



Portable Power Tool Safety

Portable power tools have the potential to cause serious injuries due to the speed at which they operate and the power source they use. Therefore, it is important to take safety measures seriously when using them.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Eye protection is crucial when using power tools, as the high-speed operation of drills, saws, grinders, sanders, and routers can cause small particles to be propelled much faster and farther than hand tools. Safety glasses or goggles are a must, and a face shield may also be necessary for some tools.

Hand protection in the form of standard cotton or leather gloves is important but remember that cut-resistant gloves won't protect you from moving blades.

Safety footwear with nonslip, electrically insulated soles and a protective toe cap should also be worn, especially when working with electricity.

Hearing protection in the form of earplugs or earmuffs may be necessary for high noise level tools.

Respirators may be required for operations such as power sanding or grinding.

ATTIRE

Aside from PPE, proper attire is also important when using power tools. Tie back or cover long hair, avoid loose or torn clothing, and remove any loose jewelry to prevent them from getting caught in power tools.

PROPER WORK PRACTICES

- It is essential to keep all tools in good repair, and employers are responsible for ensuring their employees' safety when using tools and equipment.
- Always read and follow the safety precautions covered in the owner's manual before using any power tool.
- Remember to never carry a tool by the cord or hose, keep cords and hoses away from heat, oil, and sharp edges, and secure work with clamps or a vise.
- It is crucial to disconnect tools when not in use, before servicing or cleaning them, and when changing accessories such as blades, bits, and cutters.
- Never hold your fingers on the switch button while carrying a plugged-in tool and maintain good footing and balance when operating power tools.

Safety is crucial when using portable power tools. By following proper safety measures and work practices, we can minimize the risk of accidents and injuries. Remember to wear appropriate PPE, keep tools in good repair, and always read and follow the safety precautions covered in the owner's manual before using any power tool. Let's all work safely and keep each other safe.

Personal Protective Equipment - Construction | Occupational Safety and Health Administration. www.osha.gov/personal-protective-equipment/construction.

Hand and Power Tool Safety - Quick Tips #188 - Grainger KnowHow. www.grainger.com/know-how/safety/safety-management/safety-compliance/kh-188-tool-safety-qt.

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SAFETY: FIRST. LAST. ALWAYS!