

Tractor

Record of Training Logbook



RIIMP0315D
Conduct tractor operations



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Introduction to tractor



What is a tractor?

A tractor is a self propelled vehicle that has a powerful petrol or diesel engine. Tractors vary in size, horsepower, transmission and drive types.

Tractors can be:

- Wheeled or tracked
- Rigid or articulated
- Commercial or agricultural machines
- Two wheel or all wheel drive
- Dual wheeled.

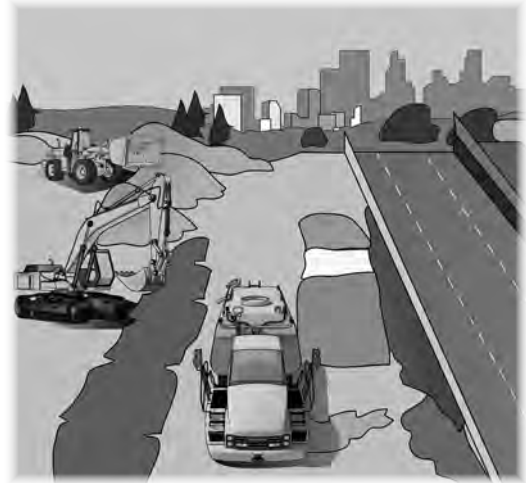


Who uses tractors?

Tractors are used in many different industries and workplaces.

For example:

- On golf courses
- City councils
- On farms
- In landscaping
- In the agriculture and forestry industry
- Quarrying and mining
- Civil construction.



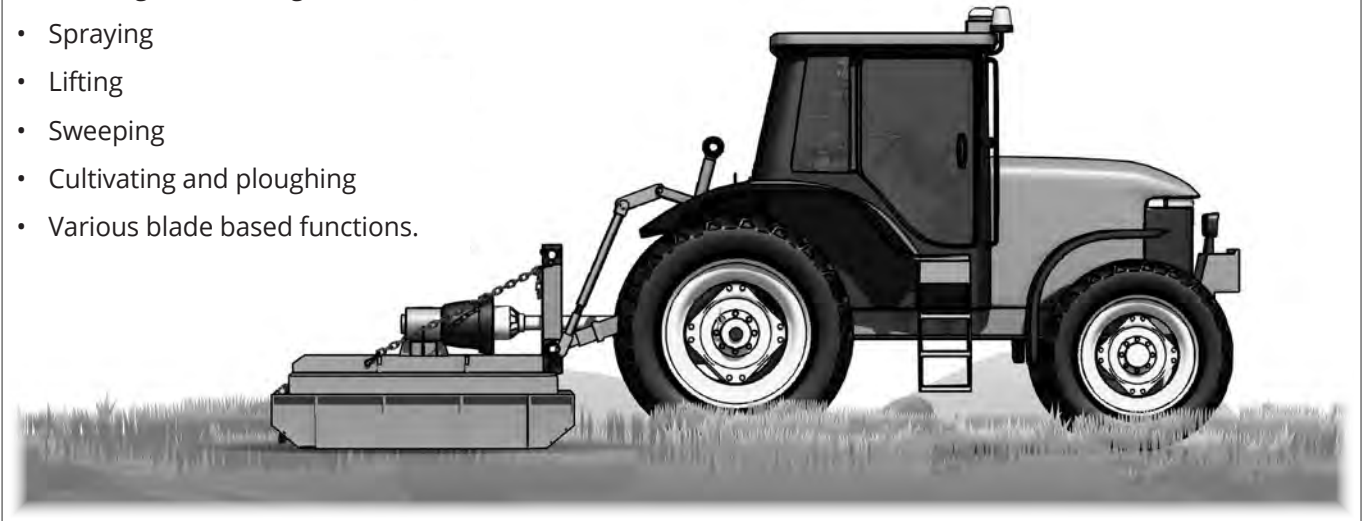
What are tractors used for?

Tractors are very versatile machines (have many uses).

Most tractors have a power take off (PTO) system which allows different implements and attachments to be fitted. The PTO system draws power from the engine to run the implements and attachments.

Some of the things tractors can do include:

- Pulling and towing
- Digging and moving soil
- Post hole digging/drilling
- Slashing and mowing
- Spraying
- Lifting
- Sweeping
- Cultivating and ploughing
- Various blade based functions.



Tractor examples

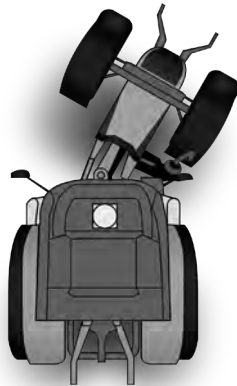
Rigid wheeled tractor



Tracked tractor



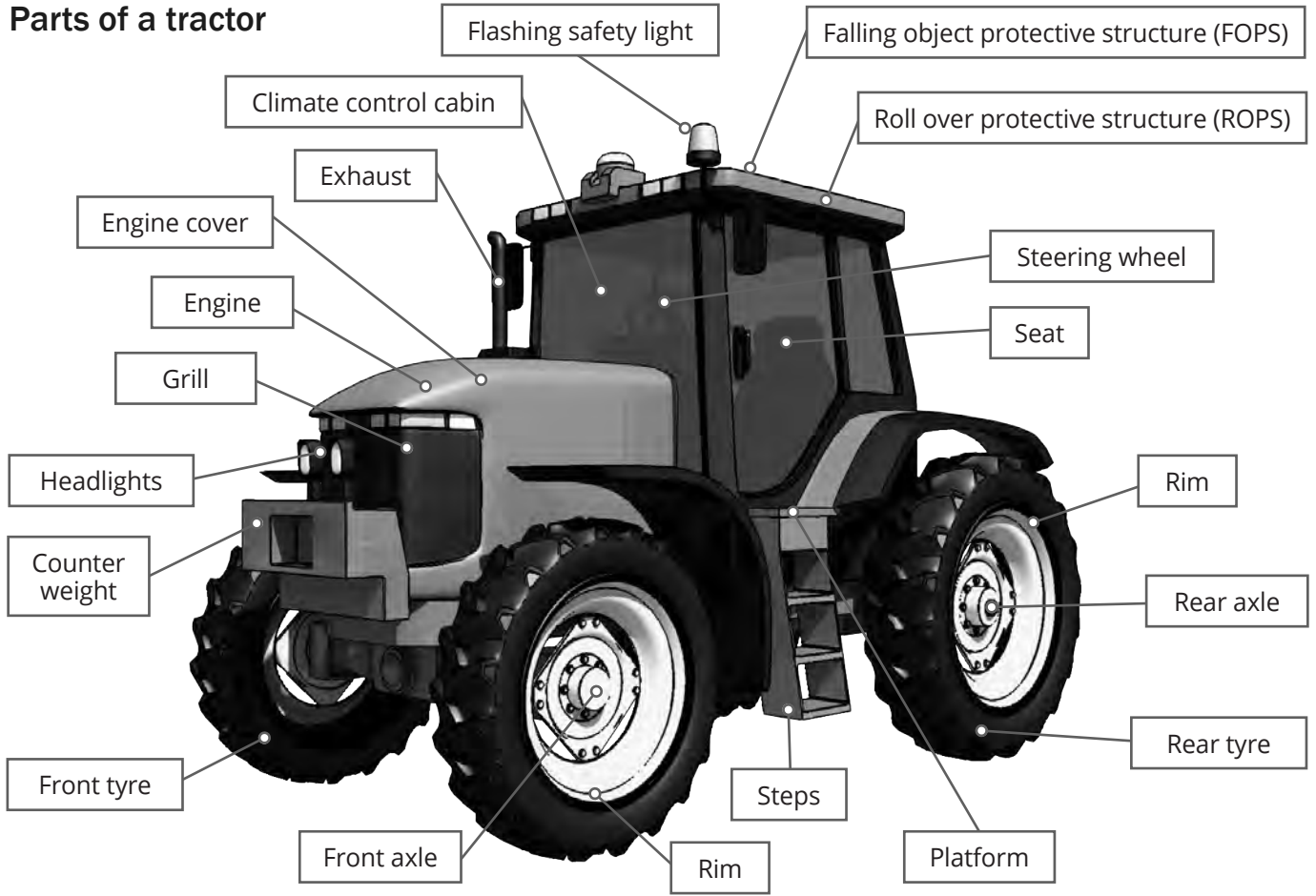
Articulated tractor



Dual wheeled tractor



Parts of a tractor



Plan and prepare for tractor operations

Element 1



Plan for safety

It is a good idea to have an operational plan before you start work.

Your plan should show that you have thought about:

- How to do the job
- What needs to be done first
- Workplace rules and procedures
- Hazards and risks (including environmental hazards and risks)
- Equipment and resources needed to do the job.

Inspect the site

You should inspect the work area for hazards and risks daily before starting work.

A good rule is to check:

- **Above eye level**
- **At eye level**
- **Below eye level.**



Above eye level

Check for obstructions, buildings, and anything else above eye height.



At eye level

Look for other machines, people and obstructions that may be in the path where you want to work.



Below eye level

Check the surface of the ground. Check for boggy ground or any other obstructions that might interfere with the safe operation of the tractor.



Always be aware of what is happening around you.

Continually monitor

Just because you inspected your work area for hazards and risks at the start of the day, it does not mean new hazards and risks won't arise throughout the day.

Tractor hazards and risks

It is important to check for hazards before you start work. Some common hazards and risks with tractor work are:

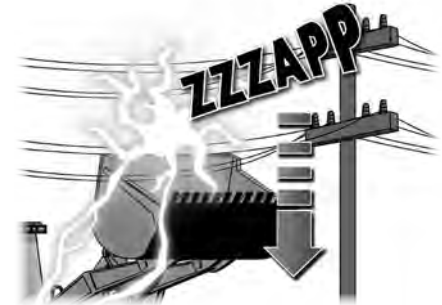
Falls from the tractor



Traffic and other mobile plant



Overhead or underground power



Underground gas lines



Water and sewage piping



Roll overs

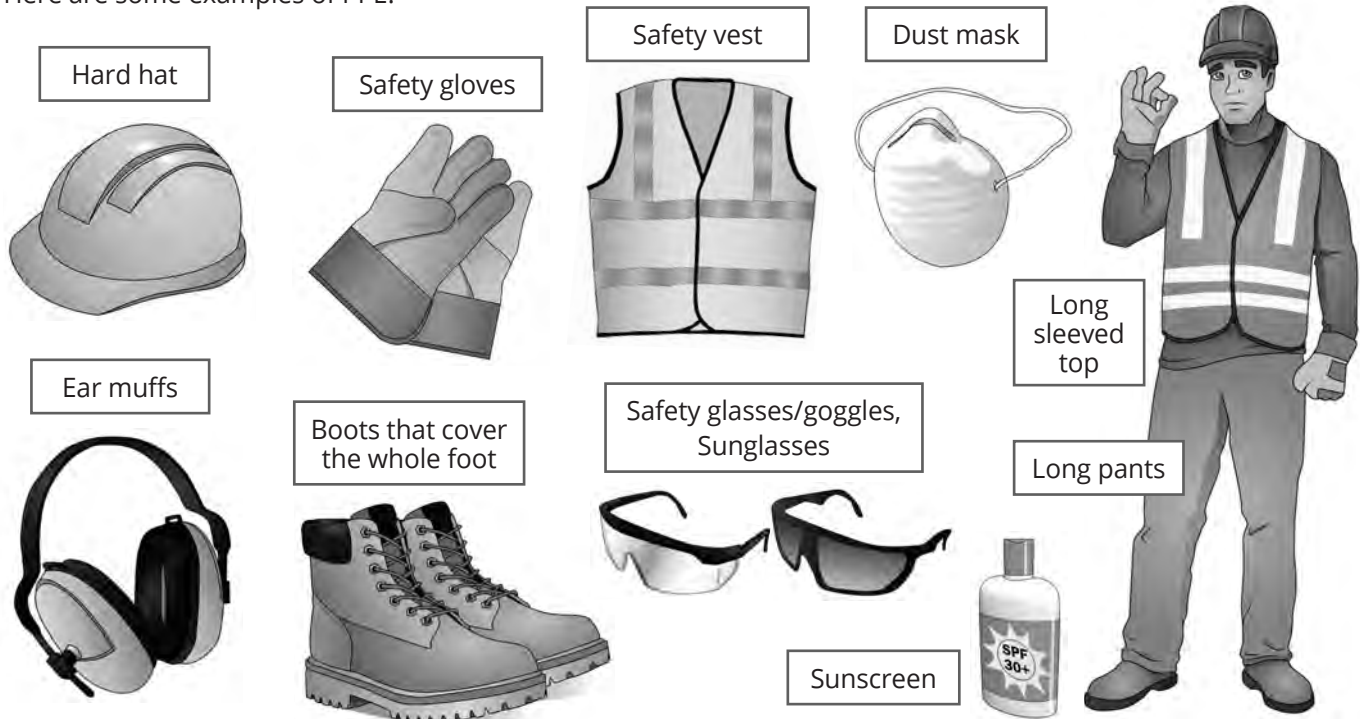


Personal protective equipment (PPE)

The best way to make the workplace safe is to take away hazards altogether. But often you can't do this. This is where Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) can help.

PPE is clothing or equipment worn on the body to help protect you from hazards. PPE will not take away the risk of harm altogether, but it will help keep you safe. Wear the PPE for the job you are doing.

Here are some examples of PPE:



Attachments for a tractor

Tractors are capable of using attachments to perform a particular function.

It is important to know the limitations of your tractor and its attachments. Always check the tractor's or manufacturer's operating manual to understand the dangers and how to safely and correctly use an attachment.

There are a variety of tractor attachments available.

Some examples include:



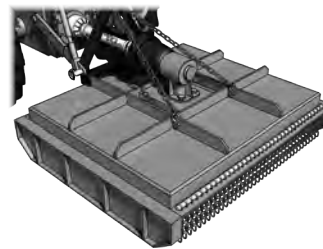
- Backhoe/loader general purpose buckets, blades or box scrapers
- Mowers, slashers and rotary cutters
- Grader blades, front and rear mounted blades
- Ploughs, rippers and scarifiers
- Pallet forks and bale forks
- Seeders and fertiliser spreaders
- Post hole digger
- Disc harrows
- Lawn pluggers
- Sprayers



Pallet forks



Post hole digger



Slasher



Bale fork

Check equipment and attachments

You must show that you know how to check the equipment or the attachments you will be using on the tractor. When checking the tractor's attachments look for any wear or damage that will affect the use and operation of the attachment.

Always follow the instructions in the manufacturer's operating manual about the:

- Tractor
- Attachments
- Equipment being used.



All attachments will have their own list of items to check. You need to be familiar with these from the operator's manual instructions.

- If in doubt, ask an experienced person.



Check the 3-point hitch/linkage

The main benefit of the 3-point hitch/linkage system is to transfer the weight of an implement to the drive wheels of the tractor. This gives the tractor more usable traction than it would otherwise have, with the same power, weight, and fuel consumption.

The 3-point hitch/linkage is used for fixing attachments onto the tractor.

- Each hitch/linkage has attachment holes for attaching implements
- The implement has posts that fit through the holes
- The implement is secured by placing a pin on the end of the posts

