

Safety

Work Safely

Trimmers and brushcutters operate at very high speeds and can do serious damage or injury if they are misused or abused. *Never allow a person without training or instruction to operate this unit!*



WARNING!

Never make unauthorized attachment installations.

Stay Alert

You must be physically and mentally fit to operate this unit safely.



WARNING!

Never operate power equipment of any kind if you are tired or if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication or any other substance that could affect your ability or judgement.



WARNING!

Use Good Judgment

ALWAYS inspect unit before each use. Replace any damaged parts.

NEVER run the engine when transporting the unit.

NEVER run the engine indoors! Make sure there is always good ventilation. Fumes from engine exhaust can cause serious injury or death.

ALWAYS stop the unit immediately if it suddenly begins to vibrate or shake. Inspect for broken, missing or improperly installed parts or attachments.

NEVER extend trimming line beyond the length specified for your unit.

ALWAYS keep the unit as clean as practical. Keep it free of loose vegetation, mud, etc.

ALWAYS hold the unit firmly with both hands when cutting or trimming, and maintain control at all times.

ALWAYS use the proper cutting tool for the job.

ALWAYS keep the handles clean.

ALWAYS disconnect the spark plug wire before performing any maintenance work.

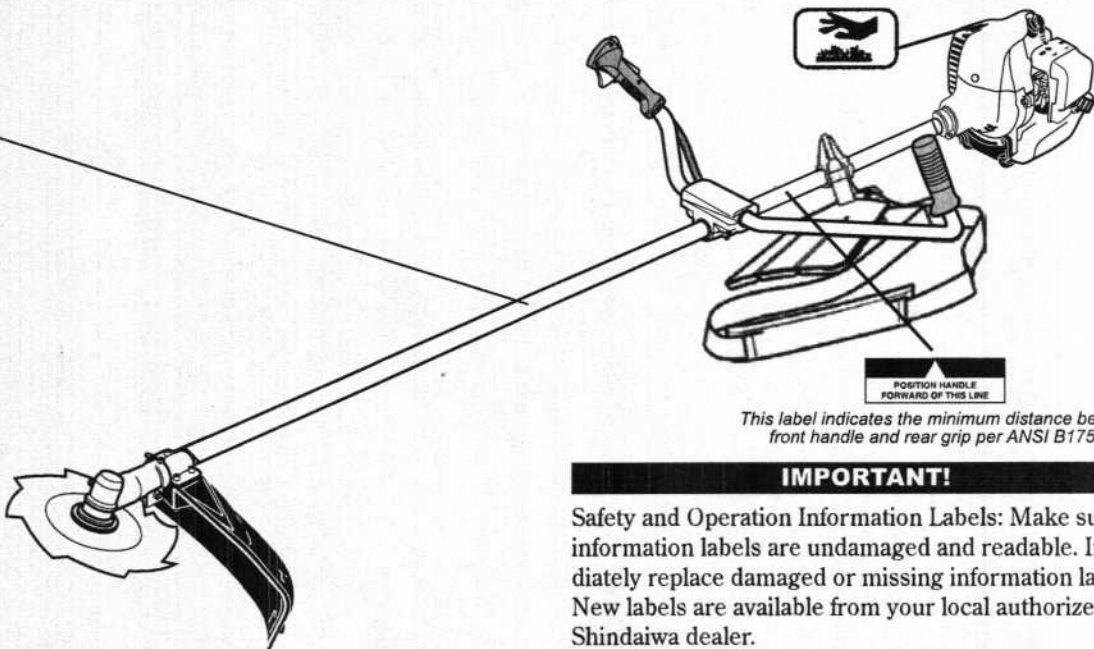
ALWAYS, if a saw blade should bind fast in a cut, shut off the engine immediately. Push the branch or tree to ease the bind and free the blade.



WARNING!

The ignition components of this machine generate an electromagnetic field during operation which may interfere with some pacemakers. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury, persons with pacemakers should consult with their physician and the pacemaker manufacturer before operating this machine. In the absence of such information, ECHO does not recommend the use of ECHO products by anyone who has a pacemaker.

Safety Labels



This label indicates the minimum distance between front handle and rear grip per ANSI B175.3.

IMPORTANT!

Safety and Operation Information Labels: Make sure all information labels are undamaged and readable. Immediately replace damaged or missing information labels. New labels are available from your local authorized Shindaiwa dealer.

Safety (continued) The Properly Equipped Operator

Wear hearing protection devices and a broad-brimmed hat or helmet. A helmet is required when using a blade-equipped brushcutter to clear small trees.

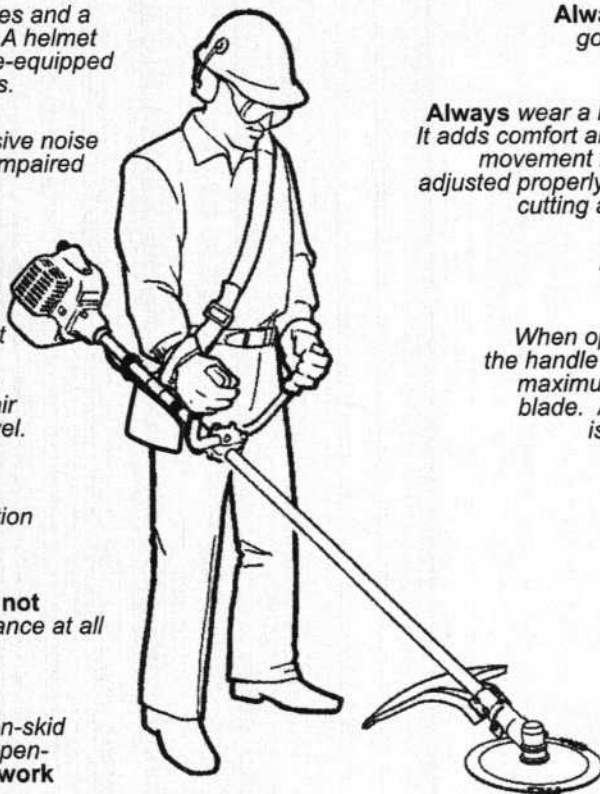
Prolonged exposure to excessive noise is fatiguing and could lead to impaired hearing.

Wear close-fitting clothing to protect legs and arms. Gloves offer added protection and are strongly recommended. Do not wear clothing or jewelry that could get caught in machinery or underbrush. Secure long hair so that it is above shoulder level. **NEVER** wear shorts!

Long-term exposure to vibration can damage your hands.

Keep a proper footing and **do not overreach**. Maintain your balance at all times during operation.

Wear appropriate footwear (non-skid boots or shoes); do not wear open-toed shoes or sandals. **Never work barefooted!**



Always wear eye protection such as goggles or safety glasses to shield against thrown objects.

Always wear a harness when operating the unit. It adds comfort and helps ensure safety by limiting movement fore and aft. When the harness is adjusted properly, the unit should balance with the cutting attachment parallel to the ground.

Always operate with both hands firmly gripping the unit.

When operating with a blade, make sure the handle is positioned to provide you with maximum protection from contacting the blade. **Always** make sure the handlebar is installed in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.

Always make sure the appropriate cutting attachment shield is correctly installed and in good condition. Do not operate the unit if the cutting attachment shield is missing, loose, or broken.

Keep away from the rotating trimmer line or blade at all times, and never lift a moving attachment above waist-high.

Be Aware of the Working Environment

Avoid long-term operation in very hot or very cold weather.

Be extremely careful of slippery terrain, especially during rainy weather.

Be constantly alert for objects and debris that could be thrown either from the rotating cutting attachment or bounced from a hard surface.

Make sure bystanders or observers outside the 15 meter (50 feet) "danger zone" wear eye protection.



**15 METERS
(50 FEET)**

Always make sure the appropriate cutting attachment shield is correctly installed.

Reduce the risk of bystanders being struck by flying debris. Make sure no one is within 15 meters (50 feet)— that's about 16 paces of an operating attachment. Stop immediately if a child, pet, or person comes within a 15 meter (50 feet) radius. Outside this radius, there is still a risk of injury from thrown objects.

Do not operate the unit if the cutting attachment shield is missing, loose, or broken.

Beware of a coasting blade when brushcutting or edging. A coasting blade can injure while it continues to spin after the throttle trigger is released or after the engine is stopped.

ALWAYS clear your work area of trash or hidden debris that could be thrown back at you or toward a bystander. When operating in rocky terrain or near electric wires or fences, use extreme caution to avoid contacting such items with the cutting attachment.

If contact is made with a hard object, stop the engine and inspect the cutting attachment for damage.

Operating Precautions

- Never transport the hedge trimmer or leave it unattended with the engine running. An engine that's running could be accidentally accelerated causing the blades to oscillate.
- Make sure that the blade cover is in place when transporting or storing the hedge trimmer.
- Always make sure that the cutter attachment and all handles and guards are properly installed and firmly tightened before operation.
- Inspect for broken, missing or improperly installed parts or attachments.
- Never use a cracked or warped cutter or cutter bar: replace it with a serviceable one and make sure it fits properly.
- Make sure there are no missing or loose fasteners, and that the stop switch and throttle controls are working properly.
- Make sure there is always good ventilation when operating the hedge trimmer. Fumes from engine exhaust can cause serious injury or death. Never run the engine indoors!



WARNING!

- Never smoke or light fires near the hedge trimmer. Keep the unit away from excessive heat. Engine fuel is very flammable and fire could lead to serious personal injury or property damage.
- Make sure the cutters are correctly adjusted before operating the hedge trimmer (see the section "Blades" for cutter adjustment procedures). Never attempt cutter adjustment with the engine running!
- Before starting the engine, make sure the cutter is not contacting anything.
- Always confirm safe operation when using the machine.
- Immediately stop the engine with the stop switch if the machine suddenly begins to vibrate or shake.
- Always stop the engine immediately and check for damage if you strike a foreign object or if the machine becomes tangled. Do not operate with broken or damaged equipment.
- When cutting a branch that is under tension, be alert for spring-back so that you will not be struck by the moving branch.
- If a cutter should bind fast in a cut, shut off the engine immediately. Push the branch or tree to ease the bind and free the cutter.
- Always stop the engine and allow it to cool before refueling. Avoid overfilling and wipe off any fuel that may have spilled.
- To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine and muffler free of debris, leaves, or excessive grease
- Keep a Solid Stance. Maintain footing and balance at all times. Do not stand on slippery, uneven or unstable surfaces. Do not work in odd positions or on ladders. Do not over reach.



WARNING!

Hedge Trimmer blades are very sharp. Touching them may lead to severe personal injury. Avoid touching blades whenever possible, and always wear gloves to protect hands

CAUTION!

- Always maintain the hedge trimmer according to this owner's manual and follow the recommended scheduled maintenance.
- Never modify or disable any of the hedge trimmer's safety devices. Doing so may cause damage and lead to personal injury
- Always use genuine Shindaiwa parts and accessories when repairing or maintaining this machine.
- Do not make unauthorized modifications to the hedge trimmer or its components.
- Keep the cutters sharp and properly adjusted.
- Never allow the engine to run at high without a load. Doing so could damage the engine.
- When transporting the hedge trimmer in a vehicle, tie it down securely to prevent fuel spillage or damage to the machine.
- Always stop the engine and allow it to cool before refueling. Avoid overfilling and wipe off any fuel that may have spilled.
- Never place flammable material close to the engine muffler and never run the engine without the spark arrestor screen in place.
- Always clear your work area of trash or hidden debris to help ensure good footing.
- Keep the hedge trimmer as clean as possible. Keep it free of loose vegetation, mud, etc.



WARNING!

Inspect support and throttle handles for damaged or loose attachments before use. **NEVER** operate a hedge trimmer with damaged or loose handles.

Operation



WARNING!

Moving parts can amputate fingers or cause severe injuries. Keep hands, clothing and loose objects away from all openings. Always stop engine, disconnect spark plug, and make sure all moving parts have come to a complete stop before removing obstructions, clearing debris, or servicing unit.



WARNING!

Engine exhaust IS HOT, and contains Carbon Monoxide (CO), a poison gas. Breathing CO can cause unconsciousness, serious injury, or death. Exhaust can cause serious burns. ALWAYS position unit so that exhaust is directed away from your face and body..



WARNING!

Operation of this equipment may create sparks that can start fires. This unit is equipped with a spark arrester to prevent discharge of hot particles from the engine. Metal blade use also can create sparks if the blade strikes rocks, metal, or other hard objects. Contact local fire authorities for laws or regulations regarding fire prevention requirements.

Shoulder strap



WARNING!

Always wear a shoulder strap or harness when operating this unit. Using a harness with a brushcutter allows you to maintain proper control of the unit and reduces fatigue during extended operation.

1. Hook the strap hook to the hanger on the outer tube.
2. Wear the shoulder strap so that the hook stays at your right hand side.
3. Adjust the length of the shoulder strap so that you can hold and operate the machine comfortably.

IMPORTANT!

Adjust the shoulder strap so the shoulder pad rests comfortably on the off-side shoulder and the cutting path of the cutting attachment is parallel to the ground. Make sure all hooks and adjustment devices are secure.

NOTE:

Using a shoulder strap when operating this unit with a blade allows you to maintain proper control of the unit and reduces fatigue during extended operation.



Cutting grass with a trimmer head

Your Shindaiwa unit may be equipped with one of several Shindaiwa trimmer head models, each with features for specific applications and/or operational requirements.

NOTE:

For proper operation, always refer to the instructions accompanying the trimmer head being used.

Engine Operating Speeds

Operate at full throttle while cutting grass.

CAUTION!

Operation at low rpm can lead to premature clutch failure.

Operation (continued)

Trimmer head styles:

Semi-automatic. Trimmer line is indexed when the operator taps the trimmer head on the ground during operation.

Manual. The operator indexes line manually with the grass trimmer stopped.

Fixed. The operator must stop the unit and add new lengths of trimmer line manually.

Flail. This device, designed for clearing weeds and light brush, features three nylon blades attached to the head by pivots.

NOTE:

Additional hardware may be required to mount the Fixed Line or the Flail type trimmer heads.

Trimming and Mowing Grass

Hold the grass trimmer so the trimmer head is angled slightly into the area to be cut. To ensure maximum trimmer-line service life, cut only with the tip of the trimmer line. Cut grass by swinging the unit's trimmer head from left to right. Keep the trimmer head horizontal.

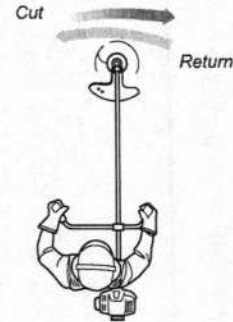
CAUTION!

Do not push the rotating line into trees, wire fences or any material that could tangle or break line ends.

CAUTION!

Use only flexible, nonmetallic line recommended by the manufacturer. Never use, for example, wire or wire-rope, which can break off and become a dangerous projectile.

Cut from left to right



WARNING!

Remove all objects such as rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, or string, which can be thrown or become entangled in the cutting attachment.

CAUTION!

- Operation of trimmer without a cutting attachment shield and using excessive line length can lead to premature clutch failure.
- Operation at low rpm can lead to premature clutch failure.

Using a blade



WARNING!

- Before working with a blade-equipped unit, always inspect and clean the area of objects that could interfere with or damage the blade.
- Never use a blade near sidewalks, fence posts, buildings or other objects that could cause injury or damage.
- Never use a blade for purposes other than those for which it was designed.

- Whenever you strike a hard object with a blade, always stop the brushcutter and carefully inspect the blade for damage. **NEVER OPERATE THE BRUSHCUTTER WITH A DAMAGED BLADE!**
- A blade-equipped unit must be equipped with a bicycle-type handlebar or barrier bar as well as a harness or shoulder strap.
- Always make sure the cutting attachment shield is properly installed before operating this unit.

Brushcutter Shoulder Strap

A shoulder strap provides additional protection against blade thrust. In addition, a shoulder strap gives significant support and comfort to help ensure safe and efficient operation. When operating a unit with a blade, make sure both the handle and shoulder strap are adjusted to the size of the operator using the unit.

Blade Thrust

"Blade thrust" is a sudden sideways or backward motion of the brushcutter. Such motion may occur when the blade jams or catches on an object such as a sapling tree or tree stump. **BE CONSTANTLY ALERT FOR BLADE THRUST AND GUARD AGAINST ITS EFFECTS!**



WARNING!

Blade thrust can occur without warning if the blade snags, stalls or binds.



WARNING!

Blade thrust is more likely to occur in areas where it is difficult to see the material being cut.

Brushcutter Handlebar

A brushcutter handlebar or barrier bar helps prevent the operator from moving forward, or the unit moving rearward, thus preventing inadvertent bodily contact with the blade. **ALWAYS KEEP THE HANDLEBAR OR BARRIER BAR SECURELY IN PLACE ON THE UNIT!**

Engine Operating Speeds

Operate the unit at full throttle while cutting. Best fuel efficiency is obtained by releasing the throttle when swinging back after a cut.

- To prevent possible engine damage, do not allow the brushcutter to run at high speeds without a load.
- Avoid operating the engine at low speeds. Doing so can lead to rapid clutch wear. In addition, slow-speed operation tends to cause grass and debris to wrap around the cutting head.

Using a blade

The blade rotates counter-clockwise. For best performance and to minimize being stuck by debris, move the blade from right to left while advancing on your work. Position the blade so cuts are made between the blade's 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock positions (as viewed from above). **DO NOT** cut between the 10 o'clock and 5 o'clock positions.



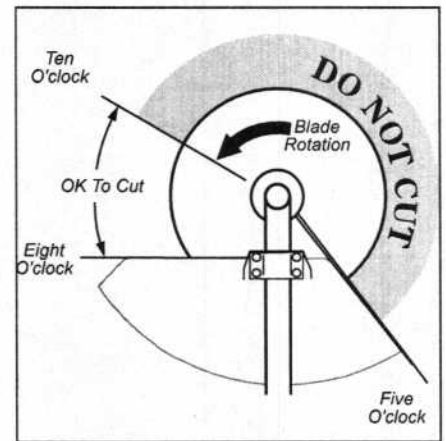
WARNING!

When cutting wood with a blade, feed the blade slowly—never strike or "slam" a spinning blade against the wood.



WARNING!

DO NOT use 2-tooth or non-Shindaiwa approved 4-tooth cutting blades with Shindaiwa trimmers and brushcutters.



General maintenance

IMPORTANT!

MAINTENANCE, REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR OF EMISSION CONTROL DEVICES AND SYSTEMS MAY BE PERFORMED BY ANY REPAIR ESTABLISHMENT OR INDIVIDUAL; HOWEVER, WARRANTY REPAIRS MUST BE PERFORMED BY A DEALER OR SERVICE CENTER AUTHORIZED BY ECHO, INC. THE USE OF PARTS THAT ARE NOT EQUIVALENT IN PERFORMANCE AND DURABILITY TO AUTHORIZED PARTS MAY IMPAIR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EMISSION CONTROL SYSTEM AND MAY HAVE A BEARING ON THE OUTCOME OF A WARRANTY CLAIM.

NOTE:

Using non-standard replacement parts could invalidate your Shindaiwa warranty.



WARNING!

Before performing any maintenance, repair, or cleaning work on the unit, make sure the engine and cutting attachment are completely stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire before performing service or maintenance.



WARNING!

Non-standard accessories, cutting attachment, or replacement parts may not operate properly with your unit and may cause damage and lead to personal injury.