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1623 Stump grinder

SHC HIRE CENTRES www.shc.co.uk

Using the Tree Stump Grinder

1. Do not operate the stump grinder on concrete or other hard surfaces, damage or injury could result.
2. Wear your protective equipment.
3. Check your work area is clear.
4. Select a firm level surface as possible and stabilize the machine. If this is not possible consider creating a level site.
5. Always grip the stump grinder correctly with two hands while working.
6. Vibration from using this stump grinder is not normally hazardous. Comply with the vibration label or any other vibration instruction given. Warm your hands up before you start work, and wear gloves to keep your hands warm while you are working.
7. The lower forward facing quarter of the chipping head is the only part of the head that is used. Do not use the bottom of the chipping head or the upper portion for under-cutting. These practices are dangerous.
8. Run the engine at fast speed when chipping with the wheel brakes on.
9. Using the lower forward facing quarter of the chipping head move the machine from side to side chipping to a depth of 25mm (12) for each pass.
10. If your view of the chipping head becomes obstructed by chippings, stop the machine and move it away to clear the chipping area of chippings.
11. If the chipping head becomes entangled with vegetation or other debris, stop the engine and move the machine from the site to untangle the debris. Never approach the cutting mechanism until it has come to a complete stop. Take care it may be hot.
12. Stop work if someone approaches you.
13. Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.
14. On completion fill the excavation and make the site safe.
15. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

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

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Tree Stump Grinder

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 this entire leaflet BEFORE using the Tree Stump Grinder

1. Plan the use of the Tree Stump Grinder so that it can always be used safely.
2. Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
3. The vibration from these machines is normally quite low. Check the label on the machine, or ask the hire company.
4. This stump grinder is designed to reduce, in situ, tree stumps to chippings.
5. The weight and sharp cutters of this stump grinder can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
6. If you have not used a stump grinder before, familiarise yourself with the controls of the machine before you start on the main task.
7. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: Hearing protection (complying with EN 352; SNR=25 minimum); eye protection (a mesh visor complying with EN1731 or safety glasses to EN166); protective boots with good grip and ankle support (complying with EN 345-1); gloves with reinforced palms and fingers; non-snag clothing. The use of high-visability clothing may also be appropriate depending on the location; dust mask – a minimum of EN149:2001 ffp2 protection may also be appropriate in certain circumstances.
8. A personal first-aid kit should be available including a large wound dressing.
9. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
10. This tree stump grinder is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.
11. This stump grinder is heavy, get help if you have to unload it from your vehicle. Do not lift beyond your own capabilities.

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Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this machine where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol or gas cylinders.
2. You must have good ventilation or extraction to remove the poisonous exhaust fumes and provide fresh air.
3. Protect other people, children and animals from the noise and flying chips. Set up a work area of about 7 metres round the tree stump to be worked on.
4. Use physical barriers, barrier tape and signs. Stop the machine and make it safe should anyone enter this area.
5. Stones and other debris can be thrown considerable distances by this machine. Protect delicate plants, garden ornaments, greenhouses, cold frames and buildings as necessary.
6. The stump grinder may damage pipes, drains or cables laid just beneath the surface. Check the areas carefully before starting work.
7. Clear the area around the tree stump of all obstructions, and vegetation.
8. Dig out all soil, stones from around the main stump and buttress roots as these can damage the cutters and can be projected for some distance.
9. To prevent damage to the cutters check for and remove any embedded nails in the stump.
10. Ensure you have a level and firm area to operate the machine from.

OPERATORS

1. Operators must wear the following personal protective equipment. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You should wear eye protection (a mesh visor complying with EN1731 or safety glasses to EN166).
3. The hoses must be laid out, free of any kinks or sharp bends.
4. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 90 dB(A) – wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
5. You may need to wear an appropriate dust mask (with a minimum of EN149:2001 ffp2 protection) if your work causes dust.
6. You should wear gloves with reinforced palms and fingers, and no-snag clothing.

The use of high-visability clothing may also be appropriate in certain circumstances.

7. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

STUMP GRINDER

1. Check the machine, engine, cutting head and all the controls, if anything is found damaged, do not use the stump grinder – contact the hire company.
2. Ensure the guards, and debris curtains around the cutting head are present, intact and adequate.
3. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before you start the machine, you must know how to stop it.

REFUELLING

1. No smoking.
2. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3. If possible move the machine away from your work area.
4. Clean the filler cap and the area around it to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
5. Use a funnel and clean petrol when refuelling. Do not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine.
6. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose of fuel soaked cloth carefully.
7. If you spill any fuel on the ground, wipe it up or cover it with soil.
8. If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
9. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE ENGINE

1. Wheel the machine to the work position before starting the engine.
2. If the hire company has given you specific starting instructions – use them – if not follow these instructions.
3. Check that the engine and machine controls are set correctly.
4. Make sure that you hold the machine firmly and you have applied the brake so it will not move when you pull the starter.
5. Pull the starter handle slowly until you can feel that the starter has engaged with the engine, and then pull it quickly and strongly. Don't pull it too far, or it may break.
6. Guide the cord back into place so that it recoils correctly.
7. Allow the engine to idle for a short period to warm up before starting work on the stump.

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

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