



SAWS

Potential Hazards

1. cuts/lacerations/amputations
2. eye injury / flying objects
3. electrocution
4. respiratory illness
5. repetitive strain injury
6. noise (hearing loss)

Personal Protective Equipment Required

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Hard hat | CSA Boots | Eye protection |
| Hand protection | Hearing protection | Skin protection |
| | Face protection | (clothing) |

PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

Where multiple trade activity is scheduled, the general contractor is to review in advance the priority of work and schedule the appropriate time frame to allow each trade to complete their scope of work. Prior to any work commencing supervisors must conduct a hazard assessment of all applicable work areas. Any hazards that are found during the hazard assessment must be addressed prior to any work commencing.

GENERAL OPERATION PRECAUTIONS:

DO's:

1. Wear proper personal protection such as eye and face protection.
2. Wear hearing protection.
3. Dress properly.
4. Keep work areas clean. Cluttered areas and benches invite injuries
5. Keep work area well lit.
6. Use the right tool for the job.
7. Guard against electric shock. Prevent body contact with grounded surfaces.
8. Check the guard regularly to ensure it works freely and provides full coverage.
9. Allow the saw to attain full power before cutting.
10. Secure work being cut to avoid undue movement.
11. Ensure that the blade that you have selected is sharp enough to do the job. Sharp blades work better and are safer.
12. Store idle tools. When not in use, tools should be stored in dry and high or locked containers.
13. Disconnect the tool when not in use, before cleaning and when changing blades, bits or cutters.
14. Remove adjusting keys or wrenches before operating the tool.
15. Ensure that you have a good grip on the tool to avoid unintentional starting.
16. Use the appropriate extension cord for the scope of work you are completing as well as the location you are working in.
17. Stay alert. Be aware of your surroundings and the personnel that are in the area.
18. Check the saw for proper blade/chain rotation.
19. Proper maintenance of tools is mandatory. Clean the tool at the end of each day and inspect regularly to ensure that there are no signs of damage.
20. Operate the tool below the rated input to ensure the tool is not damaged due to overload.

DON'Ts:

1. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry.
2. Do not use tools for applications they were not designed for.
3. Do not use attachments that are not recommended for the tool.
4. Do not force the retracting lower guard in the open position.
5. Do not expose power tools to rain.
6. Do not use power tools in damp or wet locations.
7. Do not place hand under guard of the saw.
8. Do not force the saw during cutting.
9. Do not cut materials without first checking for obstructions or other objects such as nails, etc.
10. Do not carry the saw with a finger on the trigger switch.
11. Do not overreach-keep proper footing and balance.
12. Do not twist the saw to change, cut or check alignment.
13. Do not abuse the power cord.



14. Never carry or lift the tool by the power cord.
15. Do not use a saw that vibrates or appears unsafe.
16. Do not use small tools or attachments for work which requires a heavy duty tool.
17. Do not use the tool in presence of flammable liquids or gasses.
18. Do not touch any movable part of the tool unless the power cord is unplugged and you are certain that there is no power going to the tool.
19. Do not let visitors contact any tool or extension cord. All visitors should be kept away from work area.
20. Do not wipe plastic parts of the tool with solvents

SAFE WORK PROCEDURE

USE PRECAUTIONS

1. Never operate the tool without guards in place
2. Use the blade designed for the materials you are cutting. Keep saw blades sharp and replace when there are signs of excessive wear. Excessive wear is characterized by rounding on the teeth, wear at the mounting hole or warping of the blade body.
3. Use only cutting wheels with a "Safe Speed" at least as high as the "No-Load RPM" indicated on the power tool nameplate

PRIOR TO OPERATION

1. Ensure that the power source to be utilized conforms to the power requirements specified for the tool
2. Ensure that the power switch is in the OFF position before plugging the tool in.
3. If an extension cord is use it must be of sufficient thickness and rated capacity to ensure that tool efficiency is not diminished. Keep extension cords as short as possible.
4. Ensure that the wheel guard is properly fitted and fastened before commencing any cutting operation.
5. Ensure that the cutting wheel to be used is the correct type for the application. The wheel must be free of cracks or surface defects. Ensure that the cutting wheel is properly mounted and the wheel nut is securely tightened.
6. Trial runs are recommended after a new wheel has been installed on the tool or before commencing routine cutting operations.

CIRCULAR SAW APPLICATION

1. Hold the retracting blade guard in the open position.
2. Place your hand under the shoe or the guard of the saw.
3. Over-tighten the blade-locking nut.
4. Twist the saw blade while cutting.
5. Do not use a saw that vibrates or seems to be unsafe in anyway.
6. Do not force a saw at any time during a cut.
7. Do not cut anything without first checking for obstructions such as nails and screws. They could shatter the blade, sending metal fragments flying about, or could be violently ejected from the blade and cause a serious injury.
8. Never carry a saw with your finger on the trigger switch.
9. Never overreach. Keep firm footing and proper balance at all times.
10. Never rip the work without using a guide that is clamped or nailed to the workplace.

CUT-OFF SAW APPLICATION

1. To prolong the life of the machine and ensure a first class finish it is important that the machine should not be overloaded by applying too much force.
2. After switching off the machine allow the cutting wheel to stop completely before setting the tool down.
3. Always place the tool down so that the cutting wheel is facing up.

CHAIN SAW APPLICATION

1. If you have never used a chainsaw ask for instructions.
2. Inspect chain to ensure it is installed correctly.
3. Correct tension on chain.
4. Chain is to be sharp.
5. Check oil in all oil chambers.



6. Ensure chain brake is operating.
7. Do not use the chainsaw if the brake is not operating correctly.
8. Ensure material to be cut is clean.
9. Ensure material to be cut is firmly held, and supported close to the line of cut to prevent binding of blade.
10. A chainsaw is never to be handled with one hand.
11. Ensure the work area is clean and free of obstacles.
12. Extreme caution to be exercised when cutting material above the waist.
13. The chain must come to a stop before moving from one cut to another.
14. Store chainsaw in clean dry area.
15. Ensure chain cover is in place.
16. Ensure fuel and oil is not leaking.

SAW MAINTENANCE

1. A saw must be inspected frequently and maintained in a safe condition.
2. A dull, badly set, improperly filed or tensioned saw, or an inserted tooth saw with poorly fitting shanks or worn bits, must be removed from service.
3. A saw must be inspected for cracks and other defects each time the saw is sharpened, and a cracked saw must be removed from service until repaired by a qualified person.
4. A saw or saw collar damaged by excessive heat or undue stress must be removed from service until inspected and repaired by a qualified person.