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General safety instructions for electric tools

Danger!

Read all safety regulations and instructions.

Any errors made in following the safety regulations and instructions may result in an electric shock, fire and/or serious injury.

Keep all safety regulations and instructions in a safe place for future use.

The term "electric tool" used in the safety instructions refers to electric tools operated from the mains power supply (with a power cable) and to battery operated electric tools (without a power cable).

1. Workplace safety

- a) **Keep your work area clean and well illuminated.** Untidy or unlit work areas can result in accidents.
- b) **Do not operate the electric tool in an environment where there is a risk of explosions and where there are inflammable liquids, gases or dust.** Electric tools produce sparks which could set the dust or vapours alight.
- c) **Keep the electric tool out of the reach of children and other persons.** If there is a distraction, you may lose control of the appliance.

2. Electrical safety

- a) **The connector plug from this electric tool must fit into the socket. The plug should never be altered in any way. Never use adapter plugs together with earthed electric tools.** Unaltered plugs and correct sockets reduce the risk of an electric shock.
- b) **Avoid bodily contact with earthed surfaces such as pipes, heating, ovens and fridges.** The risk of electric shock is increased if your body is earthed.
- c) **Keep the tool out of the rain and away from moisture.** The ingress of water into an electric tool increases the risk of an electric shock.
- d) **Do not use the cable to carry the electric tool, to hang it up or to pull it out of the socket. Keep the cable away from heat, oil, sharp edges and moving parts of the appliance.** Damaged or entangled cables increase the risk of an electric shock.
- e) **If you are working outdoors with an electric tool, only use extension cables which are designed specifically for this purpose.**

Using specially designed outdoor extension cables, the risk of electric shock is reduced.

- f) **If operation of the electric tool in a damp environment can not be avoided, use a earth-leakage circuit-breaker.** The earth-leakage circuit-breaker reduces the risk of an electric shock.

3. Safety of persons

- a) **Be careful, watch what you are doing and use an electric tool sensibly. Do not use the tool if you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication.** A moment of inattention when using the electric tool can result in serious injuries.
- b) **Wear personal protection equipment and always wear safety goggles.** Wearing personal protection (such as dust masks, non-slip safety shoes, safety helmet or ear protection, depending upon the type and use of the electric tool) reduces the risk of injury.
- c) **Make sure that the appliance cannot start up accidentally. Ensure that the electric tool is switched off before you connect it to the power supply and/or insert the battery, or pick up or carry the tool.** If your finger is on the switch whilst carrying the electric tool or if you connect the appliance to the mains when it is switched on, this can lead to accidents.
- d) **Remove keys and wrenches before switching on the electric tool.** A tool or key which comes into contact with rotating parts of the appliance can lead to injuries.
- e) **Avoid abnormal working postures. Make sure you stand squarely and keep your balance at all times.** In this way, you can control the electric tool better in unexpected circumstances.
- f) **Wear suitable work clothes. Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery. Keep hair, clothes and gloves away from moving parts.** Loose clothing, jewellery or long hair can get trapped in moving parts.
- g) **If vacuuming devices and draining devices can be fitted, make sure that these are correctly attached and correctly used.** The use of a dust extraction system can reduce the danger posed by dust.

4. Usage and treatment of the electric tool

- a) **Do not overload the appliance. Use the correct tool for your work.** You will be able to work better and more safely within the given performance boundaries.

- b) **Do not use an electric tool with a defective switch.** An electric tool that cannot be switched on or off is dangerous and must be repaired.
- c) **Pull the plug out of the socket and/or remove the battery before making any adjustments to the appliance, changing accessories or putting the appliance down.** This safety measure prevents starting the electric tool unintentionally.
- d) **Keep unused electric tools out of the reach of children. Do not allow people who are not familiar with the appliance or who have not read these instructions to use the appliance.** Electric tools are dangerous if they are used by inexperienced people.
- e) **Clean your electric tool carefully. Check whether moving parts are functioning properly and not jamming, whether parts are broken or damaged enough that the functioning of this electric tool is affected. Have damaged parts repaired before using the appliance.** Many accidents are caused by badly maintained electric tools.
- f) **Keep your cutting tools sharp and clean.** Carefully maintained cutting tools with sharp cutting edges will jam less and are easier to control.
- g) **Make sure to use electric tools, accessories, attachments, etc. in accordance with these instructions. Take the conditions in your work area and the job in hand into account.** Using electric tools for any purpose other than the one for which they are intended can lead to dangerous situations.

5. Using and handling the cordless tool

- a) **Only charge the batteries in chargers that are recommended by the manufacturer.** A charger that is designed for a certain type of battery may pose a fire risk if it is used with other types of battery.
- b) **Use only the correct batteries in the electric tools.** The use of other batteries may result in injuries and a fire risk.
- c) **Keep unused batteries away from paper clips, coins, keys, nails, screws and other metallic objects that could cause a short circuit between the contacts.** A short circuit between the battery contacts may cause burns or a fire.
- d) **In case of incorrect use, fluid may escape from the battery. Avoid contact with it. If you touch it by accident, rinse the affected area with water. If you get the fluid**

in your eyes, also seek medical advice.

Leaking battery fluid can cause skin irritation or burns.

6. Service

- a) **Have your electric tool repaired only by trained personnel using only genuine spare parts.** This will ensure that your electric tool remains safe to use.

Additional safety instructions

We pay a great deal of attention to the design of every battery pack to ensure that we supply you with batteries which feature maximum power density, durability and safety. The battery cells have a wide range of safety devices. Each individual cell is initially formatted and its electrical characteristic curves are recorded. This data are then used exclusively to be able to assemble the best possible battery packs. **Despite all the safety precautions, caution must always be exercised when handling batteries. The following points must be obeyed at all times to ensure safe use.**

Safe use can only be guaranteed if undamaged cells are used. Incorrect handling can cause cell damage.

Important: Analyses confirm that incorrect use and poor care are the main causes of the damage caused by high performance batteries.

Information about the battery

1. The battery pack supplied with your cordless tool is not charged. The battery pack has to be charged before you use the tool for the first time.
2. For optimum battery performance avoid low discharge cycles. Charge the battery pack frequently.
3. Store the battery pack in a cool place, ideally at 15°C and charged to at least 40%.
4. Lithium-ion batteries are subject to a natural ageing process. The battery pack must be replaced at the latest when its capacity falls to just 80% of its capacity when new. Weakened cells in an aged battery pack are no longer capable of meeting the high power requirements and therefore pose a safety risk.
5. Do not throw battery packs into an open fire. There is a risk of explosion!
6. Do not ignite the battery pack or expose it to fire.
7. **Do not exhaustively discharge batteries.** Exhaustive discharge will damage the battery

cells. The most common cause of exhaustive discharge is lengthy storage or non-use of partly discharged batteries. Stop working as soon as the performance of the battery falls noticeably or the electronic protection system triggers. Place the battery pack in storage only after it has been fully charged.

8. **Protect batteries and the tool from overloads.** Overloads will quickly result in overheating and cell damage inside the battery housing without this overheating actually being apparent externally.
9. **Avoid damage and shocks.** Replace batteries which have been dropped from a height of more than one meter or which have been exposed to violent shocks without delay, even if the housing of the battery pack appears to be undamaged. The battery cells inside the battery may have suffered serious damage. In this respect, please also read the waste disposal information.
10. If the battery pack suffers overloading and overheating, the integrated protective cut-off will switch off the equipment for safety reasons. **Important.** Do not press the ON/OFF switch any more if the protective cut-off has actuated. This may damage the battery pack.
11. Use only original battery packs. The use of other batteries may result in injuries, explosion and a fire risk.

Information on chargers and the charging process

1. Please check the data marked on the rating plate of the battery charger. Be sure to connect the battery charger to a power supply with the voltage marked on the rating plate. Never connect it to a different mains voltage.
2. Protect the battery charger and its cable from damage and sharp edges. Have damaged cables repaired without delay by a qualified electrician.
3. Keep the battery charger, batteries and the cordless tool out of children's reach.
4. Do not use damaged battery chargers.
5. Do not use the supplied battery charger to charge other cordless tools.
6. In heavy use the battery pack will become warm. Allow the battery pack to cool to room temperature before commencing with the charging.
7. **Do not over-charge batteries.** Do not exceed the maximum charging times. These charging times only apply to discharged batteries. Frequent insertion of a charged

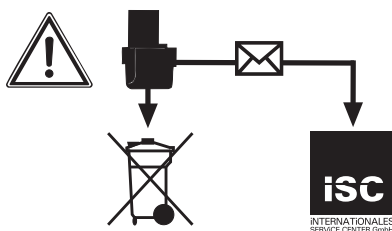
or partly charged battery pack will result in over-charging and cell damage. Do not leave batteries in the charger for days on end.

8. **Never use or charge batteries if you suspect that the last time they were charged was more than 12 months previously.** There is a high probability that the battery pack has already suffered dangerous damage (exhaustive discharge).
9. Charging batteries at a temperature below 10°C will cause chemical damage to the cell and may cause a fire.
10. Do not use batteries which have heated during the charging process, as the battery cells may have suffered dangerous damage.
11. Do not use batteries which have suffered curvature or deformation during the charging process or which show other non-typical symptoms (gassing, hissing, cracking,...)
12. Never fully discharge the battery pack (recommended depth of discharge max. 80%)
A complete discharge of the battery pack will lead to premature ageing of the battery cells.
13. Never charge the batteries unsupervised.

Protection from environmental influences

1. Wear suitable work clothes. Wear safety goggles.
2. **Protect your cordless tool and the battery charger from moisture and rain.** Moisture and rain can cause dangerous cell damage.
3. Do not use the cordless tool or the battery charger near vapors and inflammable liquids.
4. Use the battery charger and cordless tools only in dry conditions and an ambient temperature of 10-40°C.
5. Do not keep the battery charger in places where the temperature is liable to reach over 40°C. In particular, do not leave the battery charger in a car that is parked in the sunshine.
6. **Protect batteries from overheating.** Overloads, over-charging and exposure to direct sunlight will result in overheating and cell damage. Never charge or work with batteries which have been overheated – replace them immediately if possible.
7. **Storage of batteries, battery chargers and cordless tools.** Store the charger and your cordless tool only in dry places with an ambient temperature of 10-40°C. Store your lithium-ion battery pack in a cool, dry place at a temperature of 10-20°C. Protect them from humidity and direct sunlight. Only place fully charged batteries in storage (charged at least 40%).

8. Prevent the lithium-ion battery pack from freezing. Battery packs which were stored below 0°C for more than 60 minutes must be disposed of.
9. When handling batteries beware of electrostatic charge: Electrostatic discharges cause damage of the electronic protection system and the battery cells. Avoid electrostatic charging and never touch the battery poles.



Rechargeable batteries and cordless electric machines and tools contain materials that are potentially harmful to the environment. Never place any cordless electric machines or tools in your household refuse. When cordless electric machines or tools become defective or worn, remove the rechargeable batteries and return them to iSC GmbH (address: Eschenstrasse 6, D-94405, Germany). If the rechargeable batteries cannot be removed, return the complete cordless machine or tool. You can then be sure that the equipment will be correctly disposed of by the manufacturer.

When shipping or disposing of batteries and cordless tools, always ensure that they are packed individually in plastic bags to prevent short circuits and fires.

Additional safety instructions

- Before you begin your work, examine the material you want to cut. Remove any foreign bodies. Continue to watch out for foreign bodies while you are working. If you come across any foreign bodies while cutting, turn off the machine and remove the items in question.
- Work only when visibility is adequate.
- Always hold the equipment firmly in both hands. Your fingers and thumbs should be wrapped around the handles.
- Make sure that the handles are clean and dry.
- When carrying out mowing work on a slope always stand at a lower level than the cutting tool. Never cut or trim on a smooth, slippery hill or slope.
- Make sure you stand squarely at all times while working. Be careful when walking backwards. Tripping hazard!
- Never leave the equipment unsupervised in the work area. If you stop work for a while, leave the equipment in a safe place.
- If you stop your work in order to go to another area to work, you must make sure that the equipment is switched off while you are going there.
- Never use the equipment while it is raining or in damp or wet surroundings.
- Protect your equipment against moisture and rain.
- Before you switch on the equipment, check that the cutting unit will not touch any stones or other objects.
- Always wear suitable working clothes to prevent injuries to the head, hands and feet. For this purpose wear a helmet, safety goggles (or visor), high boots (or strong shoes and long trousers made of tough fabric) and work gloves.
- When the equipment is in operation, you must always hold it away from your body!
- Do not switch on the equipment when it is turned around or when it is not in working position.
- Switch off the motor when the equipment is not being used, when you leave it unsupervised, when checking the equipment, when removing or replacing the spool, or when transporting the equipment from one place to another.
- Keep the equipment away from other people, especially children, and from pets. There may be stones and other objects in the grass that is cut and thrown up.
- When you are working, keep a distance of at least 15 m from other persons and pets.
- Do not cut against hard objects. This will help you to prevent causing injury to yourself and damage to the equipment.
- Use the edge of the safety guard to keep the equipment away from walls, different surfaces and fragile objects.
- Never use the equipment without the safety guard.
- This equipment is not allowed to be used by children or by persons with reduced physical, sensory or mental capacities or those with a lack of experience and knowledge. Children should be supervised so that they do not play with the equipment. Children are not allowed to carry out the cleaning or maintenance.

- Avoid abnormal working postures. Make sure you stand squarely and keep your balance at all times. Always maintain good footing on inclines. Only operate the equipment at a walking pace.
 - Risk of injury from dangerous moving parts!
 - The moving parts are not allowed to be touched before the battery has been removed and all moving parts have come to a complete standstill.
 - Read the directions with due care. Familiarize yourself with the operator controls and proper operation of the equipment.
 - Never allow children or other persons who are not familiar with the operating instructions to use the equipment. Contact your local governmental agency for information regarding minimum age requirements for the user.
 - Always keep in mind that the user of the equipment is personally responsible for accidents or hazards involving other persons or their property.
 - Before use, always carry out a visual check to make sure that the safety devices or covers are not missing or damaged and that they are correctly fitted.
 - Never use the equipment in bad weather conditions and particularly never when there is a risk of lightning.
 - Never use the equipment with a damaged cover or safety device or when a cover or safety device is missing.
 - Switch on the motor only when there are no hands or feet within range of the cutting unit.
 - Always switch off the equipment and remove the battery
 - when you leave the equipment unsupervised.
 - before you remove a blockage.
 - before you examine, clean or work on the equipment.
 - after the equipment strikes a foreign body.
 - when the equipment begins to make unusual vibrations (examine immediately).
 - Risk of injury from the cutting unit! Keep hands and feet away from the cutting unit!
 - Use only spare parts and accessories which are recommended by the manufacturer.
 - Examine and service the equipment regularly.
- Important! The safety guard is there to ensure your safety and the safety of others. It is also essential for the equipment to work correctly. Failure to comply with this instruction will invalidate your warranty as well as create a potential source of danger.**
- Never use your hands to try to stop the cutting unit. Always wait for it to stop by itself.
 - Use only genuine cutting units.
 - Make sure that the air vents are free of dirt.
 - Do not try to use the equipment to cut grass which is not growing on the ground; for example, do not try to cut grass growing on walls or stones, etc.
 - The person operating the grass trimmer is liable for any damages sustained by third parties within the equipment's working radius as a result of its use.
 - Do not cross roads or gravel paths with the equipment switched on.
 - When you are not using the equipment, keep it in a dry place out of the reach of children.
 - Use the equipment only in the way described in these operating instructions and always hold it perpendicular to the ground. Every other position is dangerous.
 - Check at regular intervals that the screws are properly tightened.
 - The area to be cut must always be kept cleared of cables and other objects.
 - If the equipment has to be lifted for transporting, be sure to switch off the motor first and wait for the cutter to come to a standstill. Each time you leave the equipment, switch off the motor.
 - Under no circumstances are you to cut against hard objects during use. This is imperative to prevent injury to yourself and damage to the equipment.
 - Use only original replacement parts for repairs.
 - Before starting up the equipment, and after any collision, check the equipment for signs of wear or damage and have any necessary repairs carried out.
 - Always keep your hands and feet away from the cutting unit, especially when switching the motor on.
 - Unplug the rechargeable battery before checking, cleaning or doing any work on the equipment and when it is not being used.
 - Acquaint yourself with the controls and how to use the tool.

- Stop using the equipment when there are people – particularly children – or pets nearby.
- Never use the machine if protective equipment is damaged or missing.
- Never mount metal cutting elements.

If it is used for a lengthy period, the vibrations it causes in the hands of the user may result in circulation problems (white finger syndrome).

The hand-arm vibration syndrome (vibration white finger) is a vascular disease that involves seizure-like spasms of the fingers and toes. The affected areas are no longer sufficiently supplied with blood and therefore appear extremely pale. The frequent use of vibrating equipment may trigger nerve damage in people with an impaired circulation (for example smokers, diabetics).

Should you observe any unusual impairments, interrupt your work immediately and consult a doctor.

Follow these instructions in order to reduce the dangers:

- Keep your body and in particular your hands warm when working in the cold
- Take regular breaks and move your hands to stimulate the blood circulation during the breaks.
- Ensure that the equipment makes the least possible vibration through regular maintenance and solid parts on the equipment.

Safety precautions for handling the blade

- Take note of all warnings and instructions relating to operating and fitting the blade.
- The blade can recoil suddenly from objects if it cannot cut or mow through them. This can cause injuries to the arms or legs. Keep bystanders and animals at least 15 m away from where you are working. If the equipment strikes a foreign body, stop the engine immediately and wait for the blade to come to a standstill. Check the blade for signs of damage. Always replace the blade if it is bent or cracked.
- The blade is liable to catapult away objects with high force. This can cause blindness or injuries. Wear protection on your eyes, face and legs. Always remove objects from your working area before you use the blade.
- Carefully check the equipment and its fittings for signs of damage every time before use. Do not use the equipment unless all the blade fittings are installed correctly.

- When you release the throttle lever, the blade will continue to rotate and will only gradually come to a standstill. A blade which is in the process of rotating to a standstill can cause you or bystanders injuries through cutting. Before you start any work on the blade, switch off the engine and ensure that the blade has come to a standstill.
- The danger zone has a radius of 15 meters. Bystanders may suffer blindness or injuries. Keep a distance of 15 meters between yourself and other people or animals.

Important: The cutting unit continues to run for a few seconds after the motor is switched off.

The cutter continues to rotate!



Do not lose this safety information.