

HAND TOOL SAFETY



Hand Tool Safety Toolbox Talk

- Many people take hand tools for granted.
- It's important to use the appropriate tools for each job and to make sure that those tools are maintained in top condition.
- When your tools are taken care of properly, your tasks will be able to be completed more quickly and safely.

Steps to prevent accidents when using hand tools:

1. Choose the right tool for the job:

- Screwdrivers: Correct size and tip of tip.
- Wrenches: Correct type and correct length of handle.
- Chisels: Correct type for the material being worked on.
- Pry Bars: Correct size and style of tip.
- Hammers: Correct size, style of head face, and type of claw.

2. Only use tools in good condition:

- All tools need to be clean and free of grease, oil, and dirt.
- Make sure the tool head is tight and secure.
- Screwdrivers: Square tips are not rounded or twisted.
- Chisels: Cutting edges are sharp and square.
- Wrenches: Open ends are not warped or bent.
- Knife blades: Have sharp cutting edges.
- Saw blades: Are sharp and do not have any missing teeth.

3. Use tools correctly:

- Only use tools for their intended purpose.
- Be cautious with metal tools around power sources.
- Pull wrenches, don't push.
- Use the full handle, don't choke up on the handle.
- Don't use cheater bars/pipes on handles.
- Don't use a screwdriver as a pry bar.
- Always cut away from yourself.
- Rakes or hoe type tools are laid with the blade/teeth down to avoid kick up.