

# 2024-05-20 TBT Nail Gun Safety

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## Six Steps to Nail Gun Safety

1. Use the full sequential trigger to reduce misfires.
2. Provide training to both new and experienced workers.
3. Establish nail gun work procedures. Contractors should develop their own nail gun work rules and procedures to address risk factors and make the work as safe as possible.
4. Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Safety shoes, which help protect workers' toes from nail gun injuries, hard hats, high Impact eye protection and hearing protection.
5. Encourage reporting and discussion of injuries and close calls
6. Provide first aid and medical treatment training.

## Know your tool

1. Review the instruction manual especially the safety features
2. Treat the tool as it can go off at any time, always assume it's loaded.
3. Inspect the safety components, hoses, and compressor.
4. Never attempt to bypass the contact tip.
5. Operate the tool at the correct air pressure.
6. Disconnect the air supply when removing a jam or to clean in.

## Watch for hazards

1. Avoid areas that don't allow you to properly seat the gun to the surface.
2. Keep your hands at a safe distance from the firing point.
3. Firmly grasp the piece you are trying to nail.
4. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fasten the object.
5. Don't be in a hurry.

## How do injuries occur?

1. Accidental or unintended firing, often associated with recoil of the tool after firing, referred to as a "double fire" — second unintended shot
2. Holding finger on contact trigger—nail gun nose can inadvertently contact an object and fire
3. Airborne nails, ricocheting nails, nail missing work surface or penetrating through work surface
4. By-passing safety features and using unsafe work practices
5. Horseplay – avoid using the tool for anything other than what it is intended for.



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