Safe Handling & Operations Checklist

Before operation, perform an equipment inspection of the following:

- Handles and guards, to assure that they are not damaged or altered in any way.
- Controls, to assure proper function.
- Chain saw chains, to assure proper chain tension adjustment.
- Chain saw muffler, to assure that they are operational and in place.
- Always wear protective clothing: work gloves, eye and ear protection, chain saw protective pants or chaps, helmet and boots.
- All other safety devices - throttle lock, chain catcher & chain brake, to assure that they are in place and functioning properly.
- Make sure air filter is clean.
- Check starter rope for any frays, tears or improper adjustment.

Other Tips:

- Make sure each tool is used only for purposes for which they are designed.
- The cutting chain should be sharpened in accordance with manufacturer’s specifications whenever it becomes dull during the workshift.
- Each tool should be stored in the proper location when not being used at a work site.

Safety Pays!

Take precautions to avoid kickback... one of the leading causes of chain saw accidents.

Kickback danger zone!

The kickback zone is the upper part of the nose of the bar. This part of the bar has a high kickback risk. Be conscious of where the nose of the bar is at all times to lessen the likelihood of kickback. Accidental contact with this part of the bar with any surface can cause kickback.

Husqvarna

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Chain Saw Safety Awareness Tips

October is... October is...
Whether you’re using a chain saw to fell trees, cut firewood or clean up around the yard, here are some basic tips and techniques that can make your cutting experience more productive. 

Read your Operator’s Manual for detailed operating & safety instructions.

Starting

- Place starting switch in “on” position, engage choke if cold starting.
- Activate (engage) the chain brake before starting. Grip the front handle with your left hand and hold the saw down by putting your right foot in the rear handle. Place your right hand on the starter handle and pull out the starter cord slowly until the starter pawls engage. Then pull sharply.
- If choke is engaged, disengage the choke control immediately when the engine first ignites. The saw should start with the next sharp pull. When the engine starts, rapidly give full throttle. Release the trigger to return the saw to idle. Release (disengage) the chain brake before cutting.
- CAUTION: Do not release the starter handle from fully pulled out position as this can cause damage to the saw.

Stopping

- The engine is stopped by switching off the ignition.

Guidelines For Safe Use

- **Anti-Kickback Devices:** Chain saws are labeled when in compliance with ANSI B175.2000. All saws put into service prior to February 9, 1995 must be equipped with a protective device to minimize chain saw kickback, even if a retrofit is required. Note that removing or disabling anti-kickback device is prohibited.

- **Throttle System:** Each gasoline-powered chain saw shall be equipped with a continuous pressure throttle-control system which will stop the chain when pressure on the throttle is removed.

- **The Manufacturer’s Instructions:** The chain saw shall be operated and adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

- **Starting & Fueling Area:** The chain saw shall be started at least 10 feet (3m) from the fueling area. The chain saw shall be fueled at least 20 feet (6m) from any open flame or other source of ignition.

- **Starting Support:** The primary approved method for starting a saw is on the ground.

- **Starting, Chain Brake:** The chain saw shall be started with the chain brake engaged.

- **Grip:** The chain saw shall be held with the thumbs and fingers of both hands encircling the handles during operation.

- **Footing, Balance:** The chain saw operator shall be of certain footing before starting the cut. The chain saw shall not be used in a position or at a distance that could cause the operator to become off-balance, to have insecure footing, or to relinquish a firm grip on the saw.

- **Clearing Prior to Felling:** Prior to felling any tree, the chain saw operator shall clear away brush or other potential obstacles which might interfere with cutting the tree or using the retreat path.

- **Overhead Cutting Prohibition:** The chain saw shall not be used to cut above shoulder height.

- **Carrying:** The chain saw shall be carried in a manner that will prevent operator contact with the cutting chain or muffler.

- **Saw Chain Stopped Before Starting Retreat:** The chain saw shall be shut off or at idle with the chain brake on before the feller starts his retreat.

- **Saw Chain Stopped While Saw is Carried:** The chain saw shall be shut down or the chain saw brake engaged whenever a saw is not being used.

UL-listed Husqvarna chain saws meet ANSI B 175.1-2000 standards including kickback, noise, and vibration and comply with new OSHA regulation 1910.266-LOGGING OPERATION

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