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

Redistributed under licence from HAE by Alliance Tool Hire Ltd. Licence expires on 31/01/2024

0307 Safety Guidance
110/230V v:032017

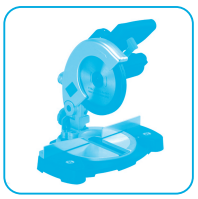
ALLIANCE TOOL HIRE of course!

Mitre Saw

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 all of this leaflet

BEFORE you use the Mitre Saw



1. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
2. This mitre saw is designed to cut through wood and for cutting some joints in wood. It is not designed for any other purpose. Do not use it for cutting anything that may contain asbestos.
3. The action of this mitre saw can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
4. If you have not used a mitre saw before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
5. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles: EN166 or BS2092; dust mask - a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection; Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972; industrial quality gloves; residual-current device (RCD) if using a 230 volt (mains) supply.
7. A personal first-aid kit should be available.
8. This mitre saw must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
9. This mitre saw is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.
10. Although mitre saws are designed for one person operation you should always be careful you do not lift beyond your own capabilities.

Every effort has been made by HAE/EHA to ensure that the information given in this document and supporting material is accurate and not misleading. HAE/EHA cannot accept responsibility for any loss or liability perceived to have arisen from the use of any such document/material. Only Acts of Parliament and Statutory Instruments have the force of law and only the courts can authoritatively interpret the law.

Using the Mitre Saw

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders, dust mask and goggles.
2. When you have set up the mitre saw on your bench, switch on and check that it runs properly.
3. Ensure the cable is well clear of the blade.
4. Switch off and let the blade stop before you place your work piece in the correct position against the backrest and tighten the clamp.
5. Let the blade run up to full speed before pulling the saw carefully onto the clamped piece of wood to be cut.
6. If the saw starts to labour and slow down, reduce the amount of pressure you apply. Do not overload the saw.
7. Switch off if someone approaches you.
8. Switch off and unplug before making any adjustments.
9. When the cut is complete, switch off the saw and allow it to stop before removing the wood.
10. When the blade has stopped, remove any chips or other cut pieces of wood.
11. If you think the cable may be cut or damaged in any way, switch off and unplug at the socket before inspecting it.
12. If the cable attached to the mitre saw is damaged, stop using the machine. Contact the hire company. If an extension cable has been damaged, do not use it again.
13. Take care not to accidentally pull the plug from the socket.
14. Switch off and remove the plug from the socket before leaving the mitre saw unattended.
15. If your equipment does not work properly, do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
16. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.

v:032017

Hire Association Europe
2450 Regents Court
The Crescent
Birmingham Business Park
Solihull B37 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109
Email: mail@hae.org.uk
website: www.hae.org.uk

Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this mitre saw where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
3. Protect other people from the dust. Set up an exclusion zone around the area where the mitre saw is being used with physical barriers, barrier tape and signs. Keep children and animals away when using this equipment.
4. Work should stop immediately should anyone, other than those directly assisting with the work, enter the exclusion zone.
5. Clear the area of trip hazards such as rubble, rubbish etc.
6. Do not use this saw in the rain or where it might get wet.

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 will need to wear an appropriate dust mask (with a minimum of EN149:2001FFP3 protection) when you are in contact with material that causes dust.
3. You must wear safety boots (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
4. You must wear industrial quality gloves.
5. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear identical personal protective equipment.

MITRE SAW

1. Check your machine, cables, plugs, and blades. If anything is found damaged, do not use the mitre saw - contact the hire company.
2. Check that the plug on your mitre saw matches your supply. Do not try to force connections or improvise them.
3. Mitre saws with a cylindrical yellow industrial plug fitted are designed to run off an 110v supply. The hire company will have provided a portable transformer if you need to power the machine from a normal mains 230v supply. If a portable transformer has been supplied, take care not to injure yourself when moving it about - it may be heavier than you think. Mitre saws designed to run directly from 230v mains will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug.
4. Make sure that the saw is switched off before you plug it into the supply.
5. Keep the cable away from the blade.
6. Always switch off and wait for the blade to stop before you change or adjust the wood you are cutting.
7. Check on how the on/off switch operates before you switch the mitre saw.

BLADES

1. Switch off and remove the plug from the socket before making adjustments or changing the blade.
2. Make sure you use the correct type of blade recommended by the hire company, and that it is fitted correctly.
3. Make sure that the guard is in place and that it slides back to cover the blade when the saw is not in use.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Your machine will only operate on one voltage: it will be 110v or 230v.

110v machines will have a yellow industrial plug fitted. 230v machines will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug. Read the instructions below for your machine.

110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)

1. If you are using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the 230 volt socket. Do not use any 230v extension cables.
2. If you need to use an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company has not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty 110v extension cable, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). You must only use an extension cable between the transformer and the machine.
3. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
4. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

230 VOLT MACHINES (SQUARE PIN OR BLUE PLUG)

1. Use a residual current device (RCD) plugged directly in to the 230volt socket. Plug your machine into the RCD. This will help to protect you against electric shock if the cable or machine gets damaged.
2. Use the "TEST" button to check that the RCD is working each time you use it. Reset the RCD according to the instructions supplied with it.
3. If you need to use an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company has not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty one, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the RCD.
4. Lay it out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

Summary:

110V: Wall socket > transformer > any necessary extension cable > mitre saw.

230v: Wall socket > RCD > any necessary extension cable > mitre saw.

Hire Association Europe
2450 Regents Court
The Crescent
Birmingham Business Park
Solihull B37 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109
Email: mail@hae.org.uk
website: www.hae.org.uk

Any unauthorised reproduction – manually or electronically – is STRICTLY prohibited

©Copyright Hire Association Europe April 2011

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