

Risk Assessment Summary Sheet

Ref. 056

Activity/Workplace; Use of Hedge Trimmer

Risk Assessment						Hazard of Activity: Use of Hedge Trimmer				
Hazard	Risk	Risk Group	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating before controls	CONTROL MEASURES	Responsible Person	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating after controls
Contact with cutting Blades and/or moving parts	Cuts, lacerations, amputation	Operator, other persons in the vicinity and General public	3	4	12	<p>All equipment must be visually inspected before each use and maintained at regular intervals (as outlined in manufacturers recommendations), this will ensure noise & vibration level are kept to a minimum.</p> <p>Damaged/defective equipment must be taken out of service and labelled "DO NOT USE" until repaired. Consult manufacturers manual and be familiar with all machine controls and in emergency stops</p> <p>Never place hands in vicinity of cutting blades or moving parts, switch off power and isolate machine (remove Spark plug connection) before attempting to unblock cutting blades.</p> <p>Never over reach while using machine. Always maintain secure footing and a well balanced stance. Care must be taken on slippery/wet surfaces or grass or on sloping ground. Where working at height is required correct platforms must be used, with fall protection measures in place. Never wear loose or baggy clothing.</p> <p>Always wear correct PPE including eye protection, face shields, hearing protection, safety footwear and hard hat.</p> <p>Always check grassed area to be cut before work commences and remove any objects that may block or entangle in the cutting blades or may become airborne during cutting, i.e. wires, cables, litter, drink cans or bottles etc.</p>	operator /supervisor	1	3	3
Flying particles – debris, fragments, dog excrement	Facial or eye injuries to operator or others in the vicinity		3	4	12			1	3	3
Contact with cables, posts or wires hidden in grass	Entanglement of blades, flying particles		3	4	12			1	3	3
Blockages/ entanglement of objects in cutting blades or moving parts	Operator coming in contact with cutting blades causing injury		3	4	12			1	3	3
Excessive Noise	Hearing damage/ disturbance to others		3	3	9			1	2	2
Excessive Vibration	Operator exposed to risk of HAVS		3	3	9			1	2	2
Operator wearing loose clothing	Entanglement or drawing in of operator into moving parts causing serious injury		3	4	12			1	3	3

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Defective Equipment	Operator exposed to risk of injury		3	4	12	Erect signage and exclusion zone to prevent other person entering the work area and being exposed to the risks associated with the work activities. Never leave machines unattended. Switch off when not in use and during refuelling. Do not smoke during refuelling operation and ensure fuel is stored correctly. Exhaust gasses are poisonous. Run your trimmers only in well-ventilated areas. Ensure exhaust gasses are directed away from you.		1	3	3
Manual Handling –poor posture	Muscle strains and sprains		3	3	9			1	2	2
Working in public areas	Members of the public exposed to risks		3	3	9			2	2	4
Refuelling of machine	Fire- explosion- burns, serious injury		2	4	8			1	3	3