

# Petrol Hedge Trimmers

Ideal for trimming larger hedges when working away from a power supply.



Once started, open the choke then squeeze and release the throttle trigger, the engine should now tick over. Finally lower the blade lock lever to re-engage the blade to the engine.

If the motor 'floods', open the choke and throttle, then pull the starter cord repeatedly until the engine fires.

## BASIC TECHNIQUES

Inspect the hedge to be trimmed. Check that there are no wires, electrical cables or any other obstructions running through it.

Think before you cut, ensure that cuttings fall away from you. Clear the work area and remove trip hazards.

Hold the trimmer with both hands, adopting a stable stance that lets you see what you are doing but keeps you safely clear of the cutters.

Sweep the blades over the hedge, working from the ground upwards.

The trimmer can cut a maximum thickness of 18mm and this must not be exceeded. If you encounter a thick stem, stop the hedge trimmer and use a pruning saw to cut through the obstruction.

Never over-reach or work above chest height. Keep the work area tidy, regularly sweep up trimmings.

**WATCH YOU'RE FOOTING.** Be careful not to trip or slip while operating the equipment.

Between cuts and when moving location, turn the hedge trimmer's engine OFF.

Do not allow the blades to come into contact with soil or similar substance. Switch OFF and allow the blades to stop moving before removing any debris from them.

## EQUIPMENT CARE

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

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

Regularly check the fuel level and top up as necessary with a mixture of two stroke oil and unleaded petrol.

To maintain cutting efficiency, regularly lubricate the blade with light oil.

**ALWAYS** cover the blade with the protective sheath when the unit is not in use.

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

## FINISHING OFF

Switch the trimmers engine OFF and replace the protective sheath onto the blade.

Give the unit a final clean ready for return, to your local HSS Hire.

### ... have you been trained

The law requires that personnel using trimmers 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](mailto:safety@hss.com)**

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Group Office: 25 Willow Lane, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4TS

Web Site: <http://www.hss.com>

Code 62415

## GENERAL SAFETY

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact your local HSS 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 either cones, barriers or tape, available for hire from your local HSS Hire.

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

 Safety goggles MUST be worn by everyone in the work area.

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

Watch your footing. Think twice before working anywhere other than on firm, level ground. Never work in slippery or wet conditions or near overhead cables.

Always use a suitable stable work platform e.g. staging, when working above ground level – never work from a ladder.

Keep a firm grip on both handles whilst trimming, never operate the machine one-handed.

Hedge trimmers can cause serious injury. Always keep feet and hands well away from the cutting blade.

Always switch OFF the engine when not in use.

Make sure you know how to switch this machine OFF before you switch it ON in case you get into difficulty.

Always switch the engine OFF and wait for moving parts to come to rest before making adjustments to it.

## Exhaust Danger

NEVER operate petrol engines indoors or in a confined space.

The 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 refuelling.

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 your local HSS Hire.

Ensure the blade's protective sheath is correctly fitted before transporting the trimmer.

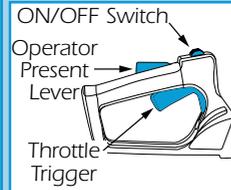
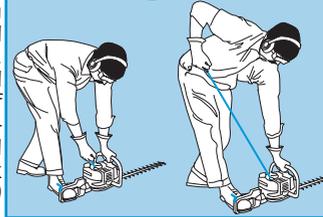
COSHH information sheets are available from your local HSS Hire.

## GENERAL SAFETY

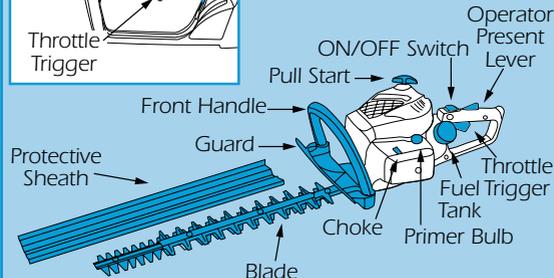
Remove the protective sheath from the blades. Set the machine up on a firm level surface and clear of any obstructions. Mix 5 litres of unleaded petrol with 1 bottle of HSS 2-Stroke oil in a suitable container, and fill the fuel tank. Each tank full gives about 30 minutes use.

Never add the oil and petrol to the tank unmixed. Now depending upon which model you have hired, follow the instructions for either Model 1 or Model 2.

### Starting Posture



### MODEL 1



### MODEL 1...

Set the ON/OFF switch to ON and move the choke to fully closed if starting from cold (half closed if the engine is warm). Press the primer button four times to prime the fuel system.

Place one foot on to the rear handles hand guard and adopt the starting posture (see diagram). After a few brisk pulls on the pull start the engine should fire.

Once started, open the choke the engine should now tick over.

If the motor 'floods', open the choke and throttle, then pull the starter cord repeatedly until the engine fires.

### MODEL 2...

Place the palm of your hand onto the operator presence lever, squeeze the throttle in, move the on/off slide control fully back to the start position and hold as you release the throttle trigger.

The machine is now set at half throttle (The trigger lock button is only for starting – NOT FOR CONTINUOUS USE). Set the choke lever to the closed/start position then lift the blade lock lever to disengage the blade from the engine.

Adopt the starting posture (see diagram). Now pull the pull start. Two or three pulls and the engine should start.

### MODEL 2

