



# JOB SAFETY ANALYSIS

## OPERATING A GAS POWERED HEDGE TRIMMER

TASK	HAZARDS	CONTROLS
1. Careful observation of surroundings	Flying objects; toxic fumes.	No bystanders should be in the area when trimmer is in use.
2. Wear proper PPE.	Clothing, jewelry, long hair could get caught in cutting blades.	Clothing should be sturdy and snug. Wrap long hair in net.
	Slipping on uneven ground, debris falling on shoes.	Wear steel toed shoes with non-slip soles.
	Foreign objects in eyes.	Wear safety eyewear.
	Damage to hearing.	Wear hearing protection.
3. Transporting hedge trimmer.	Burns, cuts, equipment damage.	Never transport with engine on.
		Always fit scabbards over blades even for short distances.
		Carry unit by front handle, with hot muffler away from the body and blades behind you.
		Always secure trimmer in vehicle so it will not overturn causing fuel leakage or damage to equipment.
4. Fueling	Burns, fire, damage to equipment.	NEVER fuel with trimmer on.
		DO NOT smoke or bring any fire close to trimmer.
		Unscrew filler gas cap slowly to release any pressure build-up in tank.
		Fuel in an outdoor well ventilated area.
		Wipe off any spilled fuel and check for leakage; careful not to spill fuel on clothing but if fuel does get on clothing, change immediately.
		Vibrations during use may cause fuel cap to loosen or come off. In order to reduce this, tighten fuel cap as tightly as possible.
		Check for fuel leakage when refueling and during operation. If leakage is found, do not start or run trimmer until repaired.
5. Before starting trimmer.	Injury, fire, damage to equipment.	Check operation of blade lock. Always engage lock before starting.
		Stop switch must move easily.
		Check that spark plug boot is secure as a loose boot may cause arcing and ignite fumes.
		Smooth action of throttle trigger and throttle trigger interlock.
		Keep handles clean and dry (free from oil and dirt) for safe control.
		Cutting blades must be secure and in safe operating condition (clean, move freely, not warped). Properly sharpen and lubricate.
6. Starting trimmer.	Injury, fire, damage to equipment.	Start trimmer at least 9-10 feet from fueling spot (outdoors).



*The development of Job Safety Analyses is a very effective means of helping reduce incidents, accidents, and injuries in the workplace. It is an excellent tool to use for training purposes and can also be used to investigate “near misses” and accidents.*