

Working with machines

- Make sure the machine is right for the job
- Be trained, skilled and experienced
- Keep people and machines separated



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As forestry becomes more mechanised, machines – also known as mobile plant – are becoming a bigger factor in incidents and injuries. Here are some ways to stay safe around machines.

Make sure the machine is right for the job – and well maintained

- Have someone who is trained, skilled and experienced check the machine before you use it to make sure it's safe.
- Only use a machine to do the job it's intended to do.
- Make sure all guards and cab certificates are in place and current.

Be trained, skilled and experienced on that machine

- Never use a machine alone unless you are fully trained to use that particular one.
- For anyone still training to use a machine, have someone who's trained, skilled and experienced supervise you.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use and maintain the machine.

Keep people and machines separated

- Machine cabs can have limited vision so always check your mirrors and reversing cameras and make sure everyone is clear before moving the machine.
- Never speed – and remember to slow down when approaching the skid.
- If you're working on the ground remember the machine operator may not be able to see you, so:
 - » stay in the safe zones and wear hi-viz gear
 - » work facing machines, and don't move behind them
 - » make sure the machine operator has seen you, and signalled they have.

Machine operators and others on site must be able to communicate, ideally by RT.