

BASIC TECHNIQUES

Grip the tool firmly with both hands and select the appropriate speed for the job. In general, use a high speed for soft materials and a slow speed for hard ones.

Some models have a sliding switch speed selector which can be set to either “high” or “low”. **Others have a lettered selector dial** on the ON/OFF trigger. Simply turn this until the chosen letter is at the top – “A” is slow, “E” is fast.

If possible, **drape the tool's flex over one shoulder** to keep it clear of the blade.

To start a cut away from the edge of the workpiece, simply drill a hole large enough to take the saw blade in the waste material. You can then saw out from this hole in the normal way.

Now, with the blade clear of the work, switch ON.

SAWING BRANCHES

When using the all-purpose saw to lop off tree branches, always begin by making a small cut on the underside. If you now cut down towards this, you will find the branch comes away far more cleanly than otherwise. **But take care. Always work from a stable platform, and avoid over-stretching – you could lose your balance.**

Now begin your cut, keeping the saw's sole plate in contact with the work at all times (take care if cutting corrugated materials). Apply just enough pressure to ensure reasonable progress.

Take special care when cutting curves and angles. Never force the saw to turn. Let it work round the corner at its own pace.

Ensure the off-cut has adequate support. It is then less likely to jam the saw blade in the cut.

When you have finished, simply withdraw the saw from the workpiece, with the motor running, **then release the ON/OFF trigger.**

In a jam

If the saw blade jams in the work, release the ON/OFF trigger immediately and unplug the tool.

In most cases you can now work the blade free quite easily. However, if a lot of force is needed, undo the blade from the saw and grip the blade with a pair of pliers rather than using the tool body as a lever.

Once the blade is free, give the off-cut more support, it is then less likely to trap the blade in future.

EQUIPMENT CARE

Never push the equipment beyond its design limits. If it will not do what you want with reasonable ease, assume you have the wrong tool for the job. Ask at your local HSS Hire Shop for advice.

Keep the equipment clean, (especially the motor's ventilation slots). You will find this less of a chore if you do it regularly rather than wait until the end of the hire period.

Avoid working the tool continuously for long periods. From time to time, run it with the blade clear of the work for a little while to let it cool.

If using the All Purpose Saw to cut small branches, the blade may become blunt only at the motor end. To utilise all the blades teeth, move the sole plate out so that the branches can be cut with the remaining sharp teeth. To do this, **unplug the machine, loosen the 2 hex bolts, slide the sole plate out and re-tighten.**

If cutting through timber that contains old nails, screws and so on, use an all-purpose blade. Even so, take care: the saw may behave unpredictably.

When not in use, store the equipment somewhere clean, dry and safe from thieves.

FINISHING OFF

Release the ON/OFF trigger, unplug the saw and remove the saw blade (simply reverse the fitting procedure explained in GETTING STARTED).

Clean the tool up as far as possible, paying special attention to the motor's ventilation slots.

Finally, **neatly coil the flex** before returning the saw to your local HSS Hire Shop.



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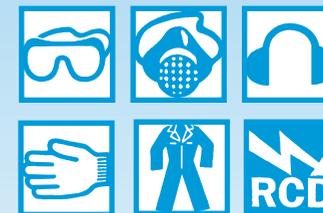
Operating & Safety Guide 721

HSS Hire Shops



Reciprocating Saw's

Reciprocating saw: a heavy-duty saw capable of cutting shapes and angles in wood, metal or plastic.
All-purpose saw: a lightweight saw for cutting branches in the garden or cutting wood, metal and plastic in the workshop.



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GENERAL SAFETY

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact your local HSS Hire Shop.

Keep children, animals and bystanders away from the work area.

Never use this equipment if you are ill, feeling tired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

This equipment should only be used by a competent person who has read and understood these instructions.

There is a serious risk of personal injury if you do not follow all instructions laid down in this guide.



Safety Goggles MUST be worn by everyone in the work area.



Some materials when cut contain substances which, when inhaled, can be harmful to health. A suitable mask must be worn when using this equipment.



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.



Wear practical, protective clothing, gloves and footwear. Avoid loose garments and jewellery that could catch in moving parts, tie back long hair.

Always unplug the tool before carrying it or making adjustments to it.

Having switched OFF the tool, always wait for the blade to come to rest before putting it down.

NEVER start the saw with the blade in contact with the workpiece.

Think twice before locking the ON/OFF trigger in the ON position using any trigger lock button fitted.

Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated. Do not work near flammable gases or liquids.

Always switch OFF and unplug the equipment when not in use. Never leave it switched ON and unattended.

Never carry or pull the equipment by its flex.

Never remove or otherwise interfere with any safety guards fitted to the saw.

Never use the saw to cut asbestos sheeting, nor any other material which may be hazardous to health.

Take care when changing or fitting blades – they are sharp.

Information on COSHH regulations is available from your local HSS Hire Shop.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Most HSS Reciprocating Saws plug into a standard 13amp power socket. However, 110V models (with a round yellow plug) must be provided with a suitable 110V generated supply, or powered from the mains via a suitable 110V transformer.

If the equipment fails, or if its flex or plug gets damaged, return it. Never try to repair it yourself.

Keep flexes out of harm's way, and clear of the work area.

Extension leads should be fully unwound and loosely coiled, away from the equipment. Never run them through water, over sharp edges or where they could trip someone.

Using electrical equipment in very damp or wet conditions can be dangerous.

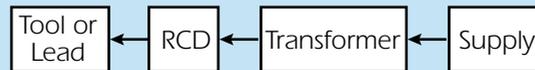


To reduce the risk of electric shock, use a suitable RCD (Residual Current-Operated Device) available from your local HSS Hire Shop, or power 240V (not 110V) equipment from a power circuit with a built-in RCD.

Siting an RCD

When used with a transformer an RCD will only protect the user if fitted between the transformer and the tool being used.

An RCD fitted between the power supply and the transformer only protects up to the transformer.



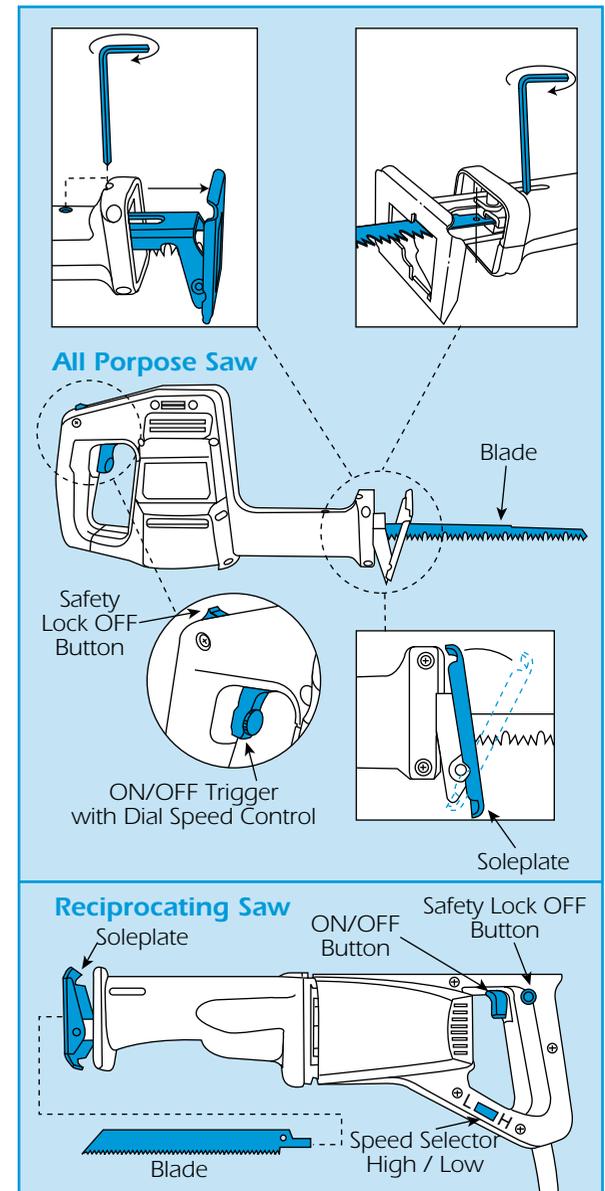
Ensure the Saw and power socket are switched OFF before plugging into the power supply.

GETTING STARTED

Fit the saw with the appropriate blade for the job. There are three basic types: one for metal, one for lopping tree branches, and an all purpose blade for wood, metal and plastic. If in doubt, contact your local HSS Hire Shop for advice.

With the saw unplugged, open its jaws by loosening the small hexbolt with the key provided (on some models it is stored in the tool body), slide in the new saw blade, locate the hole in the blade over the pin, then re-tighten the hex bolt.

Always double-check that the blade is firmly in place, before attempting to use the saw.



Where appropriate, you should now grip the work in a suitable vice, making sure that the saw blade will not be obstructed. If cutting sheet materials, ensure the sheet is adequately supported as well as held firmly in place.

All that now remains is to plug the saw into its power supply and prepare to switch ON.

To switch ON firstly push in, or move forward the safety lock button, then squeeze the ON / OFF trigger. To switch OFF simply release the trigger.