HIRED, SECOND-HAND AND YOUR OWN HOME

HIRED OR SECOND-HAND. WHICH MUST BE TESTED BEFORE USE?

H

Hired equipment

The hire company will do its own checks. But the moment it's

on your property it's your responsibility

. Whatever the hire period, you inspect it before use. Hired for

more than a week

, it goes on the equipment register (p.83).

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Second-hand equipment

Completely different. If it's sold commercially it must be

fit for purpose

, and you cannot assume anyone else has checked it. It must be inspected and tested

before use

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The hire-car test.
Most people photograph a hire car before driving it. Same instinct applies to a hired cement mixer or a borrowed hard hat — you check it before you trust it.

An eBay purchase is the obvious case: a seller's word that it works is not evidence, and a video could be years old.

WHICH NEEDS MORE ATTENTION: AN OFFICE OR A BUILDING SITE?

The instinctive answer is the building site. The better answer is **it depends on use**. A welder used once a month sees far less wear than an office kettle boiled thirty times a day by a dozen people.

Section 3 · hire and rental companies

Section 13 · second-hand equipment

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