

Heavy Equipment Backhoes

1. ***Know the working rang of the machine***
2. Be sure attachment or load doesn't catch on obstructions when lifting or swinging.
3. When lifting a load, do not lift, swing or stop unnecessarily fast.
4. Be sure everyone is in the clear before swinging or moving in any direction.
 - a. NEVER swing or position attachment or load over personnel or vehicle cabs.
5. Never allow personnel to walk or work under any part of the machine or load while the machine is operating.
6. Never allow anyone to ride the attachment or the load.
 - a. This is an extremely dangerous practice.
7. Do not load a truck unless the driver is in a safe place.
 - a. Then, load the truck from the rear or side.
8. Use a signal person.
 - a. The signal person must be in direct communication with the operator, and the operator must pay close attention to the signals.
9. Never exceed the lifting capacity of the machine. Stay within the lifting limits shown on the Load Rating Chart.
 - a. Remember - you may be able to lift the load in close, at ground level, but as the load radius and elevation change, the lifting capacity of the excavator may decrease.
10. Keep the machine well back from the edge of an excavation.
11. Avoid undercutting the machine. If necessary, provide adequate shoring to prevent the machine from falling into the excavation.
12. Level off the work area if possible.
13. Avoid swinging or extending the bucket farther than necessary in a downhill direction.
 - a. This will reduce the stability of the machine.
14. When working with the bucket on the uphill side, the excavator may tip over if the slope is too steep.
15. Avoid working with the tracks across the slope, as this reduces stability and increases the tendency for the machine to slide.
16. Always be sure that slings or chains used to lift the load are of adequate strength and that they are in good condition.
17. Watch your boom clearance at all times.
18. Turn off the engine and allow the machine to cool before working on the machine.
 - a. Most fluids on the excavator are hot enough to cause severe burns at normal operating temperatures.