

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Electric motor-operated hand-held tools,
transportable tools and lawn and garden
machinery—Safety**

**Part 4.2: Particular requirements for
hedge trimmers**



AS/NZS 62841.4.2:2018

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-002, Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances and Small Power Transformers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 24 October 2018 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 6 November 2018.

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 18911.

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Electric motor-operated hand-held tools, transportable tools and lawn and garden machinery—Safety

Part 4.2: Particular requirements for hedge trimmers

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**ELECTRIC MOTOR-OPERATED HAND-HELD TOOLS, TRANSPORTABLE TOOLS
AND LAWN AND GARDEN MACHINERY –
SAFETY –****Part 4.2: Particular requirements for hedge trimmers****Foreword**

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-002 - Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances and Small Power Transformers to supersede AS/NZS 60745.2.15:2010 three years from the date of publication. During this period AS/NZS 60745.2.15:2010 will also remain current. Regulatory authorities that reference this Standard in regulation may apply these requirements at a different time. Users of this Standard should consult with these authorities to confirm their requirements.

The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers, designers, regulatory authorities, testing laboratories and similar organizations with safety requirements designed to give the user protection against hazards that might occur during normal operation and abnormal operation of the appliance and which may be used as the basis for approval for sale or for connection to the electricity supply mains in Australia and New Zealand.

The text of IEC 62841-4-2 Ed 1, prepared by IEC Technical Committee TC 116, was submitted to the Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Combined Procedure (dual public comment and committee vote) for adoption of the IEC standard as a Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand joint standard.

This Standard is an adoption with national modifications of the first edition of IEC 62841-4-2 *Electric motor-operated hand-held tools, transportable tools and lawn and garden machinery – Safety – Part 4-2 Particular requirements for hedge trimmers*. It has been varied as indicated to take account of Australian and New Zealand conditions.

This part 2 has to be used in conjunction with the latest edition of AS/NZS 62841.1 *Electric motor-operated hand-held tools, transportable tools and lawn and garden machinery – Safety – Part 1: General requirements and its Amendments*. It was established on the basis of AS/NZS 62841.1:2015.

This part 2 supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses of AS/NZS 62841.1 so as to convert it into the Australian/New Zealand Standard: Safety requirements for electric motor-operated hedge trimmers.

When a particular subclause of Part 1 is not mentioned in this part 2, that subclause applies as far as is reasonable. When this standard states "addition", "modification" or "replacement", the relevant text of Part 1 is to be adapted accordingly.

NOTE 1 The following numbering system is used:

- subclauses, tables and figures that are numbered starting from 101 are additional to those in Part 1;
- unless notes are in a new subclause or involve notes in Part 1, they are numbered starting from 101, including those in a replaced clause or subclause;
- additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc.;
- subclauses, notes and annexes that are additional to those in the IEC standard are prefixed with the letters AZ.

NOTE 2 The following print types are used:

- requirements: in roman type;
- test specifications: in italic type;
- notes: in small roman type.

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Words in **bold** in the text are defined in Clause 3.

p NOTE 3 In this document, p is used in the margin to indicate instructions for preparing a consolidated version.

The essential safety requirements in AS/NZS 3820¹ that could be applicable to requirements for electric motor-operated hedge trimmers are covered by this standard.

The national variations to IEC 62841-4-2 Ed 1 form the Australian and New Zealand national variations for purposes of the IECEE scheme for recognition of results of testing to standards for safety of electrical equipment (the CB scheme).

¹ AS/NZS 3820 *Essential safety requirements for electrical equipment*

The text of the International Standard IEC 62841-4-2 Ed 1 was approved as a joint Australia/New Zealand Standard with the agreed national variations as given below.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL VARIATIONS

There are no national variations to this Part 2 other than those listed in the national variations in AS/NZS 62841.1:2015.

NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL VARIATIONS

There are no national variations to this Part 2 other than those listed in the national variations in AS/NZS 62841.1:2015.

Annex ANZ (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding joint Australia/New Zealand publications

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by national variations the relevant joint Australia/New Zealand publications applies if the national variations are needed to ensure the safety of the appliance for Australia/New Zealand conditions. These international publications are indicated by (mod). If an international publication is not so indicated, then either it or the listed Australia/New Zealand publication may be used.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>AS/NZS</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 61672-1		<i>Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications</i>		
ISO 354	2003	<i>Acoustics – Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room</i>		
ISO 3744	2010	<i>Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting plane</i>		
ISO 11684		<i>Tractors, machinery for agriculture and forestry, powered lawn and garden equipment – Safety signs and hazard pictorials – General principles</i>		
ISO 22868	2011	<i>Forestry and gardening machinery – Noise test code for portable hand-held machines with internal combustion engine – Engineering method (Grade 2 accuracy)</i>		

NOTES

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 General requirements	9
5 General conditions for the tests	9
6 Radiation, toxicity and similar hazards.....	9
7 Classification.....	10
8 Marking and instructions.....	10
9 Protection against access to live parts.....	12
10 Starting	12
11 Input and current	12
12 Heating.....	12
13 Resistance to heat and fire.....	12
14 Moisture resistance	13
15 Resistance to rusting.....	13
16 Overload protection of transformers and associated circuits	13
17 Endurance.....	13
18 Abnormal operation	13
19 Mechanical hazards.....	14
20 Mechanical strength	27
21 Construction	30
22 Internal wiring.....	33
23 Components	33
24 Supply connection and external flexible cords	35
25 Terminals for external conductors.....	36
26 Provision for earthing	36
27 Screws and connections	36
28 Creepage distances, clearances and distances through insulation.....	36
Annexes	56
Annex I (informative) Measurement of noise and vibration emissions.....	57
Annex K (normative) Battery tools and battery packs	63
Annex L (normative) Battery tools and battery packs provided with mains connection or non-isolated sources	71
Annex AA (normative) Safety signs for safety instructions and warnings	77
Annex BB (informative) Example of a material and construction for fulfilling the requirements for an artificial surface.....	80
Bibliography.....	82
Figure 101 – Pictorial representation of some definitions	37
Figure 102 – Pictorial representation of some definitions	37
Figure 103 – Measurement of cutting length	38

Figure 104 – Handles positioning	39
Figure 105 – Measurement of handle gripping length	41
Figure 106 – Adjustable front handle limits for side to side handle rotation	41
Figure 107 – Adjustable rear handle limits for side to side handle rotation	42
Figure 108 – Measurement of reach distance	42
Figure 109 – Front hand barrier dimensions	43
Figure 110 – Front hand barrier width for category 3a with adjustable cutting device	43
Figure 111 – Examples of compliant/non-compliant handle distances and handle attachments for category 1	44
Figure 112 – Measurement of distance from the cutter blade to handles and grasping surfaces	45
Figure 113 – Measurement method for minimum length of blunt extensions along the axis of the cutting device	46
Figure 114 – Cutting device configuration examples for categories 1 and 2 (see Table 101 and Table 102)	47
Figure 115 – Cutting device configuration example for categories 3a and 3b (see Table 101 and Table 102)	47
Figure 116 – Cutting device configuration example for category 4 (see Table 101 and Table 102)	48
Figure 117 – Adjustable cutting device side to side limits	49
Figure 118 – Lower barrier	49
Figure 119 – Measurement of the force necessary to maintain an extended-reach hedge trimmer in a horizontal orientation	50
Figure 120 – Hedge trimmer positions for drop test of 20.3.1	52
Figure 121 – Additional drop test of 20.3.1 for extended-reach hedge trimmers	53
Figure 122 – Impact test apparatus for handle insulation	54
Figure 123 – Mounting and application of force for the test of 20.101.3.3	54
Figure 124 – Example of an operator presence sensor	55
Figure 125 – Test assembly for accessibility of attachment plug blades	55
Figure I.101 – Microphone positions on the hemisphere (see Table I.101)	61
Figure I.102 – Positions of transducers for hedge trimmers	62
Figure AA.1 – Safety sign illustrating – "DANGER – Keep hands away from blade"	77
Figure AA.2 – Alternative safety sign illustrating – "DANGER – Keep hands away from blade"	77
Figure AA.3 – Safety sign illustrating – "Do not expose to rain"	78
Figure AA.4 – Safety sign illustrating – "Remove plug from the mains immediately if the cable is damaged or cut"	78
Figure AA.5 – Safety signs illustrating – "Wear eye protection"	79
Figure AA.6 – Optional safety sign illustrating – "Wear eye and head protection"	79
Figure BB.1 – Sketch of the measurement surface covered with an artificial surface (not to scale)	81
Table 4 – Required performance levels	14
Table 101 – Hedge trimmer categories (excluding extended-reach hedge trimmers)	21
Table 102 – Extended-reach hedge trimmer categories	21
Table 103 – Test cycle for two-handed blade controls with non-sequential operation	35

Table 104 – Test cycle for two-handed blade controls with sequential operation	35
Table I.101 – Co-ordinates of microphone positions.....	59
Table I.102 – Absorption coefficients	59

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTRIC MOTOR-OPERATED HAND-HELD TOOLS,
TRANSPORTABLE TOOLS AND LAWN AND GARDEN MACHINERY –
SAFETY –****Part 4-2: Particular requirements for hedge trimmers**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 62841-4-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 116: Safety of motor-operated electric tools.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
116/346/FDIS	116/352/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

This Part 4-2 is to be used in conjunction with the first edition of IEC 62841-1 (2014).

This Part 4-2 supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses in IEC 62841-1, so as to convert it into the IEC Standard: Particular requirements for hedge trimmers.

Where a particular subclause of Part 1 is not mentioned in this Part 4-2, that subclause applies as far as relevant. Where this standard states “addition”, “modification” or “replacement”, the relevant text in Part 1 is to be adapted accordingly.

The following print types are used:

- requirements: in roman type;
- *test specifications: in italic type;*
- notes: in small roman type.

The terms defined in Clause 3 are printed in **bold typeface**.

Subclauses, notes, tables and figures which are additional to those in Part 1, except as described for Annex K and Annex L below, are numbered starting from 101.

Subclauses, notes, tables and figures in Annex K and Annex L which are additional to those in the main body of this Part 4-2 as well as Annex K and Annex L of Part 1 are numbered starting from 301.

A list of all parts of the IEC 62841 series, under the general title: *Electric motor-operated hand-held tools, transportable tools and lawn and garden machinery – Safety*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

NOTE The attention of National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised IEC publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip themselves for conducting new or revised tests.

It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for implementation nationally not earlier than 36 months from the date of publication.

ELECTRIC MOTOR-OPERATED HAND-HELD TOOLS, TRANSPORTABLE TOOLS AND LAWN AND GARDEN MACHINERY – SAFETY –

Part 4-2: Particular requirements for hedge trimmers

1 Scope

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

Addition:

This standard applies to hand-held **hedge trimmers** which are designed for use by one operator for trimming hedges and bushes, including **extended-reach hedge trimmers** with a maximum length of 3,5 m.

NOTE 101 The measurement of the length for **extended-reach hedge trimmers** is specified in 21.101.

This standard is not applicable to **hedge trimmers** with a rotating blade.

This standard is not applicable to scissors type grass shears.

NOTE 102 Scissors type grass shears are covered by IEC 60335-2-94.

2 Normative references

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

Addition:

IEC 61672-1, *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications*

ISO 354:2003, *Acoustics – Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room*

ISO 11684, *Tractors, machinery for agriculture and forestry, powered lawn and garden equipment – Safety signs and hazard pictorials – General principles*

ISO 22868:2011, *Forestry and gardening machinery – Noise test code for portable hand-held machines with internal combustion engine – Engineering method (Grade 2 accuracy)*

Replacement:

ISO 3744:2010, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting plane*

3 Terms and definitions

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

3.101

blade control

device activated by the operator's hand or fingers in order to start or stop the operation of the **cutting device**

3.102

blade stopping time

elapsed time from the release of the **blade control** until the moving parts of the **cutting device** stop

3.103

blade tooth

part of the **cutter blade** which is sharpened or has sharp edges to perform the shearing action (see Figures 101 and 102)

3.104

blunt extension

blunt part of the **cutting device** or a part of an unsharpened plate fitted to the **cutting device** which extends beyond the **blade teeth** (see Figures 101 and 102)

3.105

cutter blade

part of the **cutting device** having **blade teeth** which cut by shearing action either against other **blade teeth** or against a **shear plate** (see Figures 101 and 102)

3.106

cutting device

part of the assembly of **cutter blade** and **shear plate** or of two **cutter blades** together with any supporting part which performs the cutting action, which may be either single or double sided (see Figures 101, 102, 104 a) and 104 b))

3.107

cutting length

effective cutting length of the **cutting device** measured from the inside edge of the first **blade tooth** or **shear plate** tooth to the inside edge of the last **blade tooth** or **shear plate** tooth (see Figure 103)

Note 1 to entry: Where both **cutter blades** move, the **cutting length** is measured when the first and last **blade teeth** are furthest apart.

3.108

extended-reach hedge trimmer

hedge trimmer with a fixed or adjustable elongated construction, including additional separable extensions, if any, such that the **cutting device** is distanced from the handles or grasping surfaces during use

3.109

front handle

grasping surface located at or towards the **cutting device** (see Figure 104)

3.110

hedge trimmer

hand-held machine provided with a linearly reciprocating **cutting device** intended for trimming bushes and hedges

3.111

maximum speed

highest **cutting device** speed attainable under all conditions of **normal use**, including no-load

3.112**operator presence sensor**

device to detect the presence of an operator's hand

3.113**rear handle**

grasping surface located furthest from the **cutting device** (see Figure 104)

3.114**shaft**

fixed or extendable element of an **extended-reach hedge trimmer** that distances the **cutting device** from the **rear handle**

3.115**shear plate**

moving or stationary unsharpened part of the **cutting device** which assists cutting by shearing action against a **cutter blade** (see Figure 101)

4 General requirements

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

5 General conditions for the tests

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

5.8 Addition:

*If different **cutting devices** can be mounted on the **hedge trimmer** in accordance with 8.14.2 a) and 8.14.2 b), the **cutting devices** are regarded as **attachments**.*

5.17 Addition:

*The mass of the machine excludes the **cutting device** cover and shoulder harness, if any, but includes:*

- *the auxiliary handle, if any;*

and

- *for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, the auxiliary extension **shaft** attachment, if any.*

5.101 *The tests are carried out on the machine as supplied. However, a machine constructed as a single machine but supplied in a number of units is tested after assembly in accordance with 8.14.2.*

5.102 *Unless otherwise specified, for Clauses 19 and 21, machines are tested in each operating configuration as described in 8.14.2.*

6 Radiation, toxicity and similar hazards

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

7 Classification

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

8 Marking and instructions

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

8.2 Addition:

Hedge trimmers shall be marked with safety information which shall be written in one of the official languages of the country in which the machine is to be sold or marked with the appropriate symbol.

For all **hedge trimmers**:

- “ DANGER – Keep hands away from blade”; or
- the safety sign specified in Figure AA.1; or
- the safety sign specified in Figure AA.2.

The DANGER marking or symbol shall be readily visible to the user and shall not be located on the underside of the machine.

For all **hedge trimmers** with a degree of protection of less than IPX4:

- “ WARNING – Do not expose to rain”; or
- the safety sign specified in Figure AA.3.

For mains supplied machines:

- “ WARNING – Remove plug from the mains immediately if the cable is damaged or cut”; or
- the safety sign specified in Figure AA.4.

For all **hedge trimmers** except for Category 1 in Table 101:

- “Wear eye protection” or a relevant safety sign of ISO 7010 or one of the safety signs shown in Figure AA.5.

Additionally, for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**:

- “ DANGER – Keep sufficient distance away from electrical power lines” or symbol C.2.30 of ISO 11684.
- “Wear head protection” or a relevant safety sign of ISO 7010.

A combination of ISO safety signs, such as eye and head protection, is allowed. In addition, a combination of safety signs as specified in Figure AA.6 is allowed.

8.12 Replacement of the first paragraph:

Markings required by the standard shall be legible and durable. Signs shall be in contrast such as colour, texture, or relief, to their background such that the information or instructions provided by the signs are clearly legible when viewed with normal vision from a distance of (500 ± 50) mm. Signs need not be in accordance with the colour requirements of ISO 3864-2. If markings are embossed, stamped or moulded, contrasting colours are not required.

8.14.1 Addition:

The additional safety instructions as specified in 8.14.1.101 shall be given for all **hedge trimmers**. The additional safety instructions as specified in 8.14.1.102 shall be given for all **extended-reach hedge trimmers**. This part may be printed separately from the “General Machine Safety Warnings”.

NOTE 101 “General Machine Safety Warnings” are referred to as “General Power Tool Safety Warnings” in Part 1.

8.14.1.101 Safety instructions for hedge trimmers

Hedge trimmer safety warnings:

- a) **Keep all parts of the body away from the blade. Do not remove cut material or hold material to be cut when blades are moving.** *Blades continue to move after the switch is turned off. A moment of inattention while operating the hedge trimmer may result in serious personal injury.*
- b) **Carry the hedge trimmer by the handle with the blade stopped and taking care not to operate any power switch.** *Proper carrying of the hedge trimmer will decrease the risk of inadvertent starting and resultant personal injury from the blades.*
- c) **When transporting or storing the hedge trimmer, always fit the blade cover.** *Proper handling of the hedge trimmer will decrease the risk of personal injury from the blades.*
- d) **When clearing jammed material or servicing the unit, make sure all power switches are off and the power cord is disconnected.** *Unexpected actuation of the hedge trimmer while clearing jammed material or servicing may result in serious personal injury.*
- e) **Hold the hedge trimmer by insulated gripping surfaces only, because the blade may contact hidden wiring or its own cord.** *Blades contacting a "live" wire may make exposed metal parts of the hedge trimmer "live" and could give the operator an electric shock.*
- f) **Keep all power cords and cables away from cutting area.** *Power cords or cables may be hidden in hedges or bushes and can be accidentally cut by the blade.*
- g) **Do not use the hedge trimmer in bad weather conditions, especially when there is a risk of lightning.** *This decreases the risk of being struck by lightning.*

8.14.1.102 Additional safety instructions for extended-reach hedge trimmers

Extended-reach hedge trimmer safety warnings:

- a) **To reduce the risk of electrocution, never use the extended-reach hedge trimmer near any electrical power lines.** *Contact with or use near power lines may cause serious injury or electric shock resulting in death.*
- b) **Always use two hands when operating the extended-reach hedge trimmer.** *Hold the extended-reach hedge trimmer with both hands to avoid loss of control.*
- c) **Always use head protection when operating the extended-reach hedge trimmer overhead.** *Falling debris can result in serious personal injury.*

NOTE Alternate wording for "extended-reach" is possible, e.g. "pole" or "long reach".

8.14.2 a) Addition:

- 101) If applicable, information on **cutting devices** and **attachments** permitted to be used with the **hedge trimmer**, e.g. a device attached to the **cutting device** to aid removal of hedge trimmings.

8.14.2 b) Addition:

- 101) Advice to check the hedges and bushes for foreign objects, e.g. wire fences and hidden wiring;

- 102) Recommendation for the use of a **residual current device** with a tripping current of 30 mA or less;
- 103) Identification of gripping surfaces of handle(s) and grasping surface(s) required by 19.101 and 19.102;
- 104) Instruction to hold the **hedge trimmer** properly, e.g. with both hands if two handles are provided;
- 105) Advice that the **hedge trimmer** is intended to be used by the operator at ground level and not on ladders or any other unstable support;
- 106) Advice that before operating the **hedge trimmer**, the user should make sure the locking device(s) of any moving elements (e.g. the extended **shaft** and pivoting element), if any, are in the locked position;
- 107) Instructions for location and use of **blade control(s)** for the operation of the **hedge trimmer**;
- 108) Instructions for configuring the machine, including any handle or **cutter blade** adjustment;
- 109) Instructions for the use and adjustment of any provided shoulder harness in accordance with 19.110 and instructions for release or removal;
- 110) Identification of centre position and other operating positions for handles that can rotate while in operation as allowed in 19.101.3.

8.14.2 c) Addition:

- 101) If applicable, advice to have any adjustable stopping mechanism maintained at regular intervals.

9 Protection against access to live parts

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

10 Starting

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

11 Input and current

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

12 Heating

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

12.2.1 Replacement:

The load conditions for the heating test of 12.2 are as follows:

*The machine is operated with a torque load applied such that **rated input** or **rated current** is drawn. The machine is operated for 30 min in its most unfavourable configuration in accordance with 8.14.2 b) 108). During this period, the torque load is adjusted as necessary to maintain **rated input** or **rated current**.*

13 Resistance to heat and fire

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

14 Moisture resistance

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

14.2.1 Replacement:

The machine is not connected to the supply.

The machine is placed in its normal rest position on a perforated turntable. The turntable is then turned continuously at approximately 1 r/min during the test.

*Electrical components, covers and other **detachable parts** are removed and subjected, if necessary, to the relevant treatment with the main part. Movable covers that are non-**detachable parts** and are not self-restoring are placed in the most unfavourable position.*

NOTE Examples of self-restoring covers include those that are spring loaded or close by gravity.

14.2.2 Addition:

*Alternatively, **extended-reach hedge trimmers** may be subjected to the test described in 14.2.3 b) or 14.2.4 b) of IEC 60529:2013, as applicable.*

15 Resistance to rusting

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

16 Overload protection of transformers and associated circuits

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

17 Endurance

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

17.2 Modification:

This subclause of Part 1 is applicable as for **hand-held tools**.

Addition:

The machine is operated in its most unfavourable configuration in accordance with 8.14.2 b) 108).

18 Abnormal operation

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

18.5 Modification:

The requirements for tools other than **lawn and garden machinery** are applicable.

18.8 Replacement of Table 4 by the following:

Table 4 – Required performance levels

Type and purpose of SCF	Minimum performance level (PL)
Blade control(s) – prevent unwanted switch-on	c
Blade control(s) – provide desired switch-off for any category in Table 101 or Table 102	b
Blade control(s) – blade stopping time not exceeding 1 s more than the required time for Category 3a, 3b and 4 only in Table 101 or Table 102	a
Prevent exceeding thermal limits as in Clause 18	a
Any device to prevent operation in a configuration not permitted by this standard as required in 19.101.1.1	a
Operator presence sensor as in 21.18.102	a
Lock-off function as required in 21.18.102	a
Visible or audible indicator as referenced in 21.18.102	Not an SCF
Prevent self-resetting as required in 23.3	a

19 Mechanical hazards

This clause of Part 1 is applicable, except as follows:

19.1 Addition:

The requirements of this subclause do not apply to those moving parts, barriers and covers which are separately covered by 19.102, 19.103, 19.105 and 19.106.

The requirements of this subclause apply to all operating configurations as described in 8.14.2.

19.3 This subclause of Part 1 is not applicable.

19.4 This subclause of Part 1 is not applicable.

NOTE Requirements for handles are given in 19.101.

19.6 This subclause of Part 1 is not applicable.

19.7 This subclause of Part 1 is not applicable.

19.8 This subclause of Part 1 is not applicable.

19.101 Handles

19.101.1 Hedge trimmer handles

19.101.1.1 General

For all **hedge trimmers** except for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, the minimum number of handles shall be in accordance with Table 101.

If a part containing the motor complies with the dimensions for a handle, it may be considered as a handle.

The handles shall be designed in such a way that each one can be grasped with one hand. Handles shall be suitably shaped to be grasped securely and have a perimeter between 65 mm and 170 mm as illustrated in Figure 105 a), 105 b) or 105 c). The perimeter is determined by a chain measurement with the **blade control**, if any, fully depressed. The gripping length of the handle(s) shall be at least 100 mm long.

If applicable, the part of the handle containing the **blade control** shall be counted as part of the handle gripping length.

If there are finger grips or similar superimposed profiles, the handle gripping length shall not be measured along the surface, but only the arc or straight line distance of the gripping surface, as applicable, shall be taken into account.

Handles shall be locked in position during operation except as allowed by 19.101.3. If they are adjustable without tools to different positions in accordance with 8.14.2 b), it shall not be possible to operate the machine when adjusted to a position which contravenes other provisions of this standard.

NOTE The requirements for endurance and integrity of adjustments are covered in 19.107 and 19.108.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.1.2 Dimensions of bail or closed handles

On bail or closed handles (U-shaped handles) the gripping length is related to the inner width of the gripping surface. There shall be a minimum radial clearance of 25 mm around the gripping length.

If a bail or closed handle is used, the gripping length L in Figure 105 a) shall be measured using lengths A and B as follows:

- the length A is measured within region X where the radius is at least 100 mm;
- the length(s) B are measured within region(s) Y where the transition radius is less than 100 mm, but each length B cannot exceed 10 mm in each region Y of the gripping surface.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.1.3 Dimensions of handles supported centrally (T-type)

If a handle is supported centrally (i.e. T-type), there shall be a minimum radial clearance of 25 mm around the gripping length. The gripping length shall be calculated as follows (see Figure 105 b)):

- for handles with a perimeter P (not including the support) of less than 80 mm, the gripping length is the sum of the two parts of the gripping length $X + Y$ on either side of the support;
- for handles with a perimeter P (not including the support) of 80 mm or more, the gripping length is the complete length Z from end to end.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.1.4 Dimensions of handles that are formed by the shaft

The gripping length L in Figure 105 c) shall be measured using the straight portion of the handle, not including any transition radius, finger grips or similar superimposed profiles.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.2 Extended-reach hedge trimmer handles

19.101.2.1 General

For **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, the minimum number of handles shall be in accordance with Table 102.

If a part containing the motor complies with the dimensions for a handle, it may be considered as a handle.

A **shaft** may be used as a handle if specified in accordance with 8.14.2.

The handles shall be designed in such a way that each one can be grasped with one hand. Handles shall be suitably shaped to be grasped securely and have a perimeter P between 65 mm and 170 mm as illustrated in Figure 105 a), 105 b) or 105 c). The perimeter P is determined by a chain measurement with the **blade control**, if any, fully depressed. The gripping length of the **front handle** and the **rear handle** shall be at least 100 mm long.

If applicable, the part of the handle containing the **blade control** shall be counted as part of the handle gripping length.

If there are finger grips or similar superimposed profiles, the handle gripping length shall not be measured along the surface, but only the arc or straight line distance of the gripping surface, as applicable, shall be taken into account.

If handles are adjustable to different positions without tools in accordance with 8.14.2 b), it shall not be possible to inadvertently operate the machine when locked in a position which contravenes other provisions of this standard. This may be achieved by at least one **blade control** requiring two separate and dissimilar actions before the **cutting device** operates as described in 21.18.102 for **power switches** and also meet the requirements of 21.17.1 for self-restoring lock-off devices.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.2.2 Dimensions of bail or closed handles

On bail or closed handles (U-shaped handles), the gripping length is related to the inner width of the gripping surface. There shall be a minimum radial clearance of 25 mm around the gripping length.

If a bail or closed handle is used, the gripping length L in Figure 105 a), shall be measured using lengths A and B as follows:

- the length A is measured within region X where the radius is at least 100 mm;
- the length(s) B are measured within region(s) Y where the transition radius is less than 100 mm, but each length B cannot exceed 10 mm in each region Y of the gripping surface.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.2.3 Dimensions of handles supported centrally (T-type)

If a handle is supported centrally (i.e. T-type), there shall be a minimum radial clearance of 25 mm around the gripping length. The gripping length shall be calculated as follows (see Figure 105 b)):

- for handles with a perimeter P (not including the support) of less than 80 mm, the gripping length is the sum of the two parts of the gripping length $X + Y$ on either side of the support;

- for handles with a perimeter P (not including the support) of 80 mm or more, the gripping length is the complete length Z from end to end.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.2.4 Dimensions of handles that are formed by the shaft

The gripping length L in Figure 105 c) shall be measured using the straight portion of the handle, not including any transition radius, finger grips or similar superimposed profiles.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurements.

19.101.3 Handles that are adjustable during operation

19.101.3.1 Hedge trimmers, except for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, with handles that are adjustable by side-to-side axial rotation about an axis between them without the use of a tool while the **cutting device** is operating as permitted in Table 101 shall comply with the requirements of 19.101.3.2 to 19.101.3.6.

No more than one of the handles to be held in operation may be adjustable while the machine is operating.

Extended-reach hedge trimmers shall not incorporate handles that are intended to be adjusted in accordance with 8.14.2 while the **cutting device** is operating.

Compliance is checked by inspection, by manual test and by the requirements of 19.101.3.2 to 19.101.3.6.

19.101.3.2 Any adjustable handle shall have a defined centre position. The handle shall have a locking detent at the centre position and at any other intended handle adjustment position of operation as described in 8.14.2. These other operating positions shall not locate the handle further than 95° from the centre position about their axis of rotation. See Figures 106 and 107. The handle, when locked by the detent, shall be limited to 5° rotation. The handle shall have a handle release control as required in 19.101.3.3 that releases the handle from the detent position.

The handle shall automatically lock into each detent position when adjusting the handle, unless the handle release control is operated.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

19.101.3.3 Limitation of movement of adjustable handles

19.101.3.3.1 Hedge trimmers with handles that are adjustable during operation shall be designed to prevent uncontrolled movement by fulfilling either 19.101.3.3.2 or 19.101.3.3.3.

19.101.3.3.2 The ease of rotation of an adjustable handle shall be limited after the handle release control is activated.

Compliance is checked by the following test:

*With the **cutting device** clamped securely and the handle release control activated, a 1 Nm torque is applied to the adjustable handle about its axis of rotation. There shall be no more than 5° of rotation of the handle within 2 s. The test is then repeated in the opposite direction of rotation.*

19.101.3.3.3 After the release of the handle from the centre position by the momentary activation of the handle release control, the extent of movement of the adjustable handle of the machine shall be limited.

The rotating handle shall have

- a maximum rotation of 60°; or
- one or more intermediate locking detents limiting rotation to a maximum of 60°

measured from the centre position in either direction about the axis of rotation between the handle positions.

The intermediate locking detent(s) may be intentionally overridden by operation of the handle release control.

NOTE For the case where this requirement is fulfilled by the use of one or more intermediate locking detents, the requirement for maximum rotation is specified in 19.101.3.2.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

19.101.3.4 An adjustable handle shall be provided with a momentary handle release control to unlock the handles from a locked detent position. Operation of the handle release control shall not adversely affect physical control of the **hedge trimmer**. The handle release control, while intentionally activated, may allow the handle to bypass the detent position without locking.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by manual test.

19.101.3.5 Accessibility of handle release control

19.101.3.5.1 The handle release control shall be located, designed or guarded so that unintentional activation is unlikely.

Compliance is checked by fulfilling one of the requirements specified in 19.101.3.5.2, 19.101.3.5.3 or 19.101.3.5.4.

19.101.3.5.2 The handle release control shall be located outside the gripping surface of the handle, indicated in 8.14.2 b) 103).

Compliance is checked by inspection.

19.101.3.5.3 It shall not be possible to activate the handle release control when a rigid sphere with a diameter of (100 ± 1) mm is applied to the handle release control in any direction with a single linear motion.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by manual test.

19.101.3.5.4 The handle release control shall require two separate and dissimilar actions before the handle is released. It shall not be possible to achieve these two actions with a single grasping motion or a straight line motion.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by manual test.

19.101.3.6 A handle release control shall have adequate strength and shall be sufficiently durable.

Compliance is checked by the following test:

The handle release control is actuated a total of 2 000 times, engaging all locking detent positions over the full range of travel of the adjustable handle, in both directions.

Each handle release control actuation consists of the following steps a) to d):

- a) *Starting from any locking detent position, activate the handle release control;*
- b) *Begin rotation of the adjustable handle to the next locking detent position;*
- c) *Release the handle release control at approximately the halfway point to the next locking detent position;*
- d) *Continue rotation of the adjustable handle until the handle engages with the next locking detent position.*

After the test, the machine shall withstand the electric strength test of Annex D between live parts and accessible parts and live parts shall not have become accessible, as specified in Clause 9, if the adjustment would cause stress on internal wiring.

At the conclusion of the conditioning, the handle release control shall perform as intended and shall comply with the following test:

While a handle is in any locking detent position, a torque of 6 Nm is applied for 1 min in line with the direction of its intended handle rotation, and it is applied in each direction of rotation.

*During the test, the handle shall not disengage from the locking detent position(s), and the handle shall still operate correctly after the test. Electrical connections shall not have worked loose, and there shall be no deterioration impairing safety in **normal use**.*

19.102 Hand protection

19.102.1 An operator's hand shall be protected from inadvertent contact with the moving **cutter blade** while holding the **front handle** as required in Table 101 or Table 102. Requirements for **hedge trimmers**, except for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, are specified in 19.102.2. Requirements for **extended-reach hedge trimmers** are specified in 19.102.3.

19.102.2 Hand protection for hedge trimmers except for extended-reach hedge trimmers

19.102.2.1 The **front handle** shall be located so that the distance from the nearest cutting edge of the **cutter blade** to the rear side of any handle, except for Category 1, is not less than 120 mm as shown in Figure 108.

For Category 1, the shortest distance between the front of the handle grip and the nearest **blade tooth** shall be at least 120 mm (see Figure 111). The distances shall be measured along the shortest path from the front of the handle grip to the nearest cutting edge of the **cutter blade**.

For all categories in Table 101, if there is a front hand barrier, then the x_1 and x_2 distances in Figure 108 shall be measured along the shortest path from the backside of the handle, via the edge of the front hand barrier, to the nearest cutting edge of the **cutter blade**. The front hand barrier shall not have any openings with a minor dimension larger than 10 mm.

Additionally, for category 3a **hedge trimmers**, the front hand barrier shall have a minimum shape described by:

- a height y_1 of 90 mm measured perpendicularly from the cutting plane; and
- a width y_2 of 50 mm on either side of the centreline of the **cutting device**.

Both the y_1 and y_2 measurements are made with the **cutting device** in the 0° position, if axially rotatable. See Figure 109.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

19.102.2.2 In addition, for category 3a **hedge trimmers** where the **cutting device** can be rotated left or right along an axis of rotation, the front hand barrier shall have a width that extends a minimum of 25 mm beyond the **cutting device** when the **cutting device** is adjusted to its full left and right rotational position (see Figure 110).

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

19.102.2.3 In addition, for category 1 **hedge trimmers**, the handle shall be constructed such that it is attached to the machine at the front of the handle grip (see Figure 111).

Compliance is checked by inspection.

19.102.3 For **extended-reach hedge trimmers**, the **front handle** shall be located so that the shortest distance from the nearest cutting edge of the **cutter blade** to

- the backside of the handle for bail and T-type handles as shown in Figure 112 a); or
- the nearest point of any gripping surface on a **shaft** used as a handle in accordance with 8.14.2 as shown in Figure 112 b)

shall be at least 250 mm, with the **cutting device** in the most unfavourable configuration in accordance with 8.14.2 where it is possible for the machine to operate.

In addition, the machine shall be constructed such that in any operating configuration described in 8.14.2 b), the shortest distance measured between the point of the **blade control** in the **rear handle** closest to the **cutter blade** and the nearest cutting edge of the **cutter blade** shall be at least 1 000 mm, otherwise the requirements of Clause 19 for **hedge trimmers** that are not **extended-reach hedge trimmers** shall also apply.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

19.103 Cutting device

19.103.1 To safeguard against contact with the **cutter blade**, **hedge trimmers** shall be constructed to meet the requirements of one of the categories given in

- Table 101 for all **hedge trimmers**, except for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**;

or

- Table 102 for **extended-reach hedge trimmers**.

Compliance is checked by inspection and by measurement.

Table 101 – Hedge trimmer categories (excluding extended-reach hedge trimmers)

Items with requirements	Category number and requirements				
	1	2	3a	3b	4
Cutting length	≤ 200 mm	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Maximum blade stopping time (Subclause 19.104)	No	No	3 s	2 s	1 s
Minimum number of handles	1	2	2	2	2
Minimum number of handles with blade control	1	1	1	2 (two with simultaneous actuation)	2 (two with simultaneous actuation)
Location of blade control	rear handle	rear handle	rear handle	Not applicable	Not applicable
Blade configuration figure	114	114	115	115	116
Lower barrier required (Subclause 19.105)	No	No	Yes	No	No
Adjustable handle during operation permitted (Subclause 19.101.3)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Front hand barrier required (Subclause 19.102.2)	No	No	Yes	No	No

NOTE 1 In Europe (EN 62841-4-2), Category 3a is not applicable.

NOTE 2 In Europe (EN 62841-4-2), the maximum **blade stopping time** for Category 3b machines is 1 s.

Table 102 – Extended-reach hedge trimmer categories

Items with requirements	Category number and requirements				
	1	2	3a	3b	4
Cutting length	≤ 200 mm	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Maximum blade stopping time (Subclause 19.104)	3 s	3 s	3 s	3 s	3 s
Minimum number of handles	2	2	2	2	2
Minimum number of handles with blade control	1	1	1	1	1
Location of blade control	rear handle	rear handle	rear handle	rear handle	rear handle
Blade configuration figure	114	114	115 (if blunt extensions are required)	115 (if blunt extensions are required)	116 (if blunt extensions are required)
Lower barrier required (Subclause 19.105)	No	No	No	No	No
Front hand barrier required	No	No	No	No	No

19.103.2 Blunt extensions

19.103.2.1 Blunt extensions as indicated in 19.103.2.2 through 19.103.2.4 shall extend a distance of at least 400 mm

- from any point of the rear face of the **front handle**; or