



### **Preparing the machine and the working area**

Before starting or handling your brushcutter, first make sure your working area is safe. Always read the instruction manual before starting the machine and note the safety instructions it contains.

#### **The following precautions should be taken as a minimum:**

- Brushcutters produce toxic exhaust fumes as soon as the engine is running. These fumes may be odourless and invisible. So, never operate the machine in enclosed or poorly ventilated areas. Always ensure there is adequate ventilation.
- Check the ground you will be working on. There is a risk of slipping if the ground is slippery, wet, covered in snow or ice, or when working on slopes or uneven ground. Look out for obstacles, such as tree stumps or roots – trip hazards!
- If anyone else is nearby, especially children, keep them away from where you are working. Do not allow anyone to come within a 15 m radius, due to the risk of injury by flying objects. Keep the same distance from objects (vehicles, windows) – risk of property damage!
- Check that your brushcutter is ready for operation. Read the relevant chapter of the instruction manual:
  - The combination of cutting tool, guard, handle and harness must be permissible and all the parts must be correctly installed as described in the manual.
  - The CombiSwitch / Stop switch should move easily to the STOP or 0 position.
  - The throttle trigger interlock (if fitted) and the throttle trigger must move freely and the throttle trigger should spring back to the idle position.
  - Check that the spark plug boot is correctly seated. If it is loose, sparks may occur that could ignite the fuel/air mix fumes on contact – fire hazard!
  - Cutting tool or attachment: correctly fitted, securely seated and in good condition.
  - Check protective devices (e.g. cutting tool guard, rider plate) for any damage or wear. Damaged parts must be replaced. Never operate the machine with a damaged guard or a worn rider plate (if the lettering and the arrow are no longer clearly visible).
  - Never alter the controls or the integral safety devices.
  - Handles must be clean and dry, with no oil or dirt on them, to enable you to control the machine properly.
  - Adjust the harness and handle(s) to your body size.

After you have filled up your brushcutter with fuel mix, the next step is to start it up.

#### **For your own sake, observe the following safety instructions when starting the machine:**

- Keep a safe distance away from the place where you filled up with fuel. At least 3 metres.
- Check for any obstacles (such as branches) in your working area and consider the nature of the area. Always leave an escape route clear for emergencies. Slippery, uneven or icy surfaces, for example, can be dangerous and should therefore be avoided.
- Also ensure no-one else is too close. Never work on your own. Always ensure someone else who can help in an emergency is within calling distance.