

# Safe Operating Procedure Petrol Blower

www.rapidhire.net.au

We are located at:  
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The instructions recommended within this document apply to normal risk conditions. If the Petrol Blower is to be operated in a dangerous or hostile environment, the user/client is responsible for conducting an appropriate risk analysis and applying suitable controls to mitigate those additional risks.

This instruction should be read in conjunction with the Risk Assessment procedure for the Petrol Blower.

## Safety risks:

- Flying Debris
- Dust
- Noise
- Vibration

**WARNING: Do not wear loose fitted clothing or jewellery and ensure long hair is contained**

**You must wear this personal protective equipment when doing this task:**

**Sun protection must be worn including sunscreen and a wide brim hat.**



## Pre-Operational Check:

- ✓ Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls.
- ✓ Check for loose/ missing nuts, bolts and screws. Tighten and/or replace as needed.
- ✓ Inspect fuel lines, tank and area around carburettor for fuel leaks. Do not operate if leaks are found.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional.
- ✓ Identify ON/OFF switch and emergency stop button.
- ✓ Ensure all other employees are clear of the immediate work area.

## Safe Operation:

1. Ensure that no person or animal is endangered when operating equipment.
2. When you start up the machine, listen for unusual noises or vibrations.
3. When starting, stand the blower upright on a level surface. Check that the blower pipe is not blocked by the ground or by any objects.
4. Allow the blower to warm up at fast idle for a few minutes before using.
5. Keep a firm grip. Hold handle with fingers together encircling handle. Maintain a straight wrist position. Avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisted position.
6. Make sure the muffler side of the engine is away from your body to avoid burns.
7. Maintain a proper balance and secure footing. Do not work on slippery, uneven or unstable surfaces. Do not work in off positions or on ladders.
8. Take wind conditions into account. Avoid open doors and windows.
9. Minimise dust by using blower at lower speed.
10. Always keep exhaust area clear of flammable debris.
11. Disconnect spark plug wire before you work on the unit or leave unattended.

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12. Allow the engine and muffler to completely cool before refueling or performing any maintenance work.

13. Ensure good housekeeping practices are in place to minimize waste build-up.

## **Storage & Maintenance:**

1. Turn off the fuel supply and disconnect spark plug when work completed.
2. Remove any foreign material from in and around engine.
3. Allow to cool down before packing away.

# Petrol Blower Risk Assessment

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Likely Risk Issue	Who/ What may be harmed? (Specific Persons)	What is the Rate Level? (Rate risk as Low, Medium or High)	What Risk Control Actions Needs to Be Taken? (What needs to be considered so that the risks are identified and effectively controlled)	Time Frame
Impact & Cutting Injuries	Participants Operators Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S) – 2 Likelihood of Risk (L) – 1 Overall Risk (S x L) = 2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure clothing, gloves, hair or other such items are kept clear of blower</li> <li>• Ensure to keep clear of flying debris</li> </ul>	Each hire
Noise & Vibration	Participants Operators Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S) - 1 Likelihood of Risk (L) - 2 Overall Risk ( S x L) = 2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure adequate hearing protection is worn</li> <li>• Take regular breaks from continuous operation</li> <li>• Conduct periodic maintenance to ensure smoother operation and less vibration</li> </ul>	Each hire
Fire, Heat, Burns, explosion	Participants Operators Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S) - 1 Likelihood of Risk (L) - 2 Overall Risk ( S x L) = 2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure equipment is maintained and in good condition before use DO NOT USE FAULTY EQUIPMENT. REPORT IMMEDIATELY</li> <li>• Use equipment as per manufacturers recommendations</li> <li>• No naked flames in work area</li> <li>• Ensure blower is in a well-ventilated area to prevent inhaling vapours or fumes</li> <li>• Take caution when fuelling, clean up spills</li> <li>• Allow blower to cool down before re-fuelling or packing away</li> <li>• Put blower in a suitable location for safe operation and away from obstruction</li> <li>• Never run the equipment in excess</li> <li>• Wear correct PPE</li> </ul>	Each hire
Slips, Trips and falls	Participants Operators Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S) - 1 Likelihood of Risk (L) - 2 Overall Risk (S x L) = 3 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear appropriate footwear</li> <li>• Ensure appropriate cleaning and housekeeping practices are maintained to minimise the risk of slips, trips and falls</li> </ul>	Each hire

## Calculation of Risk Evaluation

**Severity of Risk (S)** is judged by evaluating the effects of the hazard if the risk occurs. This is evaluated as Minor = 1, Major = 2, Serious = 3

**Risk Likelihood (L)** - The likelihood of the harm occurring is evaluated on the basis of: Unlikely =1, Possible = 2, Likely = 3

**Overall Risk** is calculated by multiplying the figure for Severity (S) and Likelihood (L).

The overall risk figure calculated is related to the Risk Level of either Low: 1 to 3; Medium: 4 to 6 or High: 7 to 9

**NB** This is a generic risk assessment only. It is advisable to carry out a site-specific assessment prior to using this equipment.