



Hand Tool Safety

- Do not use a screwdriver as a chisel or a wrench as a hammer.
- Inspect tools for damage before attempting a task.
- Use the right personal protective equipment (PPE), especially safety glasses and gloves, every time you use hand tools.
- Carry tools in a manner that prevents injury to yourself or someone else, especially if you should fall.
- Never strike a screwdriver with a hammer.
- Cut away from your body to avoid injury.
- Pass tools to others handle-first.
- Workers should be able to recognize the hazards associated with the different types of tools.
- Never use cheater bars to increase force on hand tools.
- Broken or damaged tools need to be replaced.
- Wrenches must not be used when jaws are sprung to the point that slippage occurs.
- Impact tools such as drift pins, wedges, and chisels must be kept free of mushroomed heads.
- Wooden handles of tools must not be splintered.

Personal Protective Equipment

- Eye protection - safety glasses/face shield goggles protect eyes from flying objects.
- Gloves protect hands from cuts.
- Safety Footwear protects your feet from dropped tools and materials.
- Hearing protection may be necessary when working with hand tools in areas where noise level exceeds safe levels.
- Respiratory protection may be required in specialized cases to protect against dust and fumes.

Housekeeping Tips

- Keep floor clean and dry to prevent slips and falls.
- Never leave hand tools laying on equipment or floor.
- Work in areas with adequate lighting.
- Allow for plenty of space in the area where you are working.

[OSHA Hand and Power Tool Safety](#)