



# Using the Concrete Mixer

1. Wear protective equipment including ear protection, dust mask, goggles, gloves and safety boots.
2. The engine must be running all the time there is a mix in the drum.
3. Do not move the concrete mixer while the drum is full.
4. Take care when tipping the mixer that you do not cause it to over balance.
5. Stop the engine if leaving the machine unattended.
6. As soon as work is finished, the mixer and especially the inside of the drum must be washed clean before the mix hardens.
7. If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
8. You may want to read this leaflet again, please keep it safe until you finish work.

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

1. It is important to read this entire leaflet before you use the concrete mixer.
2. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
3. Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
4. Cement mixes are harmful to the eyes, lungs and skin. Follow any instructions given by the manufacturers of these cement products.
5. This concrete mixer is designed for mixing concrete, mortar, plaster and similar compounds with water. It can also mix composts and other similar materials. It is not designed for any other purpose.
6. The action of this mixer can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
7. If you have not used a concrete mixer before, familiarise yourself with how the machine works before you start on the main task.
8. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles; dust mask- a minimum of FFP3 protection; ear muffs or plugs giving protection to reduce exposure to 87dB(A) at the ear; Safety boots; industrial gloves.
9. A personal first-aid kit should be available.
10. This machine must not be used by young persons, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
11. This concrete mixer is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.
12. Concrete mixers are heavy machines, get help if you have to unload it from your vehicle. Do not lift beyond your own capabilities.



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v:032017

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**STARTING THE ENGINE**

1. If the hire company has supplied special instructions, follow them. Otherwise, follow the instructions given below. Position the concrete mixer at the work position before starting the engine.
2. Check the oil and fuel levels before starting the engine.
3. Switch the ignition switch to the ON position.
4. Check that the throttle lever is in the IDLE position.
5. Do not wear gloves when starting the engine. Also, ensure there is no loose clothing or flapping sleeves that could get caught.
6. Turn the fuel tap to the open position.
7. Open the choke lever fully, when starting from cold.
8. Grasp the pull cord firmly and pull upwards then guide the cord back so that it recoils correctly.
9. If the engine is now running, shut the choke lever.
10. Open the throttle lever to the RUN position. Allow the engine to run for a short period to warm up before loading the mix.
11. To stop the engine turn the ignition switch to the OFF position and close the fuel supply tap.

**STAND**

1. The mixer may be supplied with a stand, which raises the height of the mixer to make it easy to empty the drum into a wheelbarrow. The mixer can be used with or without the stand.
2. The stand should be sited on firm level ground close to the work area.
3. Two persons can then lift and locate the mixer onto the stand and secure the locking clip.
4. Alternatively one person can tip the mixer so that it stands on the opening of the drum. Locate the stand into position and lock the clip. Tilt the stand and mixer back into the upright position. Make sure it is firmly sited, or if the mixer/stand combination is too heavy another person.
5. Do not leave the mixer standing on the stationary drum. The petrol and engine oil may seep into other parts of the machine.

**REFUELLING**

1. No smoking.
2. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3. If possible move the machine away from the work area.

**OPERATORS**

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this machine. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 96 dB(A) - wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
3. An appropriate dust mask (with a minimum FFP3 protection) must be worn when mixing materials that cause dust.
4. Safety boots/wellingtons must be worn.
5. Industrial quality gloves must be worn.
6. Anybody who is working close by will also need to wear identical personal protective equipment.

**CONCRETE MIXER**

1. Check the engine, mixer, drum and stand, if anything is found to be damaged, do not use the concrete mixer - contact the hire company.
2. Check that the concrete mixer is sited firmly on a flat surface and safely near to your work area.
3. When the engine is started the drum will rotate and will not stop rotating until the engine is stopped.
4. Locate the engine off switch before commencing work with the concrete mixer. Always ensure that the drum is rotating before loading. Do not load a concrete mix into a stationary drum. Starting the mixer with a full load would be more difficult and could put strain on the drum shaft.
5. Do not put hands, shovel or anything other than the mix into the drum while it is rotating.

**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. Using this equipment indoors or in confined spaces could cause fatal carbon monoxide poisoning. Never use it in domestic premises and only use it in other indoor situations if its suitability and the ventilation required has been fully assessed. Mechanical extraction ventilation will almost always be required.
3. Make sure your work area is clear and safe and no other persons are close-by and could cause distraction.
4. Protect other people from the noise and dust. Set up an exclusion zone around the area where the concrete mixer is being used with physical barriers, barrier tape and signs. Keep children and animals away when using this equipment.
5. Work should stop immediately should anyone, other than those directly assisting with the work, enter the exclusion zone.
6. Clear the area of trip hazards e.g. rubble, rubbish etc.

**CEMENT MIXES AND CONTACT DERMATITIS**

1. Wet cement mix is a substance that can cause contact dermatitis.
2. Contact dermatitis is a rash that may occur when the skin reacts to certain substances. The rash can vary but it is usually itchy and causes itchy skin and only occurs where the substance is in contact with the skin.
3. Wash cement or plaster mixes from your skin immediately. Thoroughly rinse eyes and seek medical advice without delay.
4. Mild dermatitis will heal providing there is no further contact. If the rash persists seek medical advice. Learn more about contact dermatitis - visit [www.wdcs.org.uk](http://www.wdcs.org.uk)
5. Gloves, long sleeves and full trousers should be worn to prevent the mixes coming into contact with bare skin.