

### What?

- A compaction plate (or wacker plate) is usually petrol or diesel powered and has a large metal vibrating base plate.
- The operator walks behind the compaction plate holding on to the handle and applies a small amount of forward pressure to move it along.



### Why?



- A compaction plate allows layers of material to be compacted down until closely knitted and firm, to enable a good solid foundation for things such as paths.
- The compaction plate should only be used by those trained to do so.
- Safe handling of the machine should be employed when moving it to and from the minibus; use the trolley to wheel it and lift it with two people, as it is very heavy.
- The machine should be clamped in place to prevent movement during transport.

### Do ✓

- ✓ Check the site for any dangers
- ✓ Read the relevant RAMS & Compaction Plate Induction
- ✓ Undertake the relevant safety checks before starting the engine
- ✓ Use a 'Spotter', a person to check for danger. Stay clear of the machine if you are not operating it (minimum of 15m)
- ✓ Stand well in front and to the side of the machine if you need to attract the operator's attention, and wave your arms
- ✓ Store the machine away safely

### Don't ✗

- ✗ Don't operate the compaction plate without wearing the correct PPE:
  - Ear defenders (should also be worn by people working close by the machine)
  - Steel toe capped boots
- ✗ Don't let anyone come up behind the operator whilst the machine is on or walk in front of the machine
- ✗ Don't leave the machine running without an operator
- ✗ Don't operate the compaction plate if you are feeling tired or too hot; take regular breaks and stay hydrated

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