

LOADER/BACKHOE SAFETY TRAINING

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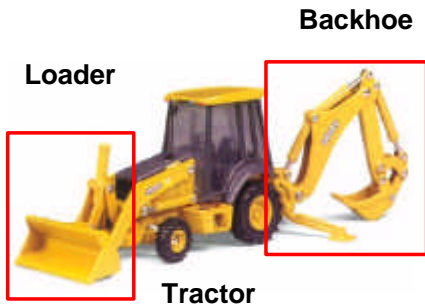


STUDENT MANUAL

ARXCIS, INC.
KINGSTON, WA
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ARXCIS, INC. KINGSTON, WA

Basic Components

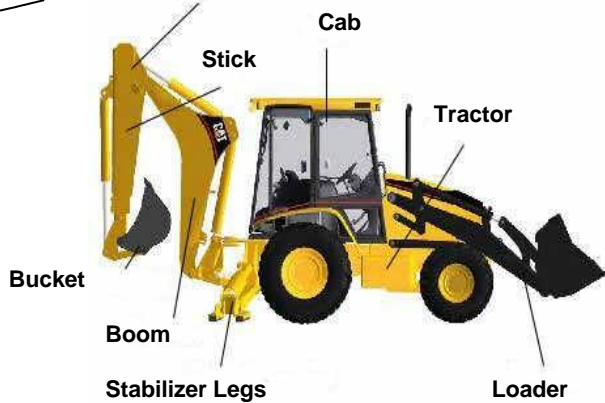


The basic component of the loader/backhoe is the tractor. Most tractors used in loader/backhoes are now designed to be used in conjunction with the loader attachment and the backhoe attachment.

The loader is attached to the front of the tractor and is raised and lowered by hydraulic cylinders. A bucket is attached to the end of the loader boom and has a hydraulic cylinder for tipping the bucket forward. The bucket capacity varies depending on the size of the tractor. The bucket can be lowered to increase the machine's digging ability.

The backhoe is attached to the rear of the tractor by a boom and bucket assembly. The boom is supported by hydraulic cylinders which allow it to swing to the left and right. The bucket is attached to the end of the boom and is used to dig. The backhoe is controlled by a joystick which functions as a hydraulic cylinder. The backhoe is used to dig holes and trenches. The backhoe is also used for grading and leveling. The backhoe is a very versatile machine and is used in many different applications. The backhoe is a very important piece of equipment for any construction site. The backhoe is a very important piece of equipment for any construction site.

SAMPLE



Inspecting the Tractor



Check the following:

- Engine oil & coolant
- Hydraulic fluid levels
- Glass for dirt & damage
- Transmission for smooth operation
- Brakes
- Safety devices
- Seat belt
- Tires for condition & inflation
- Lights, gauges, horn & alarms
- Cab cleanliness
- All controls & labels

Minor injuries often occur when the operator is not wearing proper safety gear. Always use proper safety glass in the cab. Common during operation, the operator should check the machine for any signs of wear or damage. The operator should check the machine for any signs of wear or damage. The operator should check the machine for any signs of wear or damage.

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Check the following:

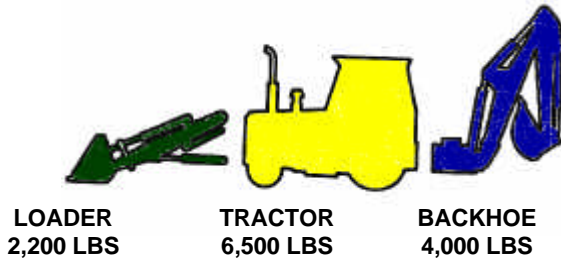
- Damaged stabilizer arms & pads
- Bent or damaged hydraulic cylinders
- Worn hinge pins & bushings
- Damaged & leaking hydraulic lines
- Smooth operation through all functions
- Damaged or loose teeth on bucket
- Worn stick extension slide pads
- All welds for cracks



The operator should check to see that the machine is being properly lubricated. The operator's manual will provide a complete lubrication chart.



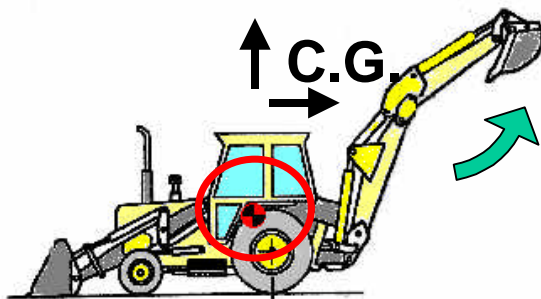
Typical Weight of Components



A typical loader/backhoe found on a job site can weigh from 12,000 to 16,000 pounds. Emphasize how heavy the machine is and because of its size how much potential it has for doing damage when not properly operated.

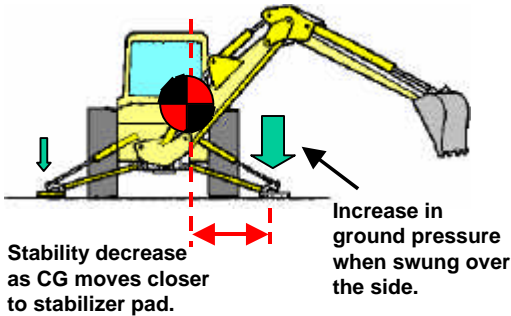
Because of their weight, great care is required when removing or installing a loader and/or a backhoe. Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines and use proper equipment for these components.

SAMPLE



As a backhoe is raised and extended, the center of gravity of the machine rises vertically and moves toward the rear of the machine. This vertical change in the center of gravity affects the machine's lateral or side to side stability. Also, when a backhoe is extended and swung to the side, lateral stability decreases.

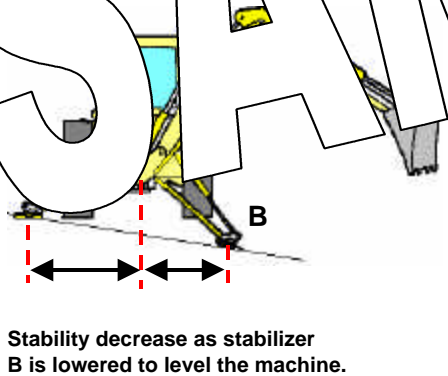
Machine Stability



When a boom is swung to the side, the center of gravity of the whole machine shifts toward the side also. If the bucket is full of material or if a load is suspended from it, the center of gravity shifts even more to the side. If the combined center of gravity of the machine and load moves beyond the stabilizer, the machine will tip over.

As the bucket is swung to the side, the pressure on the stabilizer pads increases. If that pressure exceeds the bearing capacity of the ground, the stabilizer will sink, thus increasing a potential for a tip over.

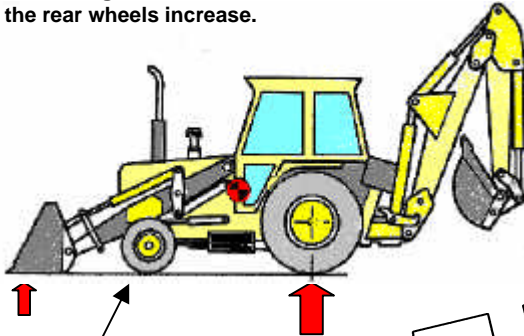
SAMPLE



When leveling the machine on sloping ground, the stabilizer on the downhill side of the loader/backhoe has to rotate farther down to raise that side of the machine. Thus, the horizontal distance from the machine's center of gravity to the downhill stabilizer decreases. Shortening this distance decreases the machine's stability which in turn decreases the amount of weight the machine can safely lift. This condition is at its worst when the bucket is fully swung to the side.

Machine Stability

When the loader bucket is used to raise the front wheels off of the ground, traction on the rear wheels increase.



On occasion it may be desirable when backing up to increase traction on the rear wheels. By lowering the loader bucket to the ground and raising the front wheels slightly, a certain amount of weight can be transferred to the rear wheels. When doing this, the bucket should be tilted forward to prevent the rear from digging into the ground.

Weight Removed
by Bucket

Incr
Whe
from
weigh

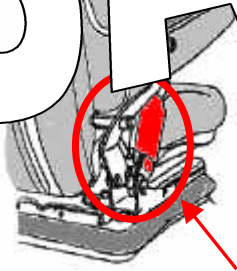
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For Safe Operation

- Never Take Anything For Granted
- Face the Machine When Climbing on and off
- Keep The Machine Clean
- Clean Mud And Grease From Shoes
- Avoid Loose Clothing And Jewelry
- Wear Protective Equipment
- Never Operate Machine Without Protective Guards
- Always Check Height, Width, and Weight Restrictions
- Keep all Safety Devices in Place and Working Order
- Plan Ahead
- Learn Beforehand About the Work Area

The above is a list of safety devices which should be used when operating the machine. The manufacturer's manual should be read and discussed with the operator. In addition, the operator should be instructed in the proper use of the machine. The operator should also be instructed in the proper use of the machine. The operator should also be instructed in the proper use of the machine.

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Inspected
each Day

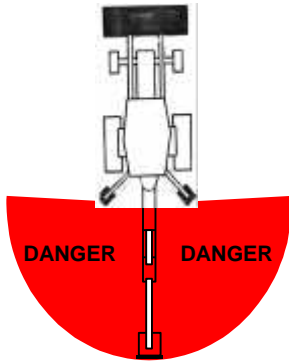
Loader/backhoes are equipped with seat belts and which should be worn at all times. On rough terrain, a seat belt will keep the operator in his seat allowing him to maintain control of the machine. In the event of a rollover, a seat belt will keep the operator within the confines of the rollover structure.

Before operating the machine each day, an operator is to inspect the seat belt for damage and proper operation.

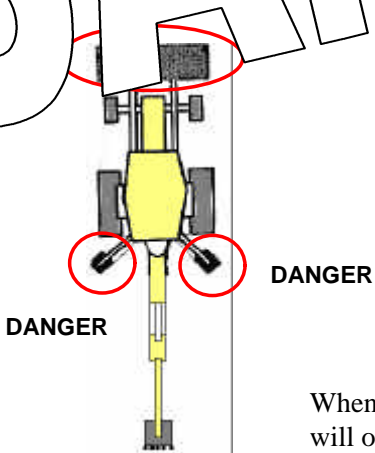
- Must Be Worn When Operating The Machine

Danger Area

When the backhoe of a loader/backhoe is in operation, no one should enter the full swing area of the backhoe. The operator's vision of this area is not always clear and anyone entering may not be seen by the operator.



SAMPLE



When a backhoe is being used for excavating, the machine will often move around the ground. Workers standing close to the stabilizers or the loader bucket could be injured when the machine bounces.

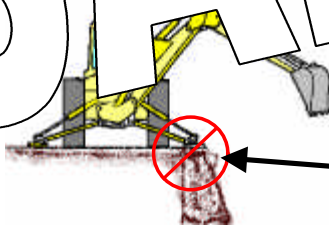
Excavating Hazards



Before excavating, determine the location of all underground utilities and other buried hazards.

Before any excavating work begins, the location and type of buried hazards needs to be determined. Utility companies can provide information on their buried service lines. Results of utility locators may be needed to contact various agencies to identify buried objects. When the location of buried objects is identified, it should be done to avoid any damage to the objects.

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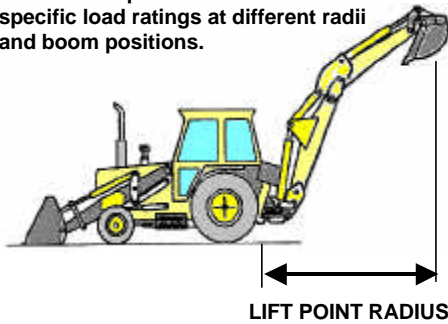


Avoid setting stabilizer close to the edge of the trench.

The stabilizers of a backhoe need to be set far enough from the edge of a trench to avoid a cave-in. Avoid placing the stabilizers closer than two feet from the edge. Depending on soil structure, this may not be sufficient. Remember, when the backhoe is swung to the side, the ground pressure from the stabilizer pad increases. The amount of pressure is depends on the weight being swung to the side. When setting up the backhoe near a trench, confer with the on site 'designated competent individual' responsible for establishing safety requirements for trenching to determine how close the machine can be to the trench edge. The rule of thumb for setup on unstable soils is: The distance the stabilizer is from the trench edge is equal to the depth of the trench.

Lifting Loads

When lifting a load with the backhoe, refer to the operator's manual for specific load ratings at different radii and boom positions.



The operator's manual for each machine will include a section on lifting with the backhoe. This section includes information on lifting capacity for various radii of operation and where and how the loads are attached to the backhoe.

The term 'radius' refers to the horizontal distance from the swing hinge pin to the point on the bucket where load is attached.

SAMPLE

Lift Point	Capacity
Backhoe	
5.9 ft	8370 lbs
9.8 ft	5100 lbs
12.5 ft	3520 lbs
14.1 ft	3520 lbs
15.4 ft	3058 lbs
Backhoe Swung to Side, Standard Stick	
5.9 ft	7370 lbs
9.8 ft	3861 lbs
12.5 ft	2915 lbs
14.1 ft	2442 lbs
15.4 ft	2145 lbs

The above load chart is representative of what is found in most operator manuals.

The chart is divided into two sections: One for a lift made straight over the back of the machine, and one for lifts made with the boom swung to the side. Notice how the capacity for lifts made at the same radius decreases as the backhoe is swung to the side. Maximum capacity lifts made over the rear of the machine can, if swung to the side, tip the machine over. Machines with extendable sticks have additional load charts for the stick retracted and extended.

**30% reduction
in capacity**

Controlling Worksite Access



Before excavating work begins, access to the worksite by unauthorized persons needs to be controlled. Barriers of cone, barrels or other structures can establish the work area perimeter. Caution tape, barricade safety fencing or other well-marked material should be placed between the vertical barriers to prevent people from accidentally entering the work area.

Worksites need to have proper barrier/barricades to prevent unauthorized personnel and vehicles from entering the area.



SAMPLE



When using special attachments, operating instructions need to be included with the operator's manual.



Several types of backhoe attachments are currently available which extend the backhoe's versatility. Before using these devices, the operator should read and thoroughly understand how to use them.

When changing attachments, make sure all pins and pin locks are securely in place. Some attachments require additional hydraulic hoses to be strung from the tractor to the attachment. All hoses need to be securely attached to the backhoe to prevent damage during operations.

Transporting The Machine



Loading and unloading the machine should be by and experienced operator. Tie down chains need to be attached to the machine as to prevent cause damage and prevent the machine from moving in all directions.

When preparing to transport a machine, the operator's manual should be read to identify any special requirements. One must be sure to use a boom lock when swinging pin ends to the back. Also, use a boom lock when the machine is engaged.

When loading the machine onto a trailer, make sure the machine is centered on the trailer to prevent the machine from slipping off. When loading the machine, use a steel plate to support the machine from the front and make the weight light. Therefore, the machine should be kept on the deck. Once the machine is on the trailer, the loader bucket should be raised as necessary and chain the bucket to the transport vehicle. Avoid running the tie-down chains over hydraulic cylinders and/or other parts that could be damaged. Tie-down chains should be installed in a cross configuration, both side to side and fore to aft.

When unloading the machine, make sure all tie-down chains are removed and the transport vehicle wheels blocked. Carefully descend the ramps, keeping the loader bucket high enough to clear the deck.