

Vibrating Compactor Plate General Safety

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact Britannia Access Hire. There is a serious risk of personal injury if you do not follow all instructions laid down in this guide.

The hirer has a responsibility to ensure that all necessary risk assessments have been completed prior to the use of this equipment. This equipment should only be used by an operator who has been deemed competent to do so by his/her employer.

This equipment should be used by an able bodied, competent adult who has read and understood these instructions. Anyone with either a temporary or permanent disability, should seek expert advice before using it.

Keep children, animals and bystanders away from the work area. Cordon off a NO GO area using cones and either barriers or tape, available for hire from Britannia Access Hire.

Never use this equipment if you are ill, feeling d, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Wear practical, protective clothing, gloves

goggles and footwear. Avoid loose garments and jewellery that could catch in moving parts, tie back long hair.

This equipment generates potentially harmful noise levels. To comply with Health & Safety at Work regulations, **ear defenders must be worn by everyone in the vicinity.**

This equipment is heavy (up to 84kg depending upon model), **never attempt to lift it on your own, always get help.**

Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated, if in doubt, ask about lighting and ventilation equipment at Britannia Access Hire. **Do not work near flammable gases or liquids,** petrol or paint thinner fumes for example. **Keep combustible materials at a safe distance** - at least 5m.

Make sure you know how to switch this machine OFF before you switch it ON in case you get into difficulty. **Never leave the unit running and unattended. Always switch the engine off and wait for moving parts to come to rest before making adjustments to it.**

Do not try to repair or modify the equipment. If this equipment can't do what you expect or fails to work return to Britannia Access Hire.

Exhaust Danger

Do not operate indoors or in a confined space - exhaust contains gases that can kill.

Fuel Safety

NEVER refuel while the engine is hot or running.

Never smoke or allow naked lights into the area while refueling.

Never inhale fuel vapour.

ALWAYS mop up spillage's as quickly as possible, and change your clothes if you get fuel on yourself.

ALWAYS store fuel in a purpose-made sealed container, in a cool, safe place well away from the work area.

Engines, especially the exhausts, get very hot so switch OFF and allow to cool before touching them. Keep flammable materials well away from engine and exhaust.

Make sure that everyone is warned of what you are doing. Check the condition of the equipment before use. If it shows signs of damage or excessive wear, return it to Britannia Access Hire.

Getting Started

With the machine on firm level ground, check fuel and oil levels (see EQUIPMENT CARE). **These plates are fitted with an automatic clutch**, when the engine is idling there will be no vibrating action. To activate the vibration, turn the throttle to the fast position. **When starting the engine use half throttle, but be ready in case the unit begins to vibrate**, if it does simply reduce the throttle setting until the vibrating stops.

When the unit begins to vibrate, it will start to wander, so site the unit in the centre of the work area to avoid damage to other surfaces. Position the compactor on the surface to be compacted and swing the control handle back to the operating position.

Turn the engines ON/OFF switch to ON, open the fuel tap, then apply the choke if starting from cold, half closed if the engine is warm. With the throttle set to the half-way position, **a few brisk pulls on the starter cord should now start the engine.**

Once started, **let the engine warm up for a few minutes before releasing the choke and resetting the throttle** to the idle position.

Basic Techniques

Open the throttle to the full position, the unit will start to vibrate and try to wander.

Keeping a firm hold of the control handle, guide the compactor over the surface.
Work over the surface from left to right then from top to bottom.

The most important thing to remember when using the compactor is that the material being compacted will not automatically level out to a perfect finish.

As you compact the area, dips will occur which will need to be filled. For best results, compact the whole area then switch the compactor OFF while you fill the dips with more material. Then re-compact.

Equipment Care

Never push the equipment beyond its design limits. If it will not do what you want with reasonable ease, assume you have the wrong tool for the job. Contact Britannia Access Hire for advice.

Always switch OFF the compactor before making any adjustments to it.

Keep the equipment clean. You will find this less of a chore if you clean up regularly, rather than wait until end of the hire period.

When not in use, **store the equipment somewhere clean, dry and safe.**

Regularly check the fuel level and top up as necessary with unleaded petrol.

Regularly check the oil level – when the engine is cold and the compactor is on level ground. Withdraw the dipstick, wipe it clean, then replace it, remove it a second time and verify that the oil level is between the MIN & MAX lines. **Top up as necessary.**

Finishing Off

Set the throttle to minimum, turn OFF the ON/OFF switch and close the fuel tap. Swing the control handle back to the transport position, ready for return to Britannia Access Hire.