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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

CONSOLIDATED VERSION

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

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IEC 62841-4-2 edition 1.2 contains the first edition (2017-12) [documents 116/346/FDIS and 116/352/RVD], its corrigendum (2018-06), its amendment 1 (2022-05) [documents 116/578/FDIS and 116/586/RVD] and its amendment 2 (2026-11) [documents 116/1012/FDIS and 116/1021/RVD].

In this Redline version, a vertical bar appears in the margin wherever the technical content has been modified by amendments 1 and 2. Additions are shown in green text, and deletions are shown in red strikethrough text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is included in this publication.

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International Standard IEC 62841-4-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 116: Safety of motor-operated electric tools.

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 and its amendments.

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.

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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 and its amendments will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

– reconfirmed,
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INTRODUCTION

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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~~ IEC 62841-4-5.

2 Normative references

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

Addition:

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IEC 60112:2025, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking indices of solid insulating materials*

IEC 60664-3:2016, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 3: Use of coating, potting or moulding for protection against pollution*

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IEC 60664-4:2005, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 4: Consideration of high-frequency voltage stress*

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

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

ISO 9773:2024, *Plastics - Determination of burning behaviour of thin flexible vertical specimens in contact with a small flame ignition source*

ISO 11684:2023, *Tractors, machinery for agriculture and forestry, powered lawn and garden equipment - Safety ~~signs and hazard pictorials~~ labels - 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*

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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)

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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 (see Figure 104)

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

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3.111
maximum speed
~~highest **cutting device** speed attainable under all conditions of **normal use**, including no-load~~

highest steady-state cutting device speed attainable under all conditions of normal use, including no-load, when adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and/or instructions

Note 101 to entry: The steady-state **cutting device** speed excludes transients such as overshoot that may occur before attaining a steady-state condition.

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)

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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.*

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

5.103 *For machines that do not attain **maximum speed** under no load conditions, the manufacturer shall provide samples with special hardware and/or software in order to perform the required tests.*

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 the following 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.

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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.~~
- "Wear ear protection", a relevant safety sign of ISO 7010 or the safety sign specified in Figure AA.7. This marking may be omitted if the measured emission sound pressure level at the operator's ear in accordance with Annex I does not exceed 85 dB(A); and
- "⚠DANGER – Keep hands away from blade" or the safety sign specified in Figure AA.1 or the safety sign specified in Figure AA.2.
- "Wear eye protection" or a relevant safety sign of ISO 7010 or one of the safety signs shown in Figure AA.5.

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.~~
- "⚠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.~~

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– "⚠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.~~

A combination of safety signs, such as eye, ear and head protection, is allowed. These signs may be front facing or a side profile. Examples of combination product safety labels are shown in Figure AA.6 and Figure AA.9.

Alternative safety signs to those in Annex AA that convey an equivalent message are allowed.

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

– "⚠ DANGER – Keep ~~sufficient distance~~ away from electrical power lines" or ~~symbol C.2.30 of ISO 11684~~ Figure AA.8 or a product safety label using one or more pictograms, such as ISO 11684:2023, Figure E.4 or ISO 11684:2023, Figure D.5.

– "Wear head protection" or a relevant safety sign of ISO 7010.

– Safety sign W017 of ISO 7010 (2011-05) in accordance with Table 2, if applicable.

~~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.~~

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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.

8.14.1.1 *Addition to item 2) c):*

For machines classified at least IPX4, the warning may be replaced as specified below.

c) **Do not operate the machine in rain or wet conditions.** *Water entering the machine may increase the risk of electric shock or malfunction that could result in personal injury.*

8.14.1.101 Safety instructions for hedge trimmers

For **hedge trimmers** that can be converted to a grass shear, the term "hedge trimmer" may be replaced by alternate wording (e.g. "grass shear/hedge trimmer" or "grass shear/shrub shear"). For this case, it is not necessary to repeat the verbatim warnings below for the two configurations.

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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.*~~

a) **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*.

b) **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*.

c) **Wear ear protection.** Adequate protective equipment will reduce the risk of hearing loss.

NOTE 101 This warning can be omitted if the measured emission sound pressure level at the operator's ear in accordance with Annex I does not exceed 85 dB(A).

d) **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.*

e) **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.*

f) **When clearing jammed material or servicing the hedge trimmer, 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.*

g) **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*.

h) **When transporting or storing the hedge trimmer, always use the blade cover**. *Proper handling of the hedge trimmer will decrease the risk of personal injury from the blades*.

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.*~~

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~~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”.~~

a) **Always use head protection when operating the extended-reach hedge trimmer overhead**. *Falling debris can result in serious personal injury.*

NOTE 101 Alternate wording for "extended-reach" is possible, e.g. "pole" or "long reach".

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) **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.*

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**~~ **cutting device** 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.

Replacement of the NOTE:

NOTE In Europe (EN IEC 62841-4-2), the following additional requirements apply:

Emissions

1) The noise emission, measured in accordance with Clause I.2, as follows:

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