

Motor Grader Operation

A motor grader, is a very large, heavy piece of machinery, with several blind spots. Like using any mobile equipment, coordination and communication are essential to safe operating.

Pause for Safety

- Hazards**
- Slip, trip, or falls
 - Crushing/Pinching Injuries
 - Workers on foot/Bystanders
 - Overhead or underground hazards
 - Steep inclines
 - Rollovers
 - Collisions

PPE



Additional PPE



- Controls**
- Training
 - Awareness
 - Discipline
 - Communication



Strategies and Procedures

Prior to operating equipment your supervisor shall verify you are capable and competent.

Complete a hazard assessment of the work area accounting for all your environmental variables.

- Other working equipment,
- Obstacles,
- Workers
- Terrain and
- Weather conditions.

Before mounting the equipment

- You should be familiar with the applicable safety and operations manual.
- Perform a walk-around inspection.
- Check all fluid levels,
- Check tires for wear and proper pressure,
- Hydraulics, hoses and
- All safety devices.
- Report all faults to your supervisor and have the necessary repairs performed
- Follow lock-out procedures prior to all servicing

Mounting and dismounting

- Always face equipment
- Make sure that both hands are free for mounting or dismounting
 - Do not carry items while entering or exiting the cab.
- Take extra care to ensure that footwear is free from grease, mud, or snow before climbing on or off a machine.
- Maintain three point contact with steps and handholds provided
- Do not jump.
- Never mount or dismount a moving machine.

Operating

- If equipment is fitted with seat belts, mandatory use of the seat belt at all time is required.
- Never bypass any safety devices including the restraint bar.
- Keep all body parts within the cab at all times.
- Start using cold start procedure, allowing the machine to warm up. Operate equipment with lights on at all times.
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- Keep mirrors and windows clear for visibility.
- Keep cab clean of garbage and debris.
- Keep aware of co-workers and others on foot in work zones.

Backing up

- Whenever possible travel in the forward direction.
- Backing up without a clear view or signal person is prohibited.
- Use radio for communication whenever practical.
- If backing in a congested location, use a spotter.
- Always check visually to the rear before backing.
- Back up only when you are sure it is safe to do so.
- Slowly back up with extreme caution.

Operating

- Workers on foot should never be allowed within the work zone.
 - Never assume a bystander, or equipment operator knows where you are going.
- Obey all posted signs, being aware of underground hazards.
- Travel with the hydraulics lowered close to the ground.
- If Grader is being used for towing operations, refer to Towing safe work practices.

Parking

- Park with the hydraulics lowered to the ground or close to it.
- Ensure to park distant from all other equipment which may be in motion.

