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## Using the Flame Gun or Blowlamp

1. Wear your protective equipment including face mask and goggles.
2. If your equipment is likely to produce toxic fumes, you must wear your facemask, keep others away from the fumes.
3. Do not point the flame at people. It will cause burns.
4. Do not direct the flame on to glass it will crack. Some plastics will crack and splinter before melting.
5. Remember material you have worked on will remain hot for some time. Make sure no-one touches it.
6. Extinguish the flame before you put the equipment down in a safe place to cool before leaving it unattended.
7. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
8. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference

## Flame Guns & Blowlamps

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

### It is important to read all of this leaflet BEFORE using the Flame Gun or Blowlamp.

1. Equipment producing jets of flame can be hazardous. Take care not to burn yourself or others.
2. Removing paint is hazardous. Wear your facemask. Do not allow others to breathe the fumes.
3. If your equipment uses butane gas or paraffin, take care, these are highly flammable.
4. Blowlamps are designed soldering copper pipework, and brazing, paint stripping, moulding special plastics and similar tasks.
5. Flame guns are designed for burning weeds, removing old felt off roofs and similar jobs.
6. The action of this equipment can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
7. If you have not used a flame gun or blowlamp before, familiarise yourself with the equipment on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
8. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
9. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment:  
Goggles: EN166 or BS2092;  
Face mask – a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection;  
Gloves.
10. This equipment must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
11. This equipment is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.



Hire Association Europe  
2450 Regents Court  
The Crescent  
Birmingham Business Park  
Soliuhull B37 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600  
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109  
Email: mail@hae.org.uk  
website: www.hae.org.uk



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Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4600  
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109  
Email: mail@hae.org.uk  
www.hae.org.uk

Hire Association Europe  
2450 Regents Court  
The Crescent  
Birmingham Business Park  
Soliuhull B37 7YE



### Before Starting Work...

#### REFUELLING

1. Use only the fuel or gas cylinders recommended by the hire company. Never use petrol - it would be very dangerous.
2. Before refuelling, turn off the flame by closing the gas cylinder valve or releasing the pressure in the paraffin tank.
3. Allow the equipment to cool before changing the gas cylinder or refilling the fuel tank.
4. Ensure all pipe connections are tightened with a spanner.

#### FLAME GUN OR BLOWLAMP

1. Check your equipment. If anything is found damaged, do not use it – contact the hire company.
2. Removing paint or old roofing felt will produce toxic fumes. Wear your facemask, keep others away from the fumes.
3. Be careful where you direct the jet of flame. It will burn people or animals. It will crack glass and melt plastic.
4. After use, the nozzle will be hot. Do not touch it or lay it down on flammable material.
5. Extinguish the flame when you stop work and lay your equipment down, even if it is only for a short while.
6. Make sure you understand how the equipment works - before you use it, you must know how to stop it.

#### LEAD PAINT

1. If you are stripping paint off an old building, you may find that the bottom layers of paint contain lead.
2. Do not use a blowlamp to burn off lead paint, it will produce poisonous fumes.
3. Use a hot air gun to carefully warm the lead paint up enough to soften it without burning it. Scrape the softened lead paint off, put it in a sealed bag in the dustbin. Do not throw it on a fire.
4. Keep the scraped paint away from your mouth. Do not let others touch it. Wash your hands.
5. Do not use a domestic vacuum cleaner, it will not filter the lead dust. Use an industrial cleaner with a heavy-duty filter.
6. Do not rub paint off with dry sanding sheets, especially with a power sander. Rub down wet with a waterproof abrasive wash paper or use a paint stripper. Always wash your hands.

#### WORK AREA

1. Do not use this equipment where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury from breathing toxic fumes, do not use this equipment indoors unless it is well ventilated.
3. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
4. Protect other people from the danger. Warn others to keep away.

#### OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this type of equipment. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You will need to wear an appropriate facemask (with a minimum of EN 149 FFP3(s) protection) when you are doing work that creates fumes.
3. You must wear goggles (EN166 or BS2092) when you are working with this equipment.
4. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
5. When you stop using this equipment, always wash your hands especially if you are going to smoke, eat or drink.

v:042017