

- 17 On bumpy or stony ground raise the cutting height of the blades to reduce the risk of stones being ejected from the machine.
- 18 If the blade hits a large and immovable object, reverse the machine immediately, stop the engine, and wait for the cutting blades to stop rotating and inspect for damage, and inform the Hire Company.
- 19 When inspecting the underside of the machine, stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug (or isolate the electric power). Be careful not to tip the machine too far causing petrol to spill on the exhaust (petrol engined machines).
- 20 **DO NOT** push the machine over gravel, concrete or tarmac with the motor running.
- 21 **DO NOT** pick up and carry the machine with the motor running.
- 22 After stopping the motor allow time for the cutting blades to stop rotating (if the machine is **NOT** fitted with an automatic brake).
- 23 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

CYLINDER MOWERS POWERED BY ELECTRIC

- 24 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The cylindrical mower will be either 110V or 230V.
- 25 The use of a low voltage machine at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 26 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 27 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.

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When using a 230V machine the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:

- a) Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the chasing machine and its power cable.
 - b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
 - c) Pass the power cable over the shoulder to keep it clear of the blade and position the rest where it is less likely to be damaged.
 - d) The tools, cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:
 - **CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
 - Make sure that cables are not damaged and are free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)
 - **CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
 - **ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
 - **CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or equipment. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
 - **CHECK** the outer casing of the chasing machine for damage and **CHECK** for loose or missing parts or screws
 - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
 - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.
- 29 A cylindrical mower using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 28(d) above.
- 30 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 31 If the automatic cut-out operates, allow the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 32 **DO NOT** use the machine in damp, wet or flammable conditions.
- 33 **DO NOT** carry the machine with the finger on the operating control.
- 34 **DO NOT** carry the machine by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 35 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the machine.

CYLINDRICAL MOWER POWERED BY PETROL

- 36 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 37 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 38 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 39 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 40 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material on the exhaust system. The exhaust and silencer get very hot.
- 41 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.
- 42 When noise levels are uncomfortably high at 85-89 dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 43 At still higher noise levels, when it is necessary to should to be heard, (90 dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.