For guidance on managing construction health risks go to
www.hse.gov.uk/construction

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Vibrating Roller

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 Vibrating Roller

1. Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
2. This vibrating roller is designed to compact crushed hardcore, backfill, asphalt and other road surfacing materials on level surfaces or gentle slopes.
3. The action of this vibrating roller can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If the operator has not used a vibrating roller before, they should familiarise themselves with the machine on some straightforward work before starting on the main task.
5. The work should be thought out and planned to ensure it will be carried out safely.
6. A minimum of the following personal protective equipment must be worn:
   - Ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 96 dB(A);
   - Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972;
   - Gloves
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This vibrating roller is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

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

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4. Close the choke.
5. Turn the engine switch to the ON position.
6. Check that the throttle lever is in the IDLE position.
7. Pull out the starter handle slowly until the starter has engaged with the engine, then pull it back quickly and strongly. It should not be pulled too far, or it may break.
8. The cord should be guided back into place so that it recoils correctly.
9. If the engine is now running set the choke control to half position. It can be opened up gently as the engine warms up.
10. If the engine did not start, check there is sufficient petrol and oil, and that all controls are in the correct positions. Pull the starter cord again.
11. In cold weather, the engine needs to be allowed to warm up gently by opening the throttle, before work commences.

STARTING FROM WARM

1. Set the choke lever to the fully open position and check that the fuel valve is open.
2. The rest of the instructions must be followed from instruction 5 onwards, given in the section 'starting from cold'.

USING THE VIBRATING ROLLER

1. Wear the protective equipment including safety boots and gloves. Hands, feet and clothing must always be kept away from moving parts of the roller.
2. The handlebars of the vibrating roller should be held firmly with two hands before pulling the control lever in – the steering arm may move unexpectedly as the drive is taken up.
3. The roller can be turned and manoeuvred easily using the engine to drive it forwards and backwards. Take care not to move the roller with the drum or engine stopped.
4. Before driving the roller in reverse check that there are no obstructions. To stop the machine release the control leave straight away.
5. Make sure that any support jack has been retracted before starting work.
6. If the roller has a water sprinkler system, it should be used to prevent the compacted surface sticking to the drum.
7. Vibration may affect the hands and it is important to watch out for signs of this. If fingers tingle or start to feel numb, a short break must be taken from using the roller. Fingers should be exercised to encourage blood circulation.
8. To help prevent vibration affecting the hands, operate the roller for shorter periods. Keeping hands warm – wearing gloves may help to do this.
9. The vibrating action should not be operated on very hard surfaces such as concrete or frozen ground.
10. If an obstruction becomes jammed in the drum scraper, or something gets tangled in the drive mechanism, the engine must be stopped before clearing it.
11. The engine must be stopped if leaving the machine unattended.
12. If the equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company

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

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. 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. Ensure that the area is clear and safe and that there is no one nearby who could cause a distraction.
4. Other people should be protected from the noise, and from injury. They should be warned to keep away, put up warning sign or barriers around the work area.
5. The vibrating roller may damage pipes or cables laid just below the surface.
6. This roller should not be used on slopes where it may be difficult to control. Contact the hire company for a machine to do this if required.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever this machine is being used. 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) – appropriate ear muffs or plugs must be worn, giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
3. Safety boots must be worn (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
4. Ensure that no loose or flapping clothing or long hair could get caught in the roller.
5. Anyone working nearby will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
6. This roller should not be driven on the public highway under its own power unless registration, licensing and insurance regulations are complied with.

If in any doubt, check with the hire company.

CONTROLS

1. This section describes the controls found on most vibrating rollers. Check your machine to find the controls before you try to start it.
2. The engine STOP switch will be mounted on the engine unit, or on the steering arm. It may be labeled RUN/STOP. Use this control to stop the engine completely.
3. The throttle lever will be mounted on the steering arm by the hand controls. It will have a position for IDLE and another position for RUN. The throttle should be in the idle position before starting, but it will be needed to be moved to the run position to drive the roller backwards or forwards.
4. On some machines, the throttle also controls the vibration action, with a third position for VIBRATION. Other machines may have a separate control to switch the vibration on.
5. Forward and reverse movement of the roller is controlled by the two levers by the handlebars. To drive the machine forwards the FORWARD lever should be pulled in. When the lever is released, the machine will stop moving. The REVERSE lever should be used to drive backwards.

VIBRATING ROLLER

1. Check the machine, engine and all equipment. Anything found to be damaged should not be used – contact the hire company.
2. Check that the steering arm is at a suitable height, and that the steering arm lock has been locked after any adjustment.
3. The roller may have a water sprinkler system to help prevent the compacted surface sticking to the drum. The water tank should be topped up before work commences. If the roller does have a water tank make sure it is clear which is the water tank and which is the petrol tank.
4. Hands should be warm before starting work, and gloves should be worn whilst working – vibration from using this vibrating roller can be hazardous.
5. All of the controls must be understood. Before starting the machine it must be understood how to stop it
6. This roller should not be driven on the public highway under its own power unless registration, licensing and insurance regulations are complied with.

REFUELLING

1. No smoking.
2. The engine should be stopped and allowed to cool down.
3. If possible the machine should be moved away from the work area.
4. Ensure that it is clear which the petrol tank is as the machine may also have a water tank.
5. The filter cap and the area around it should be cleaned to prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
6. A funnel should be used and clean petrol when refuelling. Do not spill any fuel on anyone or the machine.
7. Any fuel should be wiped from the machine. The fuel soaked cloth should be disposed of carefully.
8. If any fuel is spilled on the ground it should be wiped up or covered with soil.
9. If any fuel is spilled on clothes they must be changed straight away.
10. All fuel caps should be put back on properly, and the fuel can moved to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE ENGINE STARTING FROM COLD

1. This section describes the starting procedure for most petrol engine vibrating rollers. If the hire company has provided special instructions, follow them. Otherwise follow the instructions given below.
2. The engine may have a low oil warning system that will prevent the engine starting if the oil level is too low, or if the machine is on too great a slope. Check the oil level before starting the engine.
3. Open the fuel valve by the fuel tank and open the fuel tank vent if the machine has one, on the fuel filler cap.

(continued overleaf...)