

Chainsaw Maintenance & Cross-Cutting

Chainsaws are powerful and dangerous tools, therefore it is essential when operating and maintaining them that you have total confidence and expertise in what you are doing, so avoiding accidents.

Our two day chainsaw maintenance and cross-cutting course will provide you with the appropriate techniques and safety guidelines to ensure that you are not only confident when using a chainsaw but also aware of relevant health and safety guidelines making sure you stay protected.

Our chainsaw training is delivered by experienced instructors to small groups, this way you receive plenty of individual attention. The course is also supplemented with high-quality course materials and we work closely with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to ensure that our materials reflect current safe working practices.

For those wishing to obtain a Licence to Practice, or if you are an occasional user wishing to obtain a regulated qualification, you can proceed to the Level 2 Award in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross-cutting.

Who is the Course For?

This course will be suitable for you if you work in, or are looking to work in any of the following industries:

- Agriculture
- Horticulture
- Woodland
- Local Authorities
- Conservation
- Construction
- Land-based.

Note: If you intend to work in the forestry and/or arboricultural industries or if you are going to need to fell material over 200mm in diameter, then you should attend the training only course and be independently assessed through NPTC or Lantra.

Please Note: Due to the nature of the training a minimum level of fitness will be required for specific operations. Whilst we would not want to disadvantage you as a learner, it is an essential requirement.

Duration/Format

Two days

Instructor/Trainee Ratio

Max: 1:4

Course Objectives

To enable course members to:

- Identify the necessary personal protective equipment required, report on its condition and locate the various standard marks
- Identify required safety and health features on a chainsaw
- Prepare the chainsaw for use with the correct fuel/oil mix and chain lubrication
- Start the chainsaw from both cold and hot in a safe manner
- Carry out pre-cutting safety tests and state the procedures if the chainsaw fails these tests
- State the possible hazards/risks when carrying out maintenance or operational tasks
- Organise site safety and state the procedures required

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Course Content

- Identify faults and defects on a chainsaw and cutting equipment and decide which the operator can remedy and which require a service engineer's attention
 - Select and identify correct tools to enable maintenance to be carried out and report on their serviceability
 - Carry out all routine maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction book and/or the Lantra Awards workbook
 - Cross-cut timber accurately to required lengths
 - Assess and explain the terms 'tension' and 'compression' in timber
 - Adopt safe procedures to remove a trapped guide bar
 - Handle and stack timber in a safe manner.
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- HSE legislation and safety guidelines
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Overview of the chainsaw and maintenance equipment
 - Maintaining the saw chain
 - Maintaining the guide bar
 - Power unit maintenance
 - Starting the chainsaw and pre-cutting tests
 - Cross-cutting timber
 - Stack timber.

Certification:

The course can be run as integrated training and assessment registered with Lantra Awards. Successful candidates will be awarded a Lantra Certificate of Competence.

Alternatively, as mentioned above, candidates may complete the training and be assessed independently for a Level 2 award.

Facilities/Equipment Required

Venue

Warm, dry, well lit workshop with adequate bench space. Room with tables and chairs. Open area for cross-cutting practice with timber up to 380mm diameter

Trainees

Chainsaws as per HSE guidance and pre-course handout

Personal protective equipment as per pre-course handout

Operator's maintenance kit and equipment as per pre-course handout

2-stroke fuel and saw chain oil.

NB: Instructors have been instructed not to undertake training where learners do not have the appropriate protective equipment and appropriate saw.