

● Operation

Refuelling

- Take care when refuelling.
- Never refuel whilst the engine is running.
- Do not inhale fuel fumes.
- Shut down any auxiliary equipment.
- Do not refuel in closed rooms.
- Do not refuel next to open fires.
- Do not smoke when refuelling.
- Do not spill fuel.
- Catch any over filled escaping fuel.
- Clean any fuel spillages immediately.
- Ensure the fuel tank cap is replaced after refuelling.
- Fuel leaks are dangerous, repair leaks immediately.

Parking

- Park the machine on firm level ground.
- Park the machine with the articulated joint straight.
- Return the travel lever to neutral.
- Apply the parking brake.
- Shut down the engine and remove the key.
- Lock the cabin.
- Secure the machine against unauthorised use.
- Always climb down from the machine using access steps and handrails.
- Always use three points of contact.
- NEVER jump from the machine.

Towing\Recovery

- The tow point is for recovery of the equipment in the event of breakdown.
- Towing with the backhoe loader should not be performed without reference to the Operators Manual.

Lifting with Back Actor

- A back actor can only be used for lifting purposes if it complies with LOLER regulations relating to lifting with back actor.
- Lifting should be carried out with a suitable risk assessment.
- Lifting accessories must be inspected according to LOLER guidance.
- For lifting operations on gradients ensure that you read the Operator's Manual.
- Do not allow any part of the machine to come within 9mtrs of electrical power lines on wooden poles or 15mtrs on metal poles.

! Please read these instructions before using this equipment.

We thoroughly check all of our equipment prior to despatch using comprehensive pre-hire checklists.

All equipment is serviced regularly and our local engineer will contact you to arrange on site servicing or maintenance in accordance with our scheduled maintenance programme.

PPE is required for the safe operation of this equipment. As a minimum we advise the following items.



Always ensure you wear the correct PPE required by the task.

Watch our safety videos

You can watch our safety videos on our website or app.



Your Essential Guide
Backhoe Loader (Inc. Air Master)

Further Information

Copies of this guide are available on our website or from your nearest depot.

Please contact your local depot for;

- Service or repairs
- Replacement operator manuals

Contact Us

0844 3722200 nixonhire.com

Your Safety Is Our Priority.

● General Information

These safety guidelines are intended as a guide for experienced operators.

- Detailed operating instructions relative to a specific make or model of equipment are available on request from your nearest depot.
- The operator manual and safety instructions must be read before operating this machine.
- The operator manual can be found in the designated storage compartment of the machine.
- If it is not there contact the nearest depot for a replacement.
- It is a criminal offence to smoke or allow smoking in this machine.
- Only use the machine for the purpose intended.
- Never attempt to modify or convert the machine.
- Only use competent, trained personnel to drive the machine.
- Do not ignore safety regulations relating to this machine.
- This machine must only be operated with fully functional safety equipment.
- Ensure you obey any age limitations relating to your site before using this machine.
- Always obey legislation relating to this equipment.
- Anyone with a disability should seek expert advice before operating this machine.
- Do not use this machine if under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- If using prescribed medication, seek advice from a Doctor before using this machine.
- All safety decals and signs must be in place and obeyed at all times when using this machine.
- Ensure the work area is clear and safe and that no one is nearby or could distract you.
- Before starting equipment, ensure all controls are understood, in particular the stop procedure.
- After use, store the equipment safely and securely away from minors.
- **Has a risk assessment been performed for the task you are to commence?**

● Daily Checks

The operator should carry out the following daily checks before operating this machine;

- Tyres:** Splits, cuts, pressures, tread.
- Wheel Nuts:** Tightness.
- Brakes:** Function, leaks.
- Safety Guards & Locking Pins:** Undamaged and correct pins.
- Seat:** Security, adjustment, comfort.
- Seat Belt:** Frayed, cuts, buckles damaged, loose mountings.
- Horn:** Operation.
- Controls:** Function correctly, are not slippery and are clear of debris.
- Steering:** Function, hydraulic leaks.
- Structure:** Condition of body and chassis.
- Fluid Levels:** Check prior to use and thereafter every four hours.

Check that the areas around pivot points, rams and linkages are free from mud, ice or debris.

Ensure that all safety decals are in place and can be read clearly.

● ROPS\FOPS

- Roll over Protection Falling Object Protection Systems (ROPS\FOPS) are integral to the cab structure if the equipment is fitted with a cab.
- Always check that there are no cracks, fractures, distortion, bends or corrosion on any part of the ROPS\FOPS system.
- ROPS should not rattle when the machine is driven. Have the ROPS checked if this occurs.
- All screw nuts and bolts should be correctly tightened and in good condition.
- No additional parts must be fitted to the ROPS system. Holes must not be drilled or any items welded to the structure.
- The ROPS should always be used when operating this machine.
- If the customer requires the machine to be used with the ROPS folded down then the customer must carry out a full risk assessment.

● Operation

- The rear cabin window is an emergency exit if required
- Only operate the machine from the operator's seat and wear a seat belt.
- Only use the machine if it is in service.
- Only use the machine when you are familiar with all controls and functions.
- Only use the machine on ground you are familiar with.
- Check to ensure the area is clear of persons and obstructions before operation.
- Check to ensure that handrails, steps and platforms are free from grease, oils, fuels, dirt, snow and ice.
- Check the engine compartment hood is closed and locked.
- Always use handrails and three point climb when accessing the machine.
- Check the machine for obvious defects.
- Check that all protective devices are in place.
- Check the steering, brakes, control elements, lighting and horn are all working.
- The seat is correctly adjusted (do not adjust while driving)
- The mirrors (if fitted) are clean and adjusted to suit the operator.
- Do not start the machine if any gauges, control lights or controls are defective.
- Do not take loose objects with you or fasten them to the machine.
- Ensure control levers are in neutral before starting the machine.
- When starting up the machine always make sure that there no one within the operating area
- Observe all safety instructions and warnings attached to the machine.
- Be aware of overhead power lines and underground services.
- Avoid any operation that might be a risk to machine stability.
- Extreme care should be taken when operating on or across any slope.
- Never leave the machine with the engine running.
- Never leave the machine unattended with the key in the ignition.
- Always check all gauges after starting.
- Exhaust gases are toxic and must be vented.
- Only start in enclosed rooms if sufficient supply of fresh air is available.
- Do not operate with persons in the endangered area of operation.
- Always give warning for persons to clear the area.
- Stop the machine if persons remain in the area.
- Only restart the machine if the danger has passed.

- Do not climb on or off the machine while driving.
- Always keep the cabin doors closed.
- Only change machine direction when the machine is standing.
- Never use the machine to transport passengers.
- Stop the machine immediately if you notice unusual noises or smoke from the machine.
- Do not restart until the cause is identified and rectified.
- Always keep sufficient distances from excavations and embankments.
- Make sure your work does not impair the stability of the machine.
- Do not drive up or down gradients which exceed the gradability of the machine.
- Always use lowest applicable gear and speed range for slope.
- Show caution when driving on wet or loose soils as ground adhesion is severely reduced.
- Match machine speed to working conditions.
- Use lights if fitted in times of poor visibility.

Specific Equipment — Air Master

- If warning lights show or if gauges register outside normal limits stop the compressor.
- Do not make adjustments when the compressor is running, other than where specifically instructed.
- Shut off the air cock at the compressor and release the pressure before disconnecting any tools or hoses.
- Compressed air can be dangerous.
- Do not use frayed, damaged or deteriorated hoses. Always store hoses properly and away from heat sources or direct sunlight. A hose failure can cause injury.
- Always ensure that couplings on hose and tools are compatible.
- Always use Whip Checks when connecting hoses to either a compressor or tools.
- When blowing through a hose or air line, ensure that the open end is held securely. A free end will whip and can cause injury. Open the supply air cock carefully and ensure that any ejected articles are restrained. A blocked hose can become a compressed air gun.
- If using compressed air for cleaning down equipment take care not to blow debris at yourself or other persons.
- Always use eye protection.
- Never apply compressed air to your skin or direct it at another person.
- Never use compressed air to blow dust and debris from your clothing.
- Do not use air directly from a compressor for breathing purposes.