

## **EHS Fact Sheet**Power Hand Tools

## Power hand tool safety tips

- Hand-held power tools must be equipped with a constant-pressure switch or control that shuts off the power.
- Double-insulated tools that provide protection against electrical shock are available.
- Operate electric tools within their design limitations.
- Inspect tools before use. Check the cord, housing, guards, and overall general condition.
- Do not carry power tools by the cord.
- Secure work with clamps or a vise, freeing both hands to operate the tool.
- Do not remove or bypass guards.
- Avoid using excessive force; let the tool do the work.
- Disconnect the electrical source when making adjustments to the power tool.
- Read the owner's manual and get training for unfamiliar tools.
- Avoid using electric tools in wet/damp environments.

**OSHA Hand and Power Tool Overview** 

## Personal protective equipment

- Eye protection such as safety glasses, face shields or goggles protect the eyes from flying objects.
- Gloves protect hands from cuts.
- Safety footwear protects feet from dropped tools and debris.
- Hearing protection may be necessary when working with power tools in areas where noises exceed safe levels.
- Respiratory protection may be required to protect against dust and fumes.

## Housekeeping tips

- Keep floors clean and dry to prevent slips and falls.
- Never leave tools laying on equipment or floor.
- · Work in areas with adequate lighting.
- Allow for plenty of space to operate tools.



Revision date: September 2025