

Hand and Portable Power Tools (General)

Hand and power tools are used extensively in construction work and can be the cause of personal bodily injury, if not used as designed and in a safe manner. Tools must be appropriate for the task, properly maintained, and equipped with all necessary guards and safety devices.



HAZARDS

contact injury from rotating parts, eye and face injury from flying particles, burns from contact, abrasions and cuts, electrocution, amputation, pinch points, repetitive strain injury



DO

- Choose a tool that is appropriate for the task.
- Wear all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment.
- Inspect the tool before use to ensure it is in safe working condition.
- Ensure all tool guards are in place.
- Use tools designed to allow wrist to stay straight. Avoid using hand tools with your wrist bent.



DO NOT

- **DO NOT** Use a tool for any other purpose than what it was designed to do.
- **DO NOT** Use a worn or damaged tool.
- **DO NOT** Use a tool without all guards in place.
- **DO NOT** Use a tool without wearing proper PPE.
- **DO NOT** Apply excessive force or pressure on tools.
- **DO NOT** Do not carry a sharp tool in your pocket.
- **DO NOT** Do not cut towards yourself when using cutting tools.

General Safe Work Practices

1. Choose the most appropriate tool for the task.
2. Inspect the tool and ensure it is in good operating condition and is equipped with all guards. Tag defective equipment clearly with a "Warning Do not use Tag" then Lock it Out and see your supervisor immediately.
3. Ensure you are familiar with the safe operating procedures and any limitations on the use of the tool.
4. Ensure no one in the surrounding area will be put at risk when you are using the tool.
5. Keep cutting tools sharp and cover sharp edges with suitable covering to protect the tool and to prevent injuries from unintended contact.
6. Replace cracked, splintered, or broken handles on files, hammers, screwdrivers, or sledges.
7. Replace worn jaws on wrenches, pipe tools and pliers.
8. Keep the work environment clean and tidy to avoid clutter which may cause accidents.

Regulatory Reference:

Manitoba Regulation 217/2006 • PART 16-Machines, Tools and Robots

Failure to adhere to this Safe Work Practice will result in disciplinary action. If you have any questions or require clarification contact your immediate Supervisor