



# Using the Impact Wrench

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders and goggles.
2. Check that the socket or other attachment is fitted correctly.
3. Ensure there are no apparent air leaks.
4. At intervals, while working, stop and check for air leaks and other possible faults.
5. Always grip the impact wrench correctly with two hands while using. If your wrench has a side handle, use it.
6. Be prepared for the reactive force, trying to twist the wrench, when you start to undo a bolt.
7. Do not try to change the rotation when the wrench is running.
8. Stop the wrench and shut off the air supply before making any adjustments.
9. Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting your hands. If your fingers start to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from using the machine. Exercise your fingers to encourage blood circulation.
10. To help prevent vibration affecting your hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep your hands warm – wearing gloves may help do this.
11. Stop work if someone approaches you.
12. You must shut down and release the air pressure before you disconnect any part of your equipment.
13. Shut down and release the air pressure before you leave your equipment unattended.
14. If your equipment develops a leak or does not work properly, do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
15. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it 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. Plan your work ahead to make sure that you will always be working safely.
2. Compressed air can be hazardous. Take care not to injure yourself or others.
3. This impact wrench is designed to tighten and undo different types and sizes of nuts and bolts quickly and repeatedly, using the appropriate attachments.
4. The action of this wrench can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
5. If you have not used an impact wrench before, familiarise yourself with how the machine works before you start to use it.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: Goggles: EN166 or BS2092; Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 107 dB(A); Gloves.
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This impact wrench is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.



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**Useful Reference Points** • [www.hae.org.uk/businessguard](http://www.hae.org.uk/businessguard)

**Before Starting Work...**

1. Do not use this impact wrench where there is danger of explosion. It may ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders. Contact the hire company if you need equipment for use in a flammable atmosphere.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near you or could distract you.
3. Protect other people from the noise and injury. Warn others to keep away.

**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. You must wear goggles (EN166 or BS2092) when you are working with this machine.
3. The equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 107dB(A) – wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
4. Wear gloves to help reduce vibration from the machine affecting your hands.

**IMPACT WRENCH**

1. Check your impact wrench, air supply and hoses, and socket operates before you start it up, you must know how to stop it.
2. Do not try to put the socket onto a bolt with the wrench turning.
3. Make sure the air hose is safely out of the way and has no kinks or twists in it.
4. Check on how your equipment operates before you start it up, you must know how to stop it.

**WRENCH SOCKETS AND ATTACHMENTS**

1. Stop the impact wrench, and shut off air supply before changing the socket or attachment.
2. Only use the correct fitting socket or attachment; do not improvise.
3. Do not use worn or broken sockets – they may cause injury or damage.

**COMPRESSED AIR**

1. Some compressed air equipment supplies a minute amount of oil-mist in the air to prevent any tool seizing up. Check that any lubrication container on your compressor is topped up with the recommended oil. Check the level regularly. Compressed air can be hazardous, do not misuse it.
3. Do not point a jet or compressed air at people or animals. It can cause injury even through clothing.
4. Do not blast air onto skin. It can penetrate or blow splinters in.
5. Do not use it to blow out dust or debris from portable tools, the dangerous to health.
6. Compressed air must not be used to clean clothes or work areas. You must not use it in an unauthorised way and without correct equipment, for example, for inflating tyres.
7. Do not use a greater pressure than recommended.
8. Do not connect or disconnect any tool or hose while the system is pressurised, release the pressure first.
9. If your equipment develops a leak, shut down immediately and release the pressure.

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