

# Band Saw

1. Use both hands and keep fingers at least 4" from the blade at all times.
2. Keep upper guides less than 1/4" from the material being cut. Adjust the guides before turning the saw on.
3. Plan your cuts carefully. Saw curves gradually. Sudden twists may cause the blade to bind or break. Use relief cuts when necessary.
4. Ensure that the blade is running at full speed before starting a cut.
5. Always operate the saw from the front, never from the side.
6. Cut on the waste side of your line. Sanding to the line is always more accurate.
7. Keep your hands beside or behind the blade. Never in line with the blade. Use a push stick on small pieces.
8. If the blade breaks, immediately turn the power off and step back. Inform the teacher right away.
9. Always make short cuts first. Avoid backing out of cuts with the power on. Backing out of a cut may cause the blade to come off of the drive wheels.
10. Do not cut cylindrical stock without the use of a V block and clamp.
11. Remove scrap pieces from the table only after the blade has stopped.
12. Do not leave the band saw until the blade has stopped.
13. Ensure the blade is tracking correctly and runs freely in the upper and lower guide rollers. Ensure the blade is under proper tension. See your teacher for guidance.
14. Use band saw blades that are sharp, properly set and otherwise suitable for the job (e.g., the right tooth pitch; tooth form; blade width).
15. Hold the stock firmly and flat on the table to prevent the stock from turning and drawing your fingers against the blade.

**AT ALL TIMES - IF IN DOUBT, STOP! ASK YOUR INSTRUCTOR**