

Circular Saw Safety

Hand and Power Tools

Hand-held circular saws can spin their blades at 5,000 revolutions per minute, making these saws extremely dangerous. Hazards include noise, flying objects, electrical and saw kickback. Saws should be inspected before use, and should not be used by untrained personnel. Review the following safety tips with your employees.

Tool Box Tips

- Always wear eye protection when using circular saws.
- Inspect tools for any damage prior to each use.
- Hearing protection is recommended as saws are very loud and can lead to hearing loss.
- Set the saw cutting depth as shallow as possible. Avoid letting the blade protrude much below the stock being cut.
- Never set a circular saw down unless the blade has stopped.
- Change blades only when unplugged.
- Do not hold or force the retracting lower guard in the open position.
- Do not place hand under the shoe or guard of the saw.
- Do not over tighten the blade-locking nut.
- Do not twist the saw to change, cut or check alignment.
- Do not use a saw that vibrates or appears unsafe in any way.
- Never saw free-handed.
- Do not cut materials without first checking for obstructions or other objects such as nails and screws.
- Tie up loose clothing and hair, and remove jewelry that could be pulled into the saw.
- Operate circular saw with a good footing and make sure the area is clear of trip hazards.

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