Once the engine has built up speed, pivot the grinder toward the side of the stump, with a fairly light touch feed straight into the stump. As soon as you feed in, start to swing to the side until you feel the wheel drop off the edge of the stump. Change direction and swing back the other way until you feel it reach the other edge of the stump. As you swing to the side listen to the engine. Provide enough feed to give it a moderate load. If you hear any belt or clutch squealing you are pushing too hard. If you can't swing it to the side, raise the grinder up.

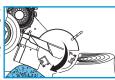
#### **WARNING**

Keep hands and feet away. Contact with wheel rotating teeth will cause serious personal injury.

You can cut roots off by plunging straight through them.

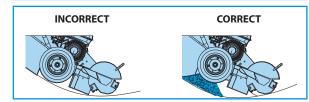
When grinding larger stumps, chips may begin to build up under the wheels.

Release brake and pull machine towards you so that the "chip pile" is directly under the cutting wheel.



#### WARNING

Stones, chips, and debris can cause serious injury or property damage. Debris can be ejected up to 20mtrs in any direction.



On these larger stumps, do not allow grinder wheels to drop into stump hole. If a hole is in the way of your progress, fill it with chips or change position.

When finished, stop the machine.

Pull machine away from stump, and rake chips away from stump.

#### **STOPPING ENGINE**

While holding blade off ground, release the operator presence bar. The engine will stop. Wait until the blade completely stops. Lower the blade so it is resting against the ground.

Make sure brake is set before leaving the controls, particularly if you are on an incline.

Turn engine switch to OFF position.

Allow the engine to cool for at least 5 minutes before releasing brake and moving for storage or transporting. A hot engine can be a fire hazard.

## PRE-OPERATION CHECKLIST All guards are in place and tight Operator presence bar switch is free moving Inspect tyres and rims for looseness, damage, and tyre inflation Check the condition of the machine. No signs of damage, excessive wear and there are no missing parts Check there is enough fuel for your work Check the oil level using the dipstick (add oil as needed) Inspect fuel system and check for leaks before starting the machine. Clear the area of work. Remove any stones near the tree stump or roots that may interfere with your work.

## **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 equipment for the job. Contact HSS Hire for advice.

Keep the engine upright at all times. If it should get tipped over, mop up any oil or fuel spillage and contact HSS Hire for advice. Regularly check the fuel level and top up as required using the correct fuel: lead free petrol.

Check the engine oil level daily. Top up as required.

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.

When not in use, store the equipment somewhere clean, dry and secure.

## **FINISHING OFF**

Turn the engine switch to the OFF position and close the fuel tap.

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

Let engine cool for at least five minutes before storing.



#### ... have you been trained

The law requires that personnel using this type of equipment in the workplace must be competent and qualified to do so. Training is available at HSS Training 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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Operating & Safety Guide 964

964/01

# Portable Stump Grind∈r

A petrol engined machine for the rapid reduction of unwanted tree stumps.



Code 62844

### **GENERAL SAFETY**

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

Never use this equipment if you are ill, feeling tired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Wear practical, protective clothing, gloves and footwear. Avoid loose garments and jewellery that could catch in moving parts, tie back long hair.

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.

This equipment is heavy. Never attempt to lift it on your own, always get help.

Always switch OFF the equipment when not in use.

Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated, if in doubt, ask about lighting and ventilation equipment at HSS Hire.

Do not work near flammable gases or liquids, petrol or paint thinner fumes for example. Keep combustible materials at a safe distance - at least 5m.

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

Never leave the unit running and unattended.

Do not remove any safety guards that are fitted.

Never interfere with any control settings on the engine Always switch the engine off and wait for moving parts to come to rest before making adjustments to it.

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.

#### **EXHAUST DANGER**

**NEVER** operate petrol engines indoors or in a confined space. The exhaust contains gases that can kill.

Make sure that everyone is warned of what you are **doing.** Survey the area of work and ensure that there are no stones or any other objects near the tree stump or roots that may interfere with your work. Also check there

are no hidden services like electric cables, soil pipes etc. If in doubt, use a cable avoiding tool available from HSS

Check the condition of the equipment before use. If the machine shows signs of damage, excessive wear or there are components missing, contact HSS Hire.

## **FUEL SAFETY**

Never refuel while the engine is hot or running. Never smoke or allow naked flames into the area while refuelling. Never inhale fuel vapour.

In case of petrol spillage move the machine away from the area of spillage. Always mop up 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.

Avoiding static electricity. Static electricity can initiate from ungrounded gasoline tanks or containers, from flowing gasoline, and from persons carrying a static electric charge.

Avoid static electricity by using a portable container made of metal or conductive plastic. It will dissipate the charge to ground more readily.

Fill container on the ground. Never fill the container while it is inside a vehicle or on the vehicle bed. Always place container on the ground to be filled.

Always dissipate static charge from your body before beginning the fueling process by touching a grounded

metal object at a safe distance away from fuel sources.

Keep fuel dispenser nozzle in contact with the portable container at all times while filling at a service station.

Never fill the grinder's gas tank directly from the service station's fuel dispenser pump - the grinder's tank is not grounded and the high velocity flow of gasoline from a fuel pump can cause static electric build-up.

## **GETTING STARTED**

The HSS Portable Stump Grinder is designed for removing tree stumps and exposed root systems close to ground level.

Never use the The HSS Portable Stump Grinder until you have fully read and understood this User Guide and the machine has been properly set up using the information it contains.

Always inspect the machine before using it (refer to Pre-operation Checklist). Check there are no missing parts and machine is good condition. Inspect the tvres and rims for looseness. Ensure there is enough fuel for your work and the oil level is adequate (check dipstick).

When needed top up oil, using a funnel, add oil up to the FULL mark on the dipstick with the recommended oil type for this engine.



#### WARNING

Never open oil fill port while engine is running. Hot oil can spray over face and body.

Before using the machine check the area where the work is going to be carried out. Clear the area of everything that could get in the **grinder's way** – stones, metal objects etc.





Prepare the machine by locking the handle bar in the upright position. To do it, position T-handle knob and eyebolt so it is on the back side of the hinge bracket, then tighten T-handle knob finger tight. Repeat on other side. To fold it back, turn T-handle knob

counterclockwise to loosen. Swing knob and evebolt to the outside, on both sides of handle. Carefully fold handle downward until it comes in contact with the rubber stops.

Now place stump grinder into position with cutting wheel near the front-top edge of the stump. Use brake lever on handle to lock the wheel brake.



Turn Fuel to ON position by pushing the bottom knob towards right.

If this is first use of the day then switch the choke to the ON position by moving the upper knob towards left.

Turn engine switch to the ON **position** by moving the upper knob

position and grip operator presence bar and handle bar together in left hand.

Grip the engine pull lead handle and pull gently until you feel the "bite", then pull on the lead sharply to overcome the pressure, prevent kickback and switch on the engine.



Repeat the procedure, if necessary, with the throttle lever in **intermediate** position. Once the engine is running, return the throttle lever to idle position and gently release the choke lever.

#### **FUEL HAZARD**

A leaking fuel line no matter how small can be the source of a fire or explosion when starting or operating the engine.

## **BASIC TECHNIQUES**

Position the unit with the cutting head just clear of the stump.

#### **WARNING**

Stay in the OPERATOR POSITION (behind the machine) while actuating controls. Never leave grinder unattended.

Facing controls press down on handle bar to lift cutter wheel off the ground. Grip throttle control lever and handle bar together in right hand. Centrifugal clutch will engage and cutter wheel will begin to rotate.

