

Safety & Maintenance for Excavators & Attachments

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS – ALL EQUIPMENT



Keeping you safe is always our priority.

- You must be fully trained and instructed to operate plant and equipment. You must have all information necessary to ensure safe operation of plant and equipment.
- Ensure that all controls are in "neutral" position before starting engine. Ensure that proper ventilation exists when operating in buildings or areas that may become hazardous due to exhaust fumes etc.
- Always wear adequate personal protection equipment (e.g. ear protection, gloves, high visibility coat, hard hat, foot protection, eye protection etc).
- Report any defects immediately to your site supervisor or Express Hire.
- Any plant operated on the public highway may be subject to the provisions of the Road Traffic Act and therefore, appropriate insurance must be obtained by the Hirer.
- The Hirer is responsible to take all reasonable precautions to prevent theft of any plant or equipment. Such measures should include the removal of any keys when not in use and the provision of a secure area for storage when not in use (e.g. evenings and weekends).
- All machine operators should be free from alcohol or drugs, use of mobiles phones whilst using machines is prohibited.

DAILY MAINTENANCE

Checks before starting work:

-general condition of machine.

-lights, including beacon

-condition of quick hitch device and retaining pins.

-oil and coolant levels, grease where necessary.

-for any fluid leaks etc.

-all safety devices and guards

-general operating ability.

-tracks check fuel level.

SAFETY & MAINTENANCE – EXCAVATORS

- It is the hirer's responsibility to ensure that any person operating any plant or equipment are properly trained and are in possession of all relevant information.
- Please take note and act upon any caution or warning notices that are placed upon the equipment, these could involve maintenance to ensure the effective working of the machinery.
- All machines are fitted with ROPS/canopies/cabs which comply with regulations, you should not remove the ROPS/canopy/cab from any machine. Express Hire cannot remove any safety protection whatsoever from machines.
- Always use the grab handles & steps to get in and out of the excavator. Keep footplates, pedals and steps clean and free from obstruction & debris.
- Always start the engine whilst sitting on the operator seat. Never attempt to start the engine or operate whilst standing beside the excavator. Ensure seat belt is secured.
- Do not allow access beneath the boom, blade or buckets. Never allow access to the turning/swing area of the boom. THIS IS A CRUSH ZONE.
- Always ensure the controls are locked before leaving or entering the cab.
- Never overload the excavator buckets. Do not use the excavator as a crane.
- Exercise extreme caution when operating on a gradient. Beware of overhead & underground services.
- Never carry passengers or use the excavator for any use other than that for which it is intended.
- Always ensure that the excavator is secure when not in use, the key is removed & the cab locked (where applicable)
- Never leave the excavator unattended with the engine running.
- Do not allow unauthorised persons or children to operate the excavator.
- Ensure that the ground conditions for operation of any equipment are suitable and fit for purpose.
- Compliance of the Road Traffic Act is always the responsibility of the hirer.
- It is the hirer's responsibility to make the equipment available for routine servicing.

SAFETY & MAINTENANCE – ATTACHMENTS

- Attachments should always be appropriate for the machine and fitted in a secure manner, by trained personnel.
- Always ensure the combined weight of the attachment and load do not exceed the machine safe working load.
- Whilst using attachments, never walk or allow any person to walk underneath the boom, always guard against loose items by using appropriate safety equipment.
- Attachments are easy to damage, keep hydraulic hoses clean and free from debris.
- Attachments are expensive and at high risk of theft, please keep them safe and if no longer in use please off hire.
- It is the hirer's responsibility to make the equipment available for routine servicing.

All hires are open ended, we will only collect when you have called to say you are finished.

Please have all buckets, attachments and keys together before we arrive to collect.