



HAND & POWER TOOL SAFETY

Hand and power tools are used every day to complete work tasks and are present in nearly every industry. These tools present certain hazards and are capable of causing severe injuries. It's important that they are well maintained and used in a safe manner.

HAZARDS

- Cuts
 - Bruises
 - Flying objects
 - Amputations
 - Punctures
 - Noise Exposure
 - Fumes, sparks
 - Repetitive motion
 - Electrical hazards
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MAINTENANCE / INSPECTION

- Inspect all tools and electrical cords for damage before use
 - Remove all damaged tools and electrical cords from service, tag "do not use"
 - Keep all tools in good condition with regular maintenance and cleaning
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ELECTRICAL CORDS

- Don't carry tool by its cord and or pull the cord to unplug it
 - Keep the cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts
 - Tag and replace damaged cords immediately
 - Worn or frayed electrical cords shall not be used
 - Don't fasten cords with staples, hang from nails, or suspend by wire
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BEST PRACTICES

- Use the right tool for the job (if you're not sure, ask)
 - Power operated tools shall either be double-insulated or grounded
 - Ensure all safety guards are in place, do not remove them
 - Disconnect tools when not using them, before servicing, and before accessories
 - Secure work with clamps or a vise, freeing both hands to operate the tool
 - Do not hold fingers on the switch button while carrying a plugged-in tool
 - Wear appropriate personal protective equipment and apparel
 - Operate tools according to the manufacturers' instructions
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GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTERS (GFCI)

A GFCI is a fast-acting circuit breaker that senses small imbalances in the circuit caused by current leakage to ground and, in a fraction of a second, shuts off electricity.

It works by comparing the amount of current *going to* and *returning from* equipment along the circuit conductors. When the amount *going* differs from the amount *returning* by approximately 5 milliamperes, the GFCI interrupts the current.

OSHA 1926.404 (b)(1)(ii): All 120V, single-phase 15A & 20A receptacle outlets on construction sites, which are not a part of the permanent wiring of the building and which are in use by employees, shall have approved ground fault circuit interrupters.

The material contained herein is intended for reference purposes only. It is not intended to meet any contractual agreements, or requirements of applicable Federal, State or Local law regulation or ordinance. It should be reviewed by appropriate counsel before use.