

Grinder Safety

Hand and Power Tools

Grinders are the most common metalworking tools and they are used in almost all garages, shops and job sites. Grinders produce wheel speeds of 9,000 to 14,000 revolutions per minute, which expose the operator to serious hazards. Old or damaged grinding wheels can explode at these high speeds, producing flying fragments. Please review the following safety tips with your employees.

Tool Box Tips

- Train operators before they use a grinder.
- Wear gloves to prevent laceration.
- Wear eye protection for high-velocity particles.
- Make sure all guards are in place when operating.
- Make sure outer wheels guards are in place.
- Never make a wheel fit or alter the arbor.
- Never operate a hand-grinder without the guard.
- Bolt or secure grinders to a work surface.
- Stop the grinder if excessive vibration is detected.
- Put a grinder down only after it has stopped rotating.
- “Ring test” grinder wheels before installing.
- Avoid kickback—use minimum pressure and never force a grinder to work.
- Repair damaged or cut electrical cords.

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