Safety Symbols

In this operator's manual and on the product, safety symbols and signal words are used to communicate important safety information. This section is provided to improve understanding of these signal words and symbols.

This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

⚠ WARNING WARNING indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

This symbol means read the operator's manual carefully before using the equipment. The operator's manual contains important information on the safe and proper operation of the equipment.

This symbol means always wear safety glasses with side shields or goggles when handling or using this equipment to reduce the risk of eye injury.

Soil Pipe Cutter Safety

⚠ WARNING

Read and understand these instructions and the warnings and instructions for all equipment and material being used before operating the Soil Pipe Cutters to reduce the risk of serious personal injury.

SAVE ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

Keep this manual with machine for use by the operator.

- **Keep bystanders out of work area while cutting. Stand clear of the pipe.** Cutting can cause pieces of pipe to be thrown with considerable force. This can cause striking injuries, eye injuries, or other serious personal injury.
- **Use personal protective equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Protective equipment such as dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.
- **Do not exceed the recommended cutting capacity of the tool. Use the correct tool for your application. Do not force tool.** Cutting pipe that is too large or the wrong type could overload the soil pipe cutter and cause tool failure and or serious personal injury. Do not extend the chain to cut soil pipe greater than 8" in diameter.
- **Do not use handle extensions or power tools to activate the soil pipe cutter.** Handle extensions (cheaters) can slip and cause serious injury. Extended handles or power tools can overload the soil pipe cutter and cause tool failure and or serious personal injury.
- **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** Proper footing and balance enables better control of the tool in unexpected situations.

RIDGID Contact Information

If you have any question concerning this RIDGID® product:

– Contact your local RIDGID distributor.
– Visit RIDGID.com to find your local RIDGID contact point.
– Contact Ridge Tool Technical Service Department at rtctechservices@emerson.com, or in the U.S. and Canada call (800) 519-3456.

Description

RIDGID® Soil Pipe Cutters are used to cut a variety of cast iron soil pipe and can also be used on concrete and clay pipe. All RIDGID Soil Pipe Cutters use chains equipped with cutter wheels that are tightened around the pipe until the pipe breaks. The 226, 206 and 286 all use the same chain assembly, while the 246 is supplied with a larger chain. All tools come standard with enough chain to cut pipe up to 6" nominal diameter, and with the addition of one chain extension can cut pipe up to 8" nominal diameter. All of the soil pipe cutters use a unique hooking mechanism to make hooking the chain easier.

226 In-Place Soil Pipe Cutter

Figure 1 – 226 Soil Pipe Cutter

The RIDGID 226 In-Place Soil Pipe Cutter is a compact tool (17" long) designed to cut hub and no-hub soil pipe, especially where space is limited. The handle is removable to allow use in tight spaces. The feedscrew is equipped with a hand knob for fast adjustment, and a 15" long 1/2" drive ratchet is supplied for operation. If needed, the 226 can also be operated with any 1/2" drive ratchet or 15/16" wrench.

206 and 246 Soil Pipe Cutters

Figure 2 – 206/246 Soil Pipe Cutter

The RIDGID 206 and 246 Soil Pipe Cutters utilize an integral ratchet handle centered on the pipe. This is especially useful when cutting pipe in trenches, and helps keep the width of the trench to a minimum. The 206 uses the same chain as the 226 and 286, while the chain on the 246 is larger and allows it to cut 4" class 22 water main and 2" – 5" extra heavy duty soil pipe.

286 Soil Pipe Cutter

Figure 3 – 286 Soil Pipe Cutter

The RIDGID 286 Soil Pipe Cutter is designed to allow soil pipe to be cut in a single stroke. A knob is used to adjust handle position for optimal cutting. The 286 Soil Pipe Cutter allows repeated cuts to be made quickly, as when cutting pipe for assembly.

Specifications

Catalog No.	Model No.	Description	Capacity		Weight		Standard Pack	Replacement Chain Cat #
			in.	mm	lb.	kg		
68650	206	Soil Pipe Cutter No Hub	1½-6	40-150	18	8.2	1	33670
69982	226	In-Place Soil Pipe Cutter	1½-6	40-150	18	8.2	1	33670
32900	246	Soil Pipe Cutter	1½-6	40-150	25	11.3	1	34575
59698	286	Soil Pipe Cutter	1½-6	40-150	29	13.1	1	33670
33665	206/226/286	Chain Extension Assy.*	—	—	1	0.5	1	—
34570	246	Chain Extension Assy.*	—	—	1	0.5	1	—
70437	–	226 Ratchet	—	—			1	—

* Do not use more than one chain extension except for use with clay pipe up to 15".

Soil Pipe Cutter Capacity Chart

Model				Material/Size
226	206	286	246	
*(1)	*(1)	*(1)	*(1)	Clay pipe, 8"
*	*	*	*	Service weight cast iron solid pipe, 8"
*	*	*	*	No hub cast iron soil pipe, 8"
•	•	•	•	Concrete pipe, 4" - 6"
•	•	•	•	Clay pipe, 1½" - 6"
			•	Class 22 water main, 4"
			•	Extra heavy-duty cast iron soil pipe, 2" - 5"
•	•	•	•	Service weight cast iron soil pipe, 1½" - 6"
•	•	•	•	No hub cast iron soil pipe, 1½" - 6"

• Standard Length Chain. *Chain with One Chain Extension.
(1) Up to 15" Clay Pipe only can be cut with extended chain.

Pre-Operation Inspection and Maintenance

⚠ WARNING

Before each use, inspect your soil pipe cutter and correct any problems to reduce the risk of serious injury from striking or impact injuries and other causes and prevent soil pipe cutter damage.

1. Clean the soil pipe cutter and remove all dirt, oil, grease and debris, especially from handles and controls. This aids in inspection and helps prevent the tool from slipping from your grip during use. If needed, the chain can be cleaned with a wire brush.
2. Inspect the soil pipe cutter for the following items:
   - Proper assembly and completeness
   - Broken, cracked, missing, bent or binding parts
   - Excessive corrosion and wear
   - Smooth, free movement of ratchet, screws, chain and linkages
   - Presence and readability of warning labels
3. Inspect the chain for signs of overload or other damage. There should be no significant gaps between the plates of the chain. If there are large gaps between the links of the chain or other damage, the chain should be replaced. Check the cutter wheels for wear and damage. Worn and damaged cutter wheels increase cut force and can cause poor quality cuts.
4. On the 226 Soil Pipe Cutter, press the release button in the center of the ratchet head and place into the end of the feed-screw. The ratchet should lock firmly into place. This helps to prevent the ratchet from coming loose from the cutter when in use. If using a different ratchet or wrench, be aware that it could come loose during use.
5. If any problems are found, do not use the soil pipe cutter until corrected. Have your tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts. This will ensure that the safety of the tool is maintained.
6. If needed, lubricate pivot points and the chain with a light lubricating oil. Wipe any excess oil off.

Tool Set-Up and Operation

⚠ WARNING

Follow set up and operating instructions to reduce the risk of serious injury from striking or impact injuries and other causes and prevent machine damage.

Keep bystanders out of work area while cutting. Stand clear of the pipe. Cutting can cause pieces of pipe to be thrown with considerable force. This can cause striking injuries, eye injuries, or other serious personal injury.

1. Check work area for adequate lighting and a clear, level, stable place to work. Do not operate in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust. Tools can create

sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.

2. Inspect the pipe to be cut. Determine the size and type of material. If cutting pipe that is already in service, determine the pipe contents.
3. Determine the correct pipe cutter for the application. Other pipe cutters can be found in the RIDGID Catalog at RIDGID.com. RIDGID soil pipe cutters can be used for soil pipe up to a maximum of 8" diameter. See *Specification* Section.
4. Make sure that the soil pipe cutter has been properly inspected.
5. Prepare the pipe to be cut.
   - Take any appropriate steps required to drain the pipe and/or deal with any potential spillage.
   - Clean mud or corrosion off of the pipe. Excessive corrosion or mud can cause poor quality cuts and damage cutter wheels.
   - Make sure there is enough room to get the chain around the pipe. The 206/226 and 286 need approximately 1½" around the pipe for the chain to fit, the 246, about 2". If cutting loose pipe, to protect the cutter wheels from damage against concrete or other hard surfaces, place the pipe on short stands or wood block to get the pipe off the floor or work on a softer surface like a piece of plywood.
   - When cutting short sections of pipe, if possible, restrain the pipe to prevent it from being thrown when cut. This can be done by placing a smaller piece of pipe or lumber through the center of the pipe, or by other methods.
6. For all of the soil pipe cutters, the tool must be fully open and the chain snugly wrapped around the pipe before hooking the chain. If not, the wrong pin may be hooked and the cut may not be able to be completed. This can also cause the cutter to jam. If that happens, fully open the tool and move the chain to the next tighter chain pin and continue operation as described.
7. Choose a spot to operate the cutter from. Keep in mind that when the pipe is cut, parts of it may be thrown. Make sure that the area is clear of bystanders or objects that could be struck by pipe. Be aware that when the pipe is cut the soil pipe cutter and pipe could drop or fall.

226 Set-Up and Operation

The handle of the 226 Soil Pipe Cutter can be removed for use in tight spaces. Remove the two bolts/nuts that retain the handle to the arms of the cutter and remove the handle. Re-install and firmly tighten the bolts/nuts in the arms of the cutter before use. The handle can be placed in any of four positions if needed.

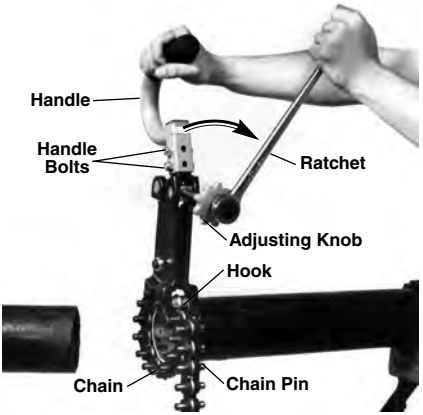

Figure 4 – Using the 226 Soil Pipe Cutter

1. Grip the adjusting knob of the soil pipe cutter and fully open.
2. Place the soil pipe cutter on the pipe so the cutter wheels line up with the desired cut point. Makes sure both hooks are lying on the pipe with the open side up.
3. Wrap the chain snugly around the pipe and place the nearest chain pin into the hooks.
4. Make sure that the cutter wheels are square to the pipe and at the desired location. Turn the adjusting knob to firmly tighten the chain around the pipe.
5. Press the release button in the center of the ratchet head and place into the end of the feedscrew. The ratchet should lock firmly into place. If using a different wrench, it may not lock in place and may come loose during operation. Make sure that the ratchet is set to tighten the feedscrew.
6. Assume a stable stance, and with a firm grip on the handle, tighten the feedscrew with the ratchet. Continue tightening until the pipe is cut.

206/246 Set-Up and Operation

1. Lift and turn the ratchet knob to the neutral position (pin out of the groove). Grip the adjusting knob of the soil pipe cutter and fully open.

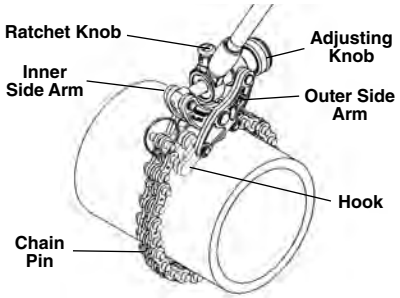

Figure 5 – 206/246 Soil Pipe Cutter

2. If possible, while straddling the longest section of the pipe, put the adjusting knob to your right. When cut, the short section of pipe will be away from you.
3. Place the soil pipe cutter on the pipe so that the cutter wheels are lined up with the desired cut point. Makes sure both hooks are lying on the pipe with the open side up.
4. Wrap the chain snugly around the pipe and place the nearest chain pin into the hooks.
5. Make sure that the cutter wheels are square to the pipe and at the desired location. Turn the adjusting knob to firmly tighten the chain around the pipe. DO NOT try to use the adjusting knob to cut the pipe – this can damage the soil pipe cutter.
6. Turn the ratchet knob in the close direction so that the arrow points to the word CUT on the ratchet housing.
7. Assume a stable stance, and with a firm grip on the handle, move the handle toward the pipe to tighten the chain. Continue ratcheting and tightening until the pipe is cut.

IMPORTANT
If the ratcheting action stops before the pipe is cut, the tool has been jammed. DO NOT FORCE the handle or adjusting knob. Lift and turn the ratchet knob so that the arrow points to the word OPEN on the ratchet housing. Hold the ratchet knob in this position while moving the handle in that direction to unjam the tool. Fully open the tool and move the chain to the next tighter chain pin and continue operation as described.

286 Set-Up and Operation

Once the 286 Soil Pipe Cutter is adjusted for a given size of pipe, it usually requires no further adjustment for subsequent cuts.

The hooks should rotate but stay where placed to ease chain hooking. If needed, tighten the hook nut to adjust tension. *(See Figure 6).*

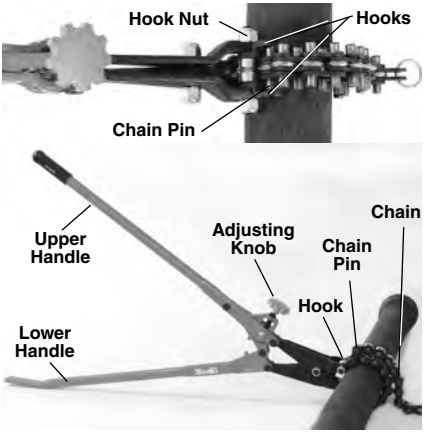

Figure 6 – 286 Soil Pipe Cutter

1. Place the jaws of the tool next to and square to the pipe, with the chain under or around the pipe. Make sure both hooks are lying on the pipe with the open side up. If cutting on ground, the adjusting knob should be up.
2. Open the handles to 90 degrees and support the upper handle with one hand.
3. With the other hand, pull the chain snugly around the pipe and insert the closest chain pin into the hooks. Make sure that the excess chain is clear of the mechanism.
4. Make sure the chain is square to the pipe and in the proper location, and carefully close the jaws of the soil pipe making sure that the chain pin stays hooked. Using the adjusting knob, adjust so that the handles are approximately 45 to 70 degrees apart for cast iron pipe and 20 to 45 degrees apart for clay or concrete pipe. If you cannot get a proper angle using the knob, the chain must be disengaged from the hooks, the jaws opened further with the knob, and the chain hooked to the next pin.

5. Assume a stable stance. If working with one handle on the ground, place one foot on the flat of the lower handle. With a firm grip on the handle, exert even downward force until the pipe is cut.

Cutting Tips

Once the appropriate pin for a given size pipe has been determined; marking the pin can save time setting up subsequent cuts of the same size.

For cleaner cuts, instead of tightening the chain until the pipe is cut, tighten the chain enough to mark the pipe. Then loosen the chain and slightly rotate the pipe or the tool and make another set of marks. Do this several times to create marks all the way around the pipe, then tighten the chain and break the pipe.

When carrying your soil pipe cutter, do not drag the chain. This can wear and damage the cutter wheels, increasing cut force and cause poor cut quality.

Lengthening Soil Pipe Cutter Chain

⚠ WARNING

Do not exceed the recommended cutting capacity of the tool. Cutting pipe that is too large or the wrong type could overload the soil pipe cutter and cause tool failure and or serious personal injury.

All RIDGID Soil Pipe Cutters come equipped with enough chain to cut 6" pipe. The addition of one Chain Extension Assembly *(See Specification table for catalog information)* will increase your chain length enough to allow 8" soil pipe to be cut. If you are cutting clay pipe ONLY, you can extend your chain to allow up to 15" clay pipe to be cut. Do not cut types or sizes of pipes outside the range shown in the cutter capacity chart, as that could overload and damage the cutter or cause injury.

To Add A Chain Extension Assembly To Your Chain

1. Remove the ring from the end of the chain.
2. Place the outside links of the extension over the inside links of the chain, and place the cutter wheel between the inside links.
3. Place the area of the chain to be linked in a press and properly support. Align the holes in the links and cutter wheel and place the pin in the hole.
4. Carefully press the pin in. Make sure to center the pin relative to the chain links.
5. Reattach the ring to the end of the extended chain.