Operator Manual



JCB 208S MINIMASTER

⚠ THIS MANUAL MUST BE KEPT IN THE MACHINE AT ALL TIMES ⚠

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SAFETY FIRST - YOURS AND OTHER PEOPLE'S

All construction and agricultural equipment can be hazardous. When a 208S is correctly operated and properly maintained, it is a safe machine to work with. But when it is carelessly operated or poorly maintained it can become a danger to you (the operator) and others.

In this manual and on the machine you will find warning messages. Read and understand them. They tell you of potential hazards and how to avoid them. If you do not fully understand the warning messages, ask your employer or JCB distributor to explain them.

But safety is not just a matter of responding to the warnings. All the time you are working on or with the machine you must be thinking what hazards there might be and how to avoid them.

Do not work with the machine until you are sure that you can control it.

Do not start any job until you are sure that you and those around you will be safe.

If you are unsure of anything, about the machine or the job, ask someone who knows. Do not assume anything.

Remember
BE CAREFUL
BE ALERT
BE SAFE

INT-1-3-1/1

SAFETY CHECK LIST

General Safety

⚠ WARNING
Manual

You and others can be injured if you operate or maintain the machine without first studying this manual. Read the safety instructions before operating the machine. If you do not understand anything, ask your employer or JCB distributor to explain it. Keep this manual clean and in good condition. Do not operate the machine without a manual in the cab, or if there is anything on the machine you do not understand.

INT-1-3-2

⚠ WARNING
Decals

You can be injured if you do not obey the decal safety instructions. Keep decals clean. Replace unreadable or missing decals with new ones before operating the machine. Make sure replacement parts include warning decals where necessary.

INT-1-3-4

⚠ WARNING
Care and Alertness

All the time you are working with or on the machine, take care and stay alert. Always be careful. Always be alert for hazards.

INT-1-3-5

⚠ WARNING
Alcohol and Drugs

It is extremely dangerous to operate machinery when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Do not consume alcoholic drinks or take drugs before or whilst operating the machine or attachments. Be aware of medicines which can cause drowsiness.

INT-1-3-9

⚠ WARNING
Clothing

You can be injured if you do not wear the proper clothing. Loose clothing can get caught in the machinery. Wear protective clothing to suit the job. Examples of protective clothing are: a hard hat, safety shoes, safety glasses, a well fitting overall, ear-protectors and industrial gloves. Keep cuffs fastened. Do not wear a necktie or scarf. Keep long hair restrained.

INT-1-3-6

Operating Safety

⚠ WARNING
Practice

You or others can be killed or seriously injured if you do unfamiliar operations without first practising them. Practise away from the work site on a clear area. Keep other people away. Do not perform new operations until you are sure you can do them safely.

INT-2-1-1

⚠ WARNING
Machine Condition

A defective machine can injure you or others. Do not operate a machine which is defective or has missing parts. Make sure the maintenance procedures in this manual are completed before using the machine.

INT-2-1-2

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INTRODUCTION

The aim of this part of the manual is to guide the operator step-by-step through the task of learning how to operate the machine efficiently and safely. Read the OPERATION section through from beginning to end.

Before starting the machine, sit in the operator's seat and familiarize yourself with the layout of the cab. Use your manual to identify each control lever, switch, gage, button and pedal. **Do not guess**. If there is anything you do not understand, ask your JCB distributor.

The operator must always be aware of events happening outside the cab as well as inside the cab. **Safety** must always be the most important feature when operating the JCB 208S.

When you have familiarized yourself with the operating controls and switches, practise using them. Drive the machine in an open space, clear of people. Get to know the 'feel' of the machine and its driving controls.

Finally, do not rush the job of learning, make sure you fully understand everything in the OPERATION section. Take your time and work efficiently and safely.

Remember

BE CAREFUL
BE ALERT
BE SAFE

BEFORE ENTERING THE CAB

The following checks should be made each time you return to the machine after leaving it for any period of time. We advise you also to stop the machine occasionally during long work sessions and do the checks again.

All these checks concern the serviceability of the machine. Some concern your safety. Get your service engineer to check and correct any defects.

⚠ WARNING

Walking or working under raised attachments can be hazardous. You could be crushed by the attachments or get caught in the linkages.

Lower the attachments to the ground before doing these checks. If you are new to this machine, get an experienced operator to lower them for you.

If there is nobody to help you, study this manual until you have learned how to lower the attachments.

3-2-1-6

1 Check for Cleanliness

a Clean the window and light lenses.

b Remove dirt and debris, especially from around the linkages, cylinders, pivot points and radiator.

c Make sure the cab step and handholds are clean and dry.

d Clean all safety decals. Replace any that are missing or cannot be read.

2 Check for Damage

a Inspect the machine generally for damaged and missing parts.

b Make sure that the buckets and bucket teeth are secure and in good condition.

c Make sure that all pivot pins are secured correctly in place.

d Inspect the window for cracks and damage. Glass splinters can blind you.

e Check for oil, fuel and coolant leakages.

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CONTROLS, SWITCHES AND INSTRUMENTS

Controls

1 Drive Control Lever
This lever performs two functions: forward/reverse drive and steering. It is spring loaded to its central (neutral) position.

Forward/Reverse Drive. Starting from the lever neutral (N) position, select forward drive by pushing the lever forwards, or select reverse drive by pulling the lever back. The amount of lever movement controls the speed of the machine; the greater the movement the faster the speed. (See ***Operating Hints*** *in* ***Getting the Machine Moving***.)

An optional reverse alarm is available. When reverse is selected the alarm automatically sounds to warn passers-by.

⚠ WARNING

You or others can be killed or injured if you suddenly change from forward to reverse, or vice versa, whilst traveling. The machine will immediately reverse direction without warning to others. Always follow the recommended procedure for changing between forward and reverse drive.

3-1-2-5

When changing between forward and reverse drive, always bring the machine to rest first by progressively moving the lever into the neutral (N) position. Then proceed as described under Getting the Machine Moving.

Steering is achieved in both forward and reverse drive *(i.e. with the lever forward or back)* by moving the lever to the left to turn left or to the right to turn right. The greater the travel of the lever, the sharper the turn will be.

⚠ WARNING

Drive the machine smoothly. Avoid repeated start/stop or spin turn manoeuvres. Avoid unnecessary zig-zag driving.

8-1-2-2

Always negotiate a turn by gentle, progressive use of the lever until the required rate of turn is achieved, and straighten up in the same way afterwards. Never suddenly change from a turn in one direction to a turn in the opposite direction.

The machine can also be turned round within its own length. To do this, leave the drive in neutral (N). Operate the lever to the left to turn anti-clockwise or right to turn clockwise. Avoid excessive or too rapid movement of the lever. Return the lever to the central position when the maneuver is complete.

2 Loader Arm/Bucket Control Lever
See ***Loader Controls.***

3 Hand Throttle Control
Once the engine has started, set the hand throttle to give an engine speed suitable for the conditions and operations to be performed. Operate the control by pressing in the button **A** and raising or lowering the slider **B**. Release button **A** and the engine speed will stay at that setting. For finer control, screw the slider in or out, turning it anti-clockwise to increase engine speed, or clockwise to decrease engine speed. Use the hand throttle when excavating to increase or decrease the engine speed as needed.

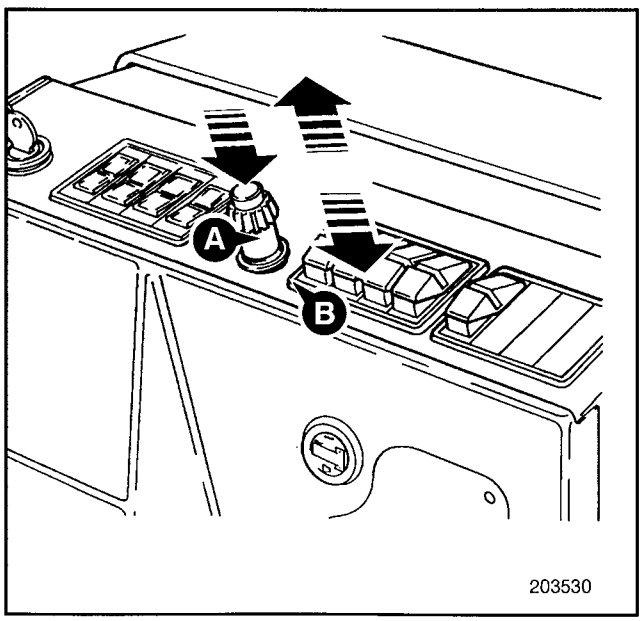
4 Throttle Foot Pedal
Use the foot pedal, when driving or using the loader, to increase the engine speed by overriding the setting of the hand throttle lever. When the pedal is released the engine speed reverts to that set by the hand throttle lever. The foot pedal is intended to be operated by the heel of the foot, not the toe.

5 Backhoe Control Levers
See ***Backhoe Controls.***

6 Stabilizer Control Levers
See ***Stabilizer Controls.***

7 Instrument Panel
See ***Switches, Warning Indicators*** and ***Hourmeter.***

8 Seat Control Lever
See ***Seat Controls.***



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PREPARING THE MACHINE FOR TRAVEL

When traveling on the road or on site there are usually local rules and safety regulations for the machine traveling position. **'Traveling on Site'** and **Traveling on the Road'** described on the following pages are recommendations that should help you to meet the requirements of these regulations; they are not necessarily the applied law:

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT BEFORE TRAVELING ON SITE OR ON THE ROAD, YOU AND YOUR MACHINE COMPLY WITH ALL THE RELEVANT LOCAL LAWS - IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

Whether driving on the road or on site, the machine position must satisfy the following requirements:

1 The attachments must not cause the maximum overall machine width to exceed 8.2 ft (2.5 m). If any part protrudes beyond the outer edge of the rear frame, it must be marked with red and white stripes to warn that a hazard exists.

2 The boom/swing lock must be engaged.

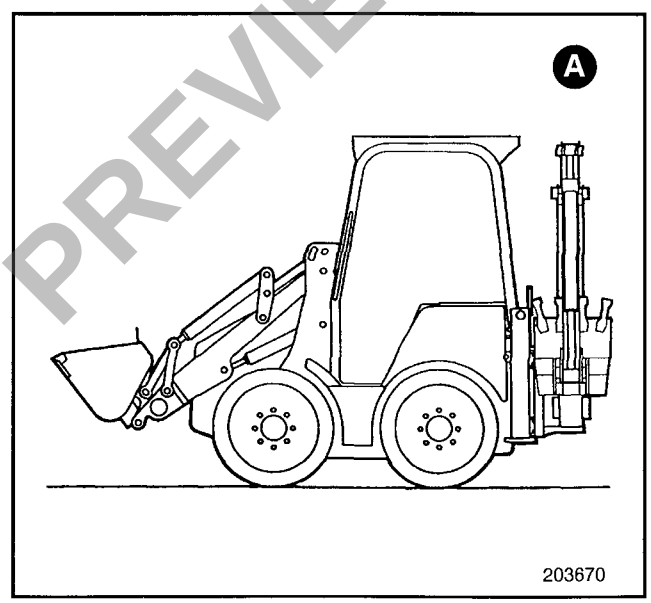
3 In certain territories, it will be necessary to fit a bucket crowd cylinder safety strut.

4 The attachments must not protrude from the back of the machine by more than 3.28 ft (1 m). If the attachments do protrude by more than 3.28 ft (1 m) then a rear protrusion plate/light must be installed. If the attachment is removed the tipping link must be secured.

5 Machine stability must be maintained.

6 On the road, the rear stop/tail indicator lights (both sides) must be clearly visible from the rear of the machine (see **CAUTION** on the following page).

7 The hydraclamps must be engaged.



Traveling On Site

⚠ WARNING

A high loader bucket can block your view and reduce the stability of the machine. Travel with the loader low to the ground. Travel slowly and with caution over rough, muddy or loose surfaces.

2-1-1-3

Notice: *Some attachments may require different travel positions to those described below. See* ***OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS*** *or the instructions supplied with the attachment.*

Read and understand the information given in the previous paragraphs. The recommendations given below **ARE NOT** necessarily the applied law, please make sure you are complying with the relevant local laws.

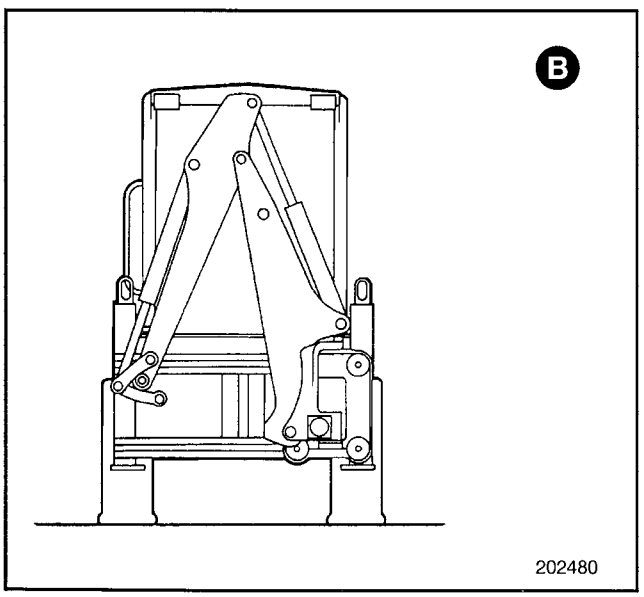
1 Roll the bucket fully back. Raise it to clear the road surface by 12 in (300 mm) as shown at **A**.

2 Position the boom and dipper across the back of the machine, as shown at **B**, and secure the bucket tipping link. Engage the hydraclamps and boom and swing lock. See ***Stabilizer Controls*** and ***Boom/Swing Lock.***

3 If any attachments are installed, make them safe.

Unless you are using pallet forks to carry a load, the forks must be removed. Refer to ***Pallet Forks*** in *OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS* section.

4 Make sure the stabilizers are fully up. See ***Stabilizer Controls*** .



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DRIVE CHAIN LUBRICATION

The final drive to the wheels is by chains. A chain casing on each side of the machine houses two chains, one to the front wheel and one to the rear wheel. The chains run in an oil bath.

Checking the Oil Levels

1 Park the machine on level ground.

2 Stop the engine.

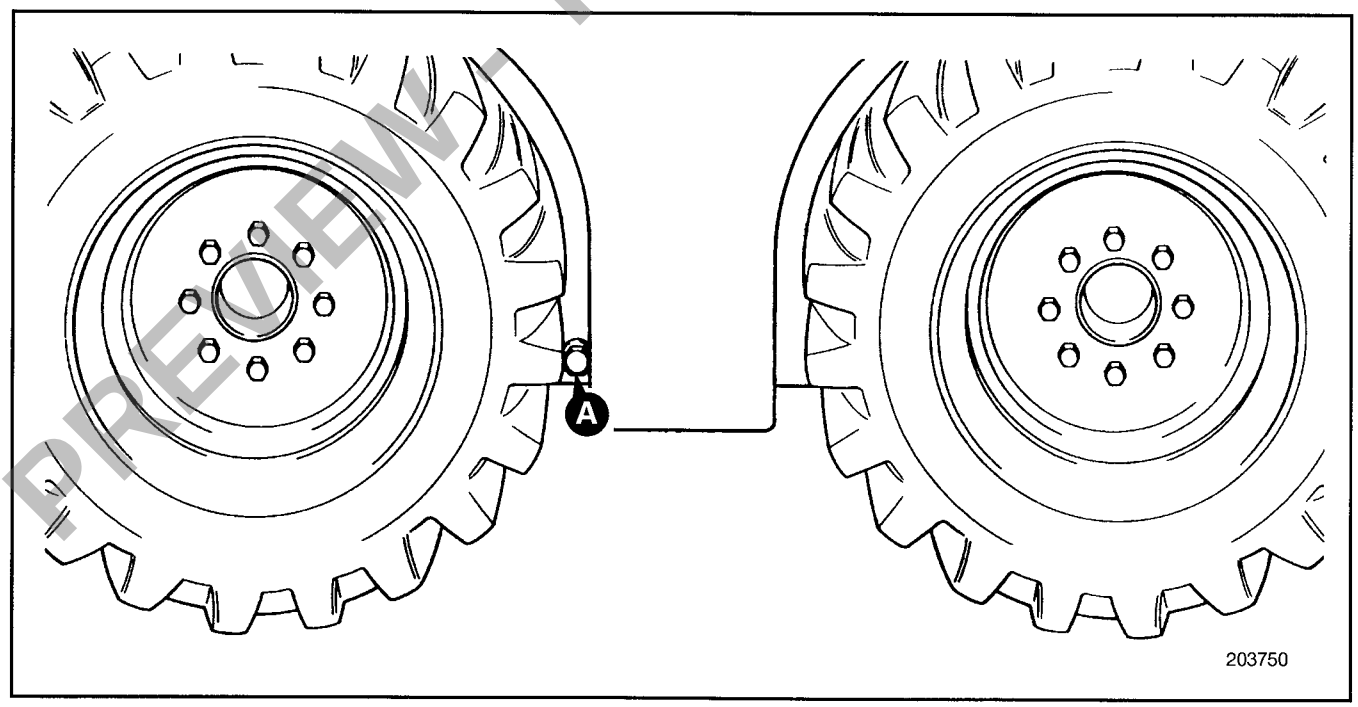
3 On the left side of the machine, remove inspection plug **A** and check that the oil level is up to the bottom of the aperture.

4 If necessary, top up through the aperture using the recommended oil. (See ***Fluids, Capacities and Lubricants.***) Wipe up any oil spillage.

5 Check that the washer on plug **A** is undamaged. Renew if necessary.

6 Clean plug **A** and its aperture before refitting. Do not overtighten or you could strip the threads in the housing.

7 Repeat steps 3 to 6 on the right side of the machine.



Notice: *This diagram shows the location of the chain casing plugs on the left side of the machine. The right side casing is a mirror image of the left side casing. The rear wheel is shown removed for clarity.*

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