site itself is safe.
11.5 If operated by our staff
11.5.1 you must not operate the plant and equipment yourself.
11.5.2 we will be responsible for the safe operation of the plant and equipment.
11.5.3 you must follow any safety instructions given by our Operator. You must also take your own sensible safety precautions (for example, you must take all reasonable measures, to prevent children from playing on or near the equipment at any time, particularly when the equipment is parked up for the night and our Operator is not able to oversee it).
11.5.4 whilst we will be responsible for the safe operation of the plant and equipment, you must ensure that the Site itself is safe and secure.

(12) THE OPERATOR (WHERE BOOKED)

12.1 It is your responsibility to give the Operator of the Plant and Equipment clear instructions regarding the job you wish to be undertaken. You must provide any further information or explanation our operator asks you for.
12.2 We will ensure that the Operator is competent and qualified to operate the Plant and Equipment.
12.3 We will ensure that the Plant and Equipment hired by you is in good working order and is fit for the purpose for which it is normally used.
12.4 The Operator's responsibility is generally limited to operating the Plant and Equipment competently and safely to complete the job that you have instructed the Operator to undertake.
12.5 The Operator will use their best endeavours to complete the job you instruct them to undertake as expeditiously as possible.

(13) CONDITIONS OF EQUIPMENT

13.1 You must check the state and condition of the Plant and Equipment at reasonable intervals during the period of hire to ensure that it remains safe, serviceable and clean. We will not check the Plant and Equipment during the period of hire unless you bring it back to us and ask us to do so.
13.2 You must not use (or permit the use of) the Plant and Equipment for any purpose beyond its capacity or in a manner likely to result in excessive wear.
13.3 Other than arranging for the changing of plugs and sockets (if necessary) to be carried out by a qualified electrician you must not make any alterations or modifications to the Plant and Equipment.

(14) CONSUMABLE ITEMS

14.1 We will supply fuel, oils and greases to you if you ask us to do so. We will make a charge for any fuel, oils and greases, which we supply these charges will be above pump price. You may buy your own fuel, oils and greases but you must use the grade and type we or the manufacturer specifies.
14.2 You are responsible for the cost of re-sharpening drills, cutting edges and other tools. If excessive damage is caused to landscaping items, chopper blades for example, a charge for replacement will be issued.
14.3 If we supply you with any consumable items or ear or eye protectors for use with the Plant and Equipment, these are sold to you, and you must pay for them. At our discretion, we may refund the price of any such items that are returned to us in a suitable condition for taking back into stock.
14.4 From April 2022 the law changed to only allow white diesel - D5N - in all hired equipment that takes diesel. Any machinery returned with red fuel will attract a disposal charge and a fuel charge to refill the machinery. Express Hire will charge a rate higher than pump price to cover costs of storing fuel and staff time to refill the machines.

(15) FITTING OF ACCESSORIES

15.1 If the Plant and Equipment requires the fitting or re-fitting of any accessories (such as drills, wheels, discs, blades, breakers and augers etc), it is your responsibility to ensure that any such accessory is correctly fitted or re-fitted in accordance with any relevant operating and safety instructions that you are given.
15.2 If any injury or property or to the Plant and Equipment arises because you have incorrectly fitted or re-fitted any accessory, you will be responsible for that injury or damage unless we have been negligent in any way. The only exception to this is where the injury/damage occurs as a result of a fault or defect in the Plant and Equipment, which you were not aware of.

(16) ACCESS FOR SERVICING, INSPECTION AND RECOVERY OF EQUIPMENT

You undertake that you will allow us to have access to your premises at any reasonable time to enable us to inspect, test, adjust, repair, or replace the Plant and Equipment as necessary while it is in your possession or to recover the Plant and Equipment if you fail to return the Plant and Equipment to us on termination of this Agreement, or payment terms are exceeded.

(17) FAULTS, DEFECTS OR BREAKDOWN OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

17.1 You must immediately notify us if the Plant and Equipment breaks down or suffers a fault or defect such that it is inoperable or unsafe to use.
17.2 The Plant and Equipment must be returned to us as soon as possible and in any event within the time agreed with us when you notify us of the problem. On return of the Plant and Equipment we will use our best endeavours to repair it or exchange it.
17.3 We will not charge you for the hire of the Plant and Equipment during the period that it is broken down. It is therefore important that you notify us as soon as the breakdown occurs.

17.4 In the case of wheeled Plant and Equipment, you will be responsible for repairing any punctures that occur and/or replacing any tyre damaged (fair wear and tear excepted) while the Plant and Equipment is in your possession. No refund of Hire Charges will be made by us in respect of stoppages caused by punctures or tyre damage occurring during the period of hire.
17.5 Except for the repair of punctures, you must not repair or attempt to repair the Plant and Equipment unless authorised to do so by us.

17.6 Where the Plant and Equipment has broken down or is faulty or defective and is not readily repairable, we will substitute it with plant and equipment of a similar type. If no suitable substitute is available immediately, we will suggest alternative dates when you can hire the substitute plant and equipment. If the suggested replacement or the suggested alternative dates are not satisfactory to you, you can terminate the hire and claim for a refund for the period during which you could not make use of the Plant and Equipment.
17.7 Should any item get tipped over or stuck the customer can either arrange for their own recovery or request Express Hire (Dorset) limited to arrange at your cost. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO START A TIPPED MACHINE - you will cause extreme damage to the unit which will be fully chargeable.

17.8 Due to the nature of machinery and delivery vehicles (not exclusive), unfortunately fluid such as hydraulic oil, engine oil, coolant or fuel leaks can happen without prior warning, even with brand new equipment. It is the user's responsibility to protect and cover any surrounding environment where there may be a risk of leakage resulting in environmental damage (e.g., floor stains, water courses, drains - list not exclusive). Express Hire (Dorset) Ltd. is not liable for any environmental pollution or pollution clean-up due to any leakage from our equipment, or contamination resulting from any leakage as Express Hire (Dorset) Limited is not in control of the machine or circumstances prior to any potential leakage. It is Express Hire (Dorset) Limited's responsibility to maintain & repair its equipment due to wear and tear and on the occasions of damage. Environmental damage is the customer's responsibility.

(18) NOTIFICATION OF ACCIDENTS

You must notify us immediately if there is any accident involving the Plant and Equipment which results in damage to the Plant and Equipment or to other property or injury to or the death of any person.

(19) LOSS, THEFT OF, OR DAMAGE TO THE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

19.1 Subject to clause 19.3 below, if the Plant and Equipment is lost, damaged, destroyed or stolen whilst in your care, you will be liable for the full cost of repairing or replacing the Plant and Equipment.
19.2 You may take out your theft only insurance to cover the risk to our Plant and Equipment at a cost of £15 per unit per week, this must be added to the contract before the hire goods leave our control. Should you not claim on this there will be a £1000 excess, but only to the extent that such costs are reimbursed to us by our insurers. You will still be liable to us, however, to the extent that the insurers do not reimburse us for the loss or damage. You must take reasonable care of the Plant and Equipment whilst it is in your custody, even if the theft insurance has been added.
19.3 You will not be liable to pay us for any damage caused to the Plant and Equipment arising from any defect in the Plant and Equipment which was not apparent when it was hired to you. You will not be liable for any loss or theft of the Plant and Equipment resulting from a fault in the Plant and Equipment's security system which occurred before you took delivery of the Plant and Equipment. You must notify us immediately if there is a fault with the Plant and Equipment's security system, including but not limited to faulty locks or other security devices.
19.4 Where the Plant and Equipment or any part of it is lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed you must notify us immediately in order that we can notify our insurers. If the insurers refuse to pay us because of a delay in notification by you, you will be liable to us for what would have been recovered from the insurers if you had complied with this clause. You must provide our insurers and us with all reasonable assistance when so requested.
19.5 You must notify the police immediately if the Plant and Equipment, or any part of it, is stolen or has been criminally damaged. Upon receipt of the crime number Express Hire will amend the weekly hire rate to two thirds of the normal charge until the insurance or invoice for loss is cleared.

(20) PAYMENT

20.1 The Plant and Equipment can be hired by the day, for two days or by the week. If you do not return the Plant and Equipment to us by the time set out below then we will be entitled to charge you for an additional day's (or days') hire.
The latest times, by which the Plant and Equipment must be returned, unless we are collecting it, are as follows:
Plant and Equipment hired for a day
Must be returned within 24 hours.
Plant and Equipment hired for 2 days
Must be returned within 48 hours.
Plant and Equipment hired for a working week (Monday - Friday)
Must be returned by 16:00 Friday.
Plant and Equipment hired for a week
Must be returned by 16:00 on the seventh consecutive day.

20.2 You must pay Hire Charges for each day that you hire the Plant and Equipment, including Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. If you agreed to take the Plant and Equipment for a minimum or a fixed period, you must pay the Hire Charges applicable for the whole of the minimum or the fixed period.
20.3 Hire Charges are due at the beginning and/or at the end of the hire or at the end of a month. We will let you know when you must pay the Hire Charges at the time you hire the Plant and Equipment.
20.4 You must pay the Hire Charges in full and on the due dates, and time is of the essence for payment.
20.5 If any payment due under this Agreement is not paid in full and on the due date, interest will be charged from the due date to the date of payment at the base rate of the Bank of England plus 8% per annum.
20.6 Stoppages which are not due to fault on our part, or on the part of our operator will be charged for. (E.g., stoppages caused by adverse weather, unforeseen problems with the Site or access, punctures or usual running maintenance such as re-fuelling or re-fitting accessories).
20.7 You can ask our Operator to stop work at any time. If you do so, you will be responsible for the Hire Charges up to the point at which your request is made including the daily rate for the day on which work ceases, or the agreed minimum or fixed period.

(21) TERMINATION OF HIRE

21.1 You can bring this Agreement to an end at any time by returning the Plant and Equipment to us in accordance with clause 20 above and paying the Outstanding Balance.
21.2 You breach any term of this Agreement, we may terminate this Agreement and require the immediate return of the Plant and Equipment to us. You undertake to return the Plant and Equipment to us upon termination of this Agreement. We will not ask you to return the Plant and Equipment before the end of the minimum or fixed period unless you are in default.
21.3 At the end of the minimum or fixed period agreed between the parties you must return the Plant and Equipment to us in accordance with clause 22 below. If you wish to extend the period of hire, you must contact us before the minimum or fixed period expires. We may agree an extension, up to a maximum of three months including the original minimum or fixed period of hire without review.

(22) RETURN OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

22.1 You must return the Plant and Equipment to us in the same condition as when we supplied to you although you will not be responsible for reasonable wear and tear which may occur during the period of hire.
22.2 You must clean the Plant and Equipment before you return it to us. If you have not made a reasonable attempt to clean it, you will be responsible for our reasonable costs for cleaning and restoration of the Plant and Equipment to enable it to be hired to someone else in a fit and proper condition.

(23) LIABILITY

23.1 If either you or we are in breach of any term of this Agreement, neither of us will be responsible for any losses that the other suffers as a result of such breach except losses which are a foreseeable consequence of the breach.
23.2 You will also agree to hire the Plant and Equipment for domestic and non-commercial purposes only. In the circumstances, if we are in breach of this Agreement, we will not be liable to you for any claim relating to business expenses or losses, including but not limited to claims for loss of profit.
23.3 We will not accept any responsibility for any damage and/or injury caused by your failure to comply with operating and safety instructions supplied to you. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully covered by insurance for any risks involved in the use of the Plant and Equipment, such as personal injury or death to users of the Plant and Equipment or other persons. This clause does not exclude or limit our liability for death or personal injury caused by our negligence, breach of contract or other default.
23.4 If a third party makes a claim against us in relation to any loss or damage caused by the Plant and Equipment as a result of your breach of any term of this Agreement, you will indemnify us in full for all costs and/or losses suffered by us as a result thereof including, but not limited to, payment of compensation (including interest where applicable) to the third party, our reasonable legal and other fees incurred as a result of any legal action resulting from the claim. You will not be responsible for such a claim to the extent that the loss or damage results from our negligence or breach of contract.
23.5 Subject to clause 23.7, our liability is limited as follows: Our liability for loss, destruction or damage to goods or property is limited to a total of £1 million whether due to our breach of contract, negligence or otherwise.
23.6 If you think that there is a possibility that goods or property could be damaged which have a value more than the limit set out in clause 23.5, then you must notify us in writing before the Plant and Equipment is delivered to the Site. On receipt of such notification, we may choose to make additional coverage available, and this will involve an increase in the Hire Charges. You will not be able to claim more than the amount set out in clause 23.5 & 23.6.1 you do not notify us that the damage could exceed the above limit.
23.6.2 we choose not to have additional coverage made available.
23.6.3 you do not agree to meet the extra charge for additional coverage; or
23.6.4 the additional coverage falls for some reason that is not our fault.
This will be so, even where we are at fault, except where your claim is for death or personal injury, as mentioned in clause 23.7 below.
23.7 The limit set out in clause 23.5 does not apply to claims for death or personal injury caused by our negligence. There is no limit on the amount of our liability for such claims.

(24) GENERAL

24.1 If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unlawful, void or unenforceable then that provision will be deemed severable and will not affect the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions, to the extent permitted by law.
24.2 Notices from us to you should be sent to us at our principal office address. Notices from us to you will be sent to the address provided to us by you or to any other address which you have notified to us in writing. You will notify us immediately in writing of any change to your address.
24.3 This Agreement incorporates all of the terms agreed between you and us. It cannot be varied except by a document signed by you and us on or after the date of this Agreement.
24.4 A party who is not a party to this Agreement shall have no right to enforce any term of this Agreement under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.
24.5 If any amount is payable to you under this Agreement, we may withhold from those monies an amount equal to the total monies you owe under this Agreement.
24.6 If the Site is situated within the United Kingdom, then the court whose jurisdiction covers the Site will have exclusive jurisdiction and interpretation of the law for this Contract. If the original Site is not situated within the United Kingdom, then the relevant Jurisdiction and interpretation of the law of the Contract will be governed by the country where our head office is located.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Insurance of all items is the responsibility of the hirer unless theft cover is requested and acknowledged from Express Hire

Express Hire do not provide road cover (tax or insurance) for any item.

You must call or email to off hire when finished with any goods.

Only DERV to be used to refill diesel machines.

non-account (cash trade & consumer) customers will have payment taken at the end of the hire and at end of the month whilst equipment is on hire from the card details provided.

Account customers (trade & consumer) have 30 days from month end to clear the account via bacs, card or direct debit

Sales@express-hire.co.uk 01202 673 403

Trade terms are available via our website or email by request