



## Hedge Trimmer

### **Safety Precautions**

Hedge trimmers are powerful, professional-grade tools designed to cut through bushes, hedges, shrubs, and other woody growth.

When used properly, these hedge trimmers save time, reduce effort, and make difficult landscaping tasks easy.

If handled carelessly or used improperly, these powerful cutting tools can cause severe injury or death.

#### **Before using, you must:**

- Ensure all users read and understand these Safety Instructions
- Read and understand the Operating Instructions
- Wear appropriate protective equipment
- Create an exclusion zone around the work area
- Clear the work area of debris and other work hazards
- Make sure you have safe, unobstructed footing
- Make sure the material to be cut is free of hidden hazards
- Safely prepare the fuel/oil mix
- Fuel your unit safely
- Store the fuel container safely

**DO NOT** operate while impaired by alcohol, medication, or any other substances or conditions which may affect your judgment, reflexes, vision, or coordination as this may result in serious personal injury or death to yourself and others.

#### **Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)**

It is recommended to users wear the following:

- Eye and Face Protection Wear eye protection that meets ANSI Z87.1 requirements. For additional safety, a full-face shield may be worn over safety goggles to provide protection from sharp branches or flying debris. A mask is also recommended to prevent inhalation of dust, plant debris and pollens.
- Hearing/Ear protection
- Sturdy gloves to provide protection against cuts and scratches.
- Steel toed non-slip work boots
- Long pants
- Long sleeved shirt

Keep body parts and all loose clothing, hair, jewelry, etc. clear of all moving parts, blades (even when engine is off and blades are not moving) and air intake.



Work gloves and other heavy work clothing may not provide protection against serious injury if contact is made with moving blades.

Always move ignition switch to STOP position, allow blades to stop moving, and disconnect spark plug lead from spark plug before clearing jams or making blade adjustments

**DO NOT** refuel, start, or operate your unit without all guards and shields in place, or without all protective devices such as throttle lock-out levers working properly.

#### **Prior to starting**

- Make sure all required hardware has been used and is properly tightened.
- Make sure throttle lock-out lever resets when released.
- Make sure throttle trigger returns to normal position when released.
- Make sure stop switch functions properly

**BLADE COVER** The hedge trimmer blades are covered by a removable protective cover to prevent accidental contact with sharp edges. Keep the protective cover on the blades until you are ready to operate the hedge trimmer.

Place the blade cover over the blades after cutting is completed, and keep the blade cover on the blades when carrying, transporting, or storing the unit.

Accidental contact with blades can cause serious injury. Avoid ALL bodily contact with cutting edges.

#### **Explosion/Fire/Burn Hazard**

Petrol is extremely flammable. Vapors are explosive.

Keep at least 50 feet (15 m) away from heat, sparks, open flame, smoking materials, static electricity, and all other sources of ignition when fueling unit.

Petrol vapor is heavier than air, and can travel along the ground to nearby sources of ignition such as electrical motors, pilot lights, and hot or running engines.

Vapors ignited by an ignition source can flash back to the fuel container, resulting in an explosion, fire, serious or fatal injuries, and extensive property damage.

#### **Follow these important safety precautions to minimize risk of explosion or fire:**

- ALWAYS use an approved fuel container with tight-fitting caps.
- ALWAYS follow posted safety instructions for filling fuel containers at filling stations.
- ALWAYS place container to be filled with petrol on the ground to prevent static buildup during filling. Do not fill container on vehicle bed or in trunk of car
- ALWAYS keep the metal filling pump nozzle in contact with the fuel container while dispensing fuel to prevent buildup and discharge of static electricity.
- NEVER smoke near fuel.



- NEVER allow flames or sparks near fuel.
- ALWAYS loosen fuel caps slowly to allow pressure in tanks and containers to escape
- ALWAYS use extreme care when mixing, storing, or handling fuel.
- NEVER remove tank cap or refuel a unit while the engine is hot or running
- NEVER fill fuel tanks indoors - ALWAYS fill fuel tanks outdoors over open ground.
- DO NOT overfill fuel tank - ALWAYS allow room in tank for expansion. Fill tank no more than 95 percent full, or to "Safe Fill Line" if marked on container.
- Open Fuel Cap Slowly
- ALWAYS close fuel container immediately after refueling and tighten cap securely
- ALWAYS wipe up spills immediately, and dispose of fuel soaked wipes safely.
- Use a fireproof container designed for safe disposal.
- IMMEDIATELY change clothes if fuel spills on clothing. Wet clothes down with water first to minimize fire risk.
- ALWAYS check fuel system for leaks before using unit - NEVER start or operate a unit with leaks.
- ALWAYS move at least 3 m (10 ft.) away from refueling location before starting engine.
- STOP USING UNIT IMMEDIATELY and shut engine ignition off if you smell the strong odor of petrol
- Set unit down in a safe location, and allow to cool before checking for leaks.
- ALWAYS store fuel containers in a well ventilated, unoccupied building, away from heat, sparks, open flames, and other sources of ignition.