

If the steel becomes jammed in the work DO NOT use the breaker/pick as a lever. Tease the steel from the work by pushing then pulling.

If the steel strikes a hidden object, stop the breaker/pick immediately then check to make sure it is safe to continue.

Where possible, concentrate on weak spots in the structure you are breaking – mortar joints, cracks etc. Alternatively, start close to an edge and gradually work inward.

Take your time, rushing a job tends to produce poor results and increases the risk of a serious accident.

Don't over do it – you are more likely to have an accident if you are suffering from fatigue.

air hose ready for return to your local HSS Hire .

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. Ask at your local HSS Hire for advice.

Regularly check the condition of the steel, if it shows signs of excessive wear replace it with a new one, contact your local HSS Hire for additional replacements.

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

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

FINISHING OFF

Switch OFF the compressor, then open the tool's air valve until all the stored air has been released. Remove the steel and disconnect the air hose.

Thoroughly clean the equipment, then neatly coil the

... have you been trained

The law requires that personnel using air breakers must be competent and qualified to do so. Training available at HSS Training Solutions **0845 766 7799**

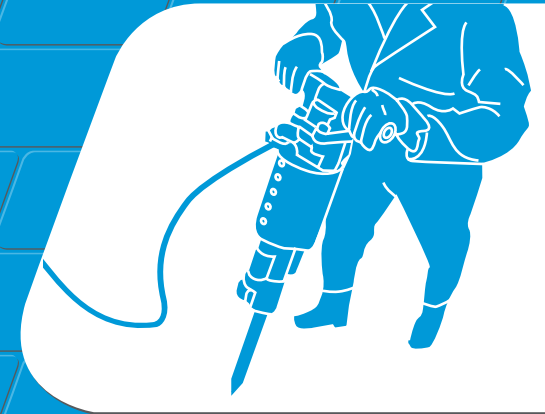


...any comments?

If you have any suggestions to enable us to improve the information within this guide please e-mail your comments or write to the Safety Guide Manager at the address below
e-mail: safety@hss.com

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Med/Heavy Duty Air Breakers and Picks

From clay digging and light demolition to breaking up concrete slabs and road surfaces.



Code 21108/21118/21128

GENERAL SAFETY

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact your local HSS Hire.

Keep children, animals and bystanders away from the work area.

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

This equipment should only be used by a competent person who has read and understood these instructions.

Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated. Do not work near flammable gases or liquids.



Safety Goggles **MUST** be worn by everyone in the work area.



NOTE: Some materials being broken by this process may contain substances which can be harmful to health. A suitable mask must be worn when using this equipment.



NOTE: This equipment generates potentially harmful noise levels. To comply with health and safety at work regulations, ear defenders must be worn by everyone in the vicinity.



Wear practical, protective clothing and footwear. Avoid loose garments and jewellery that could catch in moving parts.

Check the equipment before use. If it shows signs of damage or excessive wear, return it.

If working above ground-level, work from a suitable, stable platform – an access tower for example. Never work from ladders or steps.

Take special care when breaking anything containing pipework or electrical cables. If in doubt, hire a cable avoiding tool from your local HSS Hire, to determine the exact position of such hazards.

Stop the machine if you experience discomfort or numbness during use.

Information on COSHH regulations is available from your local HSS Hire.

AIR SAFETY

Most HSS air tools require a 125 cfm compressor to run them. The air connections used are the claw type quick action couplings.

If the tool fails, or if its hose or coupling gets damaged, return it. Never try to repair it yourself.

Keep the air hose/s out of harm's way, keep it clear of moving parts. Never run them through water, over sharp edges or where they could trip someone.

Never carry or pull the equipment by its air hose.

Never allow compressed air to travel down an air hose

which is not connected to an air tool or securely anchored, this may cause personal injury.

Ensure the air supply is turned OFF before connecting or disconnecting it from the air hose. Isolate it from the air supply before making any adjustments.

GETTING STARTED

Make sure you know how to switch the equipment OFF before you switch it ON.

With the compressor warmed up, and the air supply valve CLOSED, connect the air hose to the compressor by pushing it on to the air supply valve and turn clockwise.

Anchor the delivery end of the air hose so that it is not aimed at any person or property then, taking great care, slightly open the air supply valve to clear the hose of any debris. Now fully close the valve and turn the compressor OFF.

Lay the breaker/pick down on a clean, firm surface, and fit the appropriate steel for the work you are doing.

Make sure the steel's shank is clean and in good condition, then open the tool's chuck by moving the latch lever down. Insert the steel as far as it will go and lock in place by moving the latch lever up.

Confirm that the tool's control lever/trigger is in the closed position, then connect the delivery hose in the same way as to the compressor.

Fully open the compressor's air supply valve and start the compressor.

BASIC TECHNIQUES

Always hold the tool with both hands then bring the steel into contact with the surface to be broken.

Adopt a stable posture with both feet on firm, level ground, do not work in areas where you are forced to stand on loose debris or on a slippery uneven surface.

On first contact with the surface, the breaker/pick will try to wander off line. Take great care until you become familiar with the tool.

Depending on which tool you are using, either squeeze the trigger or depress the control lever with the palm of your hand.

Begin slowly, allowing the steel to mark the surface, this will stop the steel from wandering over the work surface and causing unnecessary and expensive damage.

Never apply too much pressure, let the breaker/pick work at its own pace.

Lift it clear before turning OFF, and wait for moving parts to stop before putting it aside.

