

# ~ FABRICATION ~



CERAMICS

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



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INTRODUCING

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# PORTABLE BLUNGER



### Portable 13amp Electric Blunger or Stirrer

Access Level 2 (see Ceramics Workshop induction Guide on Access Levels)

An electric blunger or stirrer is used to mix slurries of clay, paper-clay, casting slip, large amounts of coloured slip and glazes. Power is supplied through a 13amp wall socket and a 3 metre electrical cable to the 240 volt AC motor.

#### PPE Basic

- Suitable work-coat (provided)
- Eye protection, rated to BS/EN166 (provided)

#### What to do before use

- ENSURE you have received an INDUCTION into the area BEFORE working
- INFORM a member of staff BEFORE operating the blunger
- ENSURE the blunger is NOT plugged into the electrical socket
- VISUALLY check the machine for signs of damage
- VISUALLY check the electrical cable for signs of damage and check whether the 13amp plug in a good condition.
- IF STUDENT, if machine is damaged, report to technical team
- IF STAFF, E-mail technical team to report if machine requires maintenance or servicing, indicating whether the machine is to be taken out of operation and for how long
- MAKE SURE the flooring around the machine is CLEAR and free from OBSTRUCTION

## How To Use This Portable Blunging Machine

- **CAREFULLY** unwind the electrical cable from around the blunger motor
- **CAREFULLY** remove the blunger from its protective rubber bucket, provided by the manufacturer, using two hands with a **FIRM GRIP** of the handles
- Using **BOTH** hands, lift the stirrer by the handles into the bucket of liquid material to be stirred
- **MAKE SURE** it is upright and secure in the bucket of liquid, which should also be **STABLE** and **NOT SPILL**
- Using **DRY** hands, insert the plug into the fused 13-amp wall socket and switch the wall socket **ON**
- Some blungers also have an additional **ON** control on one of the handles; this should also be **ON**
- **CHECK** whether the blunger is operating normally. The blunger can stall if the liquid is too thick and there is a **RISK** that the motor might draw **TOO MUCH** current and **OVERHEAT** or **BURNOUT**. To avoid this, **LIFT** the blunger up and down with **BOTH HANDS** until the liquid starts to **THIN OUT**
- **NEVER** leave a blunger running **UNATTENDED**
- Switch **OFF** the blunger periodically, to allow the motor to **COOL DOWN**
- When the liquid has been stirred sufficiently, switch **OFF** the blunger at the handle control
- **CAREFULLY** lift the blunger out of the bucket with two hands and **QUICKLY** place in a water-filled bucket next to your mixed liquid
- Switch the blunger **ON** again and run it to clean the stirrer blades
- When **CLEAN**, **ENSURE** your hands are **DRY** before switching **OFF** the blunger at the motor **AND** the socket switch
- **UNPLUG** the blunger from the wall socket using **DRY** hands, making sure the 13amp plug doesn't fall into **ANY** liquid
- Remove the blunger from the water, taking care handling the sharp stirrer blades
- Place the blunger **CAREFULLY** back into its protective rubber bucket provided by the manufacturer
- Rewind the electrical cable **CAREFULLY** around the motor of the blunger

Date

I verify that I have read and understood the information detailed within this document

Name

Signature