



EHS Fact Sheet

Saw Safety

Types of Stationary Saws

1. **Table Saws:** Adjust the table saw blade to project about 1/8 inch above the wood. Make certain the workpiece is out of contact with the blade when starting or stopping the saw. Keep your body out of the way. Use a push stick when ripping narrow strips. Lower the saw blade below the tabletop when work is finished.



2. **Radial Arm Saws:** When cross-cutting wood, lay the stock solidly on the table and against the back guide. The saw blade should rotate downward as viewed by the operator. Pull the saw with one hand while the stock is held with the other hand. Never reach across the line of cut. When making miter cuts, secure the locking devices to prevent the saw from changing angles or digging in. Return the saw to the rear position after completing a cut.



3. **Band Saws:** The operator is required to hand-feed and manipulate the stock against the blade to saw along a predetermined line. The user must also keep the stock flat on the work table and exert the proper cutting force. Keep the saw blade set evenly and with the correct tension.



Types of Portable Saws:

1. **Hand-Held Circular Saws:** Do not work in wet areas. Do not clamp or wedge the guard in the open position. Keep your finger off the trigger when carrying the saw. Do not cut the power cord. Wait until the blade stops before laying down the saw. When finished, unplug the saw and put it out of the reach of children.



2. **Jig Saws:** Select the proper blade for the job. Make sure it is sharp, undamaged and securely tightened in place. Do not turn on the saw when the blade is in contact with the workpiece. Hold the saw firmly with one hand and steady the work with the other. Keep your hand and other objects clear of the blade.



Personal Safety:

1. Appropriate safety equipment, such as safety eyewear, earplugs and dust masks.
2. Do not wear gloves when working with most tools.
3. Do not wear sandals, open-toed footwear.
4. Avoid loose-fitting clothes that might become entangled in a power tool. Remove rings and other jewelry.
5. Do not operate power tools if taking medications, fatigued or consuming alcohol.
6. Keep long hair pulled back or under shirt collar.