

CE



CHARGER 8.5 TON IMPACT LOG SPLITTER

ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY CLOTHING IN
CONJUNCTION WITH HAND, EYE, HEARING
AND FOOT PROTECTION TO
HSE/EN SPECIFICATIONS



Operator's Handbook

portek.co.uk

Safety information

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Please refer to the safety instructions, assembly instructions and parts list before setting-up, operating, maintaining and cleaning the Charger Logsplitter. Keep this Instruction Manual safe so you may refer to it at any time.

Safety Rules

WARNING



Read and understand all the instructions before use.

Failure to follow the instructions in this manual may cause electric shock, fire or other injury.

This machine is strictly to be operated by one person.

Essential Equipment for Your Protection

The Charger complies with all current safety standards. For your safety You must wear full protection as specified below.



Head, eye and hearing protection

Eye protection to EN166 – B

Hearing protection to EN 352-1: 2002

Face protection visor recommended



Hand protection

Gloves to EN 12477:2001



Foot protection

Boots to EN 20345:2011



Leg protection

Sturdy full length trousers - ideally to EN381 standard

WARNING:

When using this machine, basic safety precautions should be followed to reduce risk of personal injury and machine damage. Read all instructions thoroughly before attempting to operate the machine.

Portek cannot be held liable for any injuries or damages that may occur, if the Charger is used in any inappropriate way, and/or if the device has been modified in any way.

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Important safety information

The Charger MUST be operated from the back of the machine as shown

This enables complete control of the splitting process.



1. **Keep the workplace free from obstacles which could cause an accident. Ensure a clear working area of at least 1.5m is maintained to eliminate trip hazards from logs or tools.**
2. **Do not expose the Charger Logsplitter to rain.** DO NOT use the **Charger Logsplitter** in damp or wet locations.
3. **Keep children away from the Logsplitter.** Children should never be allowed in the work place, or operate the machine or tools.
4. **Store your Charger Logsplitter in a dry and dust free environment.**
5. **Dress appropriately.** Do not wear loose clothing, jewellery or anything that could be caught by the moving parts. Protective clothing and slip-resistant shoes are recommended when operating the machinery. Wear protective hair covering to secure long hair.
6. **Safety equipment must be used.** When operating the **Charger Logsplitter**, protective strike-resistant certified goggles, earplugs, working gloves and boots should be worn, see page 2.
7. **Maintain the Charger Logsplitter and tools with care.** Follow the instructions for lubricating, cleaning and parts replacement. Keep handles clean, dry and free from oil and grease.
8. **STAY ALERT!** Look at what you are doing. Keep your judgement. Do not operate when you're tired.
9. **Check all parts.** Before using the **Charger Logsplitter**, any damaged part should be carefully checked to determine that it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check all fasteners and tighten as necessary. Any damaged parts should be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician.
10. **Only genuine Charger Logsplitter accessories and parts can be used as replacements.** Using accessories and parts other than those recommended may cause the quality guarantee to be invalid.
11. **Do not operate the machine if intoxicated with alcohol or drugs.** If you're taking prescribed drugs, make sure your judgement and reactions are unaffected. If there is any doubt about this do not operate the **Charger Logsplitter**.
12. **MAINTENANCE.** For your own safety, the care and maintenance of the **Charger Logsplitter** should be on a regular basis.
13. **WARNING!** When operating, all persons, apart from operator, should keep at least 5m away from the Charger machine, to avoid injuries by wood or debris. Only one operator is allowed to operate the machine at any one time.
14. **CAPACITY.** Do not try to split wood more than the specified size. If the wood can't be split, take the wood out from the machine and cut it into smaller sizes or split it by other means. For full specification and capacity, see page 9.
15. **This machine can only be used to split wood.** Splitting other material or using the **Charger Logsplitter** in other ways may cause injuries or damage to property and invalidate any guarantee.
16. **Care should be taken** placing and removing logs from the log splitter as the splitting wedge has a sharp edge.
17. **Always** place the logs centrally on the cutting area. **Hint:** Logs split easier if the narrower diameter (towards top of tree) is nearest the splitting wedge.
18. **ATTENTION:** the warnings, alerts and instructions in this manual cannot cover all situations. The operator must have basic common sense and caution at all times.
19. **ATTENTION: do not leave the Charger Logsplitter running unattended.**
20. **Use of a residual current device is recommended.**

Setting up

Remove the Charger from the packaging - the unit is heavy so a 2 person lift is required.



Controls and main features

Preparation

Transport the machine to a designated work place on flat, even ground. This can be done by using the lifting handles and wheeling it to your work area. If you need to lift the whole machine this can easily be done using front support handle and the lifting handles in the horizontal position. When operating the machine, move the lifting handles to the upright position.

For best operation the Front Support should be fixed to the ground to ensure stability. Check all moving parts are attached and fixed securely. Please check your **Charger Logsplitter** and contact your supplier immediately if any parts are incomplete or if you are unsure.



Use the rocker switch to turn the machine on and off. This starts the motor to drive the flywheels.



The Charger Logsplitter features a reset button. The electrical system will automatically cut-out if overloaded due to excessive power being used.

If the system has tripped:

1. Ensure the unit is free from obstructions
2. Switch the machine off with rocker switch
3. Wait 20-30 seconds and press restart button
4. Restart machine with the rocker switch

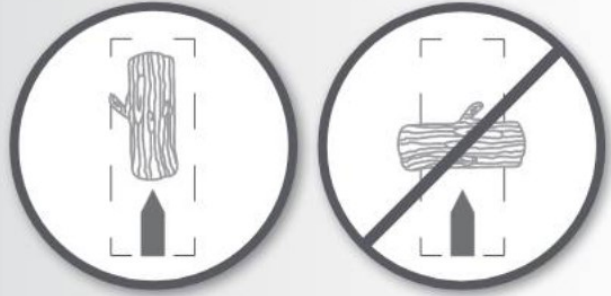
Operation

IMPORTANT OPERATING PROCEDURE

NEVER OPERATE THE CHARGER FROM THE SIDE

Plug the Charger into power supply. Use of a circuit protection breaker is recommended.

When placing a log onto the Charger, ensure it is positioned length-ways and not horizontally and aligned centrally with the splitting wedge



The Charger is a robust machine comprising heavy duty components. The levers must be moved positively to ensure smooth operation.

Don't be timid using the operating levers.

A rapid movement of the handles are necessary for the rack and pinion to engage and disengage fully without damage. The handles should never be stopped in any location between the fully forward or fully backward positions.

READY TO SPLIT
LOG AGAINST
SPLITTING WEDGE



The Ram returns:
only when both handles
are put in the complete
home position, 1 all the
way forward, and 2 all
the way back.

Before use, familiarise yourself with the operating sequence by practicing without logs. The log must be placed resting against the splitting wedge.

Operation



1

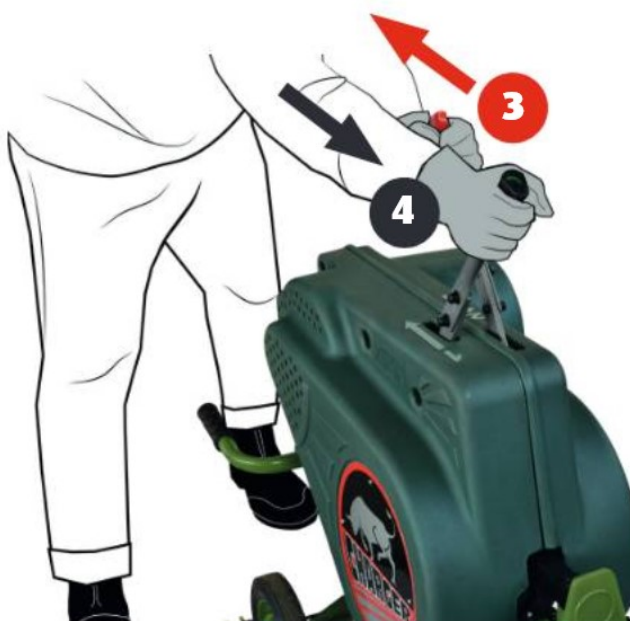
Pull handle **1** **FIRMLY** towards you and **HOLD**



2

Push handle **2** forward swiftly and firmly and **HOLD**

The ram will move forward and drive the log on to the splitting wedge



3-4

Once log is split, **REVERSE** the sequence to retract the ram

NOTE: If the handles are suddenly released there is a mechanism to help prevent injury. Only when both handles are put in the complete home position, 1 all the way forward, and 2 all the way back, will the ram return.

Operation

IF THE LOG IS SPLIT AND THE RAM IS RETURNED TO THE START POSITION

Remove split pieces carefully and repeat operation for next log

IF LOG IS SPLIT BUT RAM DOES NOT RETURN

Clean and clear the surface below the ram from debris

IF LOG IS TOO KNOTTY AND DOES NOT SPLIT FIRST TIME

A second or third attempt can be made but ensure the ram returns each time. **Ensure the motor and flywheel are up to speed before repeating the splitting process.** (the motor may stall and the thermal cut out will activate to stop the motor - the reset switch must be pressed and wait for the power to be reset see page 5)

IF LOG IS STUCK ON THE SPLITTING WEDGE

Firstly return the handles to their starting position first handle **2**, then handle **1**, to retract the ram. Next, to free the log, give it a sharp knock with a hammer away from the splitting wedge. If the ram will not return first, then the log can be knocked free before retracting the ram

Only when both handles are put in the complete home position, 1 all the way forward, and 2 all the way back, will the ram return.



Tests have shown that most wood in the UK can be split satisfactorily, but some hardwoods such as Apple can only typically be split in small sections.

With regular use you will get to know the limitations of the machine, it is essential to work within them for a trouble free service.

Repeated motor stalling when trying to split very knotty wood will cause the trip switch to operate, protecting the motor from damage. After a short period, usually less than a minute, the trip can be reset by pressing the push button. The unit can then be restarted as shown on page 5.

If a log is difficult to split and requires a few attempts ensure the motor and flywheel are up to speed before repeating the splitting process.



DISCONNECT POWER SUPPLY BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO REMOVE STUCK LOGS OR ANY ISSUES WITH RAM POSITION AFTER ENCOUNTERING PROBLEMS

Maintenance and Specifications



Before performing any maintenance procedure or inspection, stop the motor and unplug the power cord.

Wipe down & clean the machine before storing in a dry, safe place.

1. Every time before use, check all the nuts and bolts have been fastened, ensure the machine is in good condition before using.
2. During use, the area beneath the ram can accumulate debris and splinters which can prevent the ram returning fully to the start position. Keep this area clear from debris to ensure correct operation.
3. A build up of debris can occur under the carriage where the bearings run. Keep this part of the machine clean
4. Lubricate the surface of beam, the meshing part of rack and rack gear with light machine oil weekly or every 25 hours. For other metal parts, use a little oil to prevent rust. Spray grease can be used to lubricate the internal mechanism by spraying into the moulding by the handles

PROCEDURE	BEFORE EACH USE	EVERY 25 HOURS
CHECK GENERAL EQUIPMENT CONDITION	●	
PERFORM RAIL MAINTENANCE CLEAN AND LUBRICATE	●	
CHECK THE CONDITION OF THE ELECTRICAL CORD	●	
GREASE MECHANISM		●

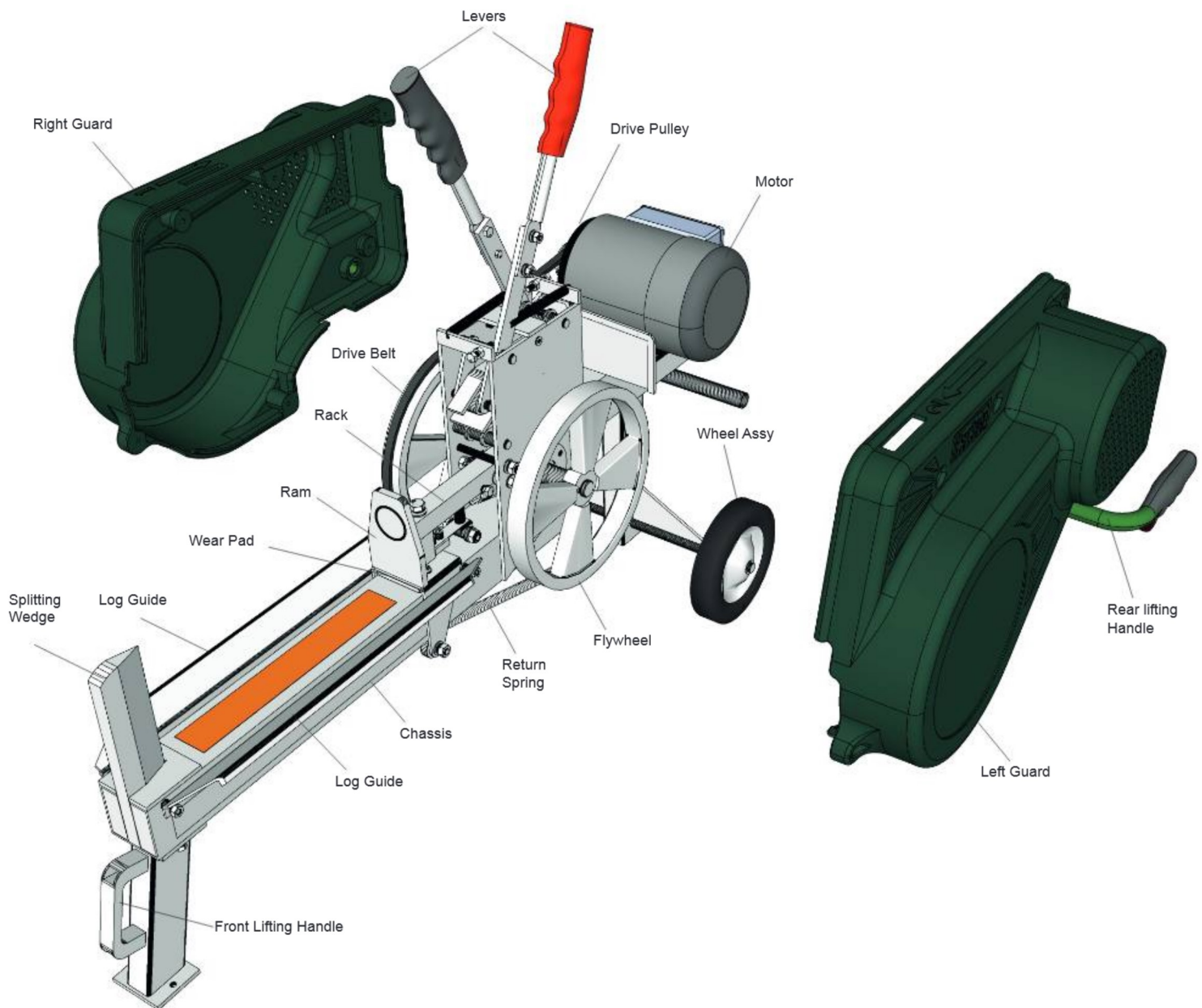
Specifications

Size	107 x 32 x 57cm
Power / Voltage	1.5 KW / 220-240volt
Log Capacity	Max Length: 400mm Max Diameter: 300mm
Max. splitting force	8.5 Ton
Nett weight	73.0 Kg

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Possible Cause
Motor does not run	<p>Splitter unplugged; plug in Splitter.</p> <p>Machine electric cable may be damaged - do not use until unit is checked by competent electrician.</p> <p>The motor Reset has tripped; push the Reset Button.</p> <p>If the above causes are not the problem, a circuit breaker might need to be reset; Reset Circuit Breaker.</p>
Motor Reset continuously trips	<p>If you are using an extension cable, make sure that the cable is no more than 10m long, is not smaller than 1.5mm² wire. Longer extensions will need a higher rating.</p>
Log fails to split	<p>Incorrect positioning of the log; re-position the log flat on the splitting beam with the end squarely against the Wedge.</p> <p>Log exceeds permitted dimensions or the wood is too hard or knotty for the capacity of the machine.</p> <p>If a log is difficult to split and requires a few attempts ensure the motor and flywheel are up to speed before repeating the splitting process.</p>
Rack returning very slowly or not returning properly.	<p>Check for wood chips or debris between ram and rail. Clean beam of built up/ caked on debris.</p> <p>Return spring is unhooked or damaged. Reconnect or replace as needed.</p>
Machine does not seem to have full splitting power.	<p>If you are using an extension cable, make sure that the cable is no more than 10m long, is not smaller than 1.5mm² wire. Longer extensions will need a higher rating.</p> <p>Belt may be slipping or damaged - check and replace as necessary.</p>

Parts List



Please contact Portek Ltd for spare parts availability. Any attempt to repair or indication of the guards having been removed to repair will invalidate the warranty. Contact Portek in the first instance if a problem occurs.

CE Certificate of Conformity

EC Declaration of Conformity

Portek Ltd, Bryn Hall, Knolton Bryn, Overton on Dee, Wrexham, LL13 0LF
declare that, in accordance to the following directives:

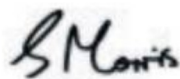
2006/42/EC (Machinery Directive)
2004/108/EC (EMC Directive)

the "Charger 8.5" has been designed to comply with the relevant sections of the below
BS EN ISO standards:

12100-2: 2010
14121-1: 2007
13857: 2008
953:1997 + A1: 2009
1037: 1995 + A1: 2008
BS EN 609-1:2017

The unit complies with all applicable Essential Requirements of the Directives.

Declaration made by Stephen Morris, Designer
on 31/08/2018



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