

## **JIGSAW CUTTING GUIDE: HOW TO USE A JIGSAW SAFELY**

Jigsaw can be the best tool that you occupy for your sawing and cutting jobs. We consider it the best as through a jigsaw, a variety of materials can be easily sawed. These materials include wood, plywood, and even the metal sheets. The accuracy of the jigsaw is considered to be the highest among other drills or drivers as it is capable to make the heavy and tricky cutting task as easier as you can ever imagine. What you have to perceive very clearly is that, are you utilizing your jigsaw efficiently or not?

In order to help you out in this regard, we have given you a guide for using a jigsaw for your tasks. This how-to guide will cover all the aspects of utilizing the most favorable tactics and precautions that could definitely make you feel safe while carrying out your wood or metal sawing task.

### **How to choose your jigsaw:**

For better work, you obviously need a good quality jigsaw that contains all the necessary features and capabilities that a sawing or cutting task requires. We provide you with some of the best jigsaws that are perfect for the wood and metal sawing jobs in all respects.

- **Black & Decker BDEJS4C Jigsaw:**

The BDEJS4C has tremendous features and capabilities. It works with a powerful 4 Ampere motor as it is smaller in size. There is a remarkable feature of 4 orbital settings which will definitely make you content. Another feature that you will be devoted to is the tilting base plate. This will add advantage as you will be capable to cut and saw up to the angle of 45. The hex key for the blade adjustment provides you ease to replace the blade without any danger. As this jigsaw is lighter in weight, so you can keep it with you and use it wherever you want. Without any doubt, the Black & Decker BDEJS4C Jigsaw is the most promising tool that you can have.

- **PORTER-CABLE PCC650B Jigsaw:**

Through this exceptional tool, you can perform almost any kind of wood-working job, whether it is simple or complex. The tool comes up with many features and qualities that you will completely find useful. The tool-free blade release feature enables you to replace the blades with great comfort. There is a speed adjustment trigger situated on

the tool that helps you to set your desired sawing speed. Due its extremely light weight of just 5.05 pounds, you can easily utilize the tool whether at home, or at your workplace, or even at any other place. The 3 orbital settings in this tool helps to increase its precision through applying sharp and tidy cuts. Moreover, the feature that you will totally adore is the dust blower which will help you get rid of wood debris.

- **SKIL 4495-02 Orbital Jigsaw:**

One of the most comfortable and durable jigsaw that you will find across the marketplace is the SKIL 4495-02 Orbital Jigsaw. You can judge its robustness as the tool works through a 6 Ampere motor. The tool provides you high portability as due to its light weight and small size. Now coming across its features, the 4 orbital settings help you to set your own style to craft wood shocks. The blades that you get along with the tool are sharp and sturdy. You can have smooth cut whether it is straight or of any kind. Undoubtedly, the SKIL 4495-02 Orbital Laser Jigsaw is the perfect tool for you to have. You can set its variable speed according to your need. The laser guide helps to increase your focus so you could perform the wood-crafting tasks with more precision.

## **Get to know your jigsaw:**

Getting a good know-how about the different parts of you jigsaw before starting your sawing task is yet very necessary. As the jigsaws fabricated by different companies may vary in their features as well as sizes, you have to explore for them properly. This would really help you to make adjustments and variations easily while working with a jigsaw. You don't have to worry about how to get a proper guide for your jigsaw and its different parts. For your knowledge, we are here to describe you some of the features and parts that almost every jigsaw possesses.

- **Orbital Settings:**

The orbital settings in the jigsaw enable the impulsion for the blade to work in an efficient way. This impulsion can be controlled by a regulator for its desired increment and decrement.

- **Variable Speed Dial:**

There is a speed adjusting knob in a jigsaw which helps you to monitor the cutting speed. You can adjust the jigsaw to high speed while sawing a wood piece. But, when you're to deal with metal, the speed of the jigsaw should be slower.

- **Lock-On Switch and Trigger:**

The trigger situated in a jigsaw is used as power supplier for operating it. However, it takes some time to attain the full pace. In addition, if you want to lock the trigger to work in continuous flow, simply turn on the Lock-on switch besides the trigger.

- **Inclination Adjustment:**

Most of the jigsaws come up with the advance facility having a tilting worktop. This allows you to cut and saw wood or other material in angles. The tilting limit of the working surface is usually up till an angle of 45 degrees.

- **Blade Fastener:**

Most of the jigsaws have blade fastener with a locking system to attach blade firmly while working with it. This makes easier to replace the blades. There are usually two types of fastening systems for blade. The first one is Tool-less and the second is the Hex-Key system. Both are great to work with.

- **Dust Removing Partition:**

It is obvious that wood-working results in a lot of dust and debris. The jigsaws in this modern era have an advancement of a dust removing partition or a dust blower which helps you get rid of the disturbance of dust particles.

## **How to Stay Safe while executing the jigsaw:**

Safety is the very first consideration while performing sawing jobs through a jigsaw. We're here to guide you regarding this aspect as we prefer your safety to be essential. You just have to remember some precautions for your major safety. Take a look on them:

- While working with wood, there are dust and debris particles all over. So you need to protect your face, eyes and nose and ears. You must wear a mask and eyewear for your maximum protection.
- If you're using a corded jigsaw, make sure that the wire cord has enough extension that you can execute your sawing task in a comfortable way as you would need to move about.
- Make sure that the blade you are using in your jigsaw is sturdy and sharp enough to cut the substance without any harm. Thin blades are brittle and using them can be dangerous as they break easily, hence causing offense.

## Required Tools:

For the accomplishment of your cutting and sawing tasks, you need the following tools that are obviously very necessary:

- A Jigsaw.
- Eyewear or glasses for shielding.
- Clamps.
- Sawhorses.
- Durable extension cord.
- Piece of plywood (elective).
- Blades to perform cutting.

## Proper Method to use a jigsaw for cutting and sawing:

After discussing the basic knowledge about jigsaw, different other tools and precautionary measures that are required for the sawing job, here we are with some tips and techniques through which you can operate the wood-works in finest way. You need to bookmark all of the tips in order to gain maximum benefit. Take a look on them.

- **Attach Appropriate Blade:**

You need to make sure that the blade you are using for the sawing task is completely ideal for the material. For fixing the blade in your jigsaw you first have to detach the clamp and then put the blade in appropriate position. After that, attach the clamp again in such a way that the blade becomes unmovable and fixes tightly. For more tips regarding blade attachment, you can go through your jigsaw guide too.

- **Prepare Your Work-piece:**

Secondly, what you have to do is to prepare the material or the work-piece you want to cut. What you have to do is to draw an outline of the structure that you need after cutting of your work-piece. The more accurate the outline, a good chance of a perfect cut to be carried out. You can use a marker to draw boundaries at which you would apply the jigsaw cut. Another thing for the perfect cutting is that you need a firm grip for the work-piece in order to reduce any vibration which might result in a false cut.

- **Adjust Jigsaw's Cutting Settings:**

Most of the jigsaws have speed regulation system in addition with the orbital settings as well. After preparing your work-piece, you need to adjust all these settings to optimal level for executing your sawing job in a proper and faster way. The speed settings may

vary as per the material of your work-piece. Usually for the cutting of tiles and ceramics, the jigsaw speed is preferred to be set on low speed. For wood shocks and pieces, higher speed of the jigsaw may lead to better and proficient cuts.

- **Line-Up the Jigsaw and Get Maximum Speed:**

In the next step, what you have to do is set your jigsaw on your work-piece to initialize the cutting task. Now press the trigger and wait for the jigsaw to attain the maximum speed. As soon as it gets full, start executing your cuts in a smooth way and take care of the base plate as it should remain flat while you are working.

- **Follow the Drawn Line:**

As soon as you get the full speed of your jigsaw, now the real task starts. You have to follow the outline that you have drawn for your cuts. Twist the back of the jigsaw in the opposite direction of the blade's path. This requires calmness and firm grip for perfection. The saw may cause a strain or a push-back if you try to generate or press the jigsaw harder. This sometimes causes the blade to break, or even sometimes make your work-piece destruct.

- **Finish your Cutting Task:**

After completing the entire outline over the work-piece, conclude your task by applying sandpaper to the edges of your work-piece in order to increase its smoothness and finishing. However, this also helps to get rid of the rough edges of the work-piece.

## **Working With Different Materials:**

- **Wood:**

Jigsaws are ultimate solution when you need to saw or cut wood pieces. When we come up on wood shocks or pieces, it becomes obvious to set the high speed of your jigsaw for better and perfect sawing. When you need to make complex cuts and designs in your wood piece, jigsaws are essential and the best to work with. The best blade that you can use for cutting wood pieces is the coarser blade. Another blade is the down-stroke cutting blade which is also a general purpose wood cutting blade. For the safe positioning and initialization of wood sawing task, you must drill a hole of 0.5 inches to set the jigsaw on the wood piece perfectly. What you should avoid while working with wood is forcing the jigsaw as this results in damaging your wood piece.

- **Ceramic Tiles:**

For the ceramic tiles, the most important thing to remember is to set slow speed of your working tool (jigsaw). Jigsaw can be the best option for the cutting of wall ceramic tiles that are not more than ¼ inches in thickness. Consider using the carbide-grit toothless blade for better cutting of you tile. One more thing to remember is using lubricant on the saw cut to increase the smoothness of your work. Grip the tile tightly and hold the jigsaw firmly to avoid maximum vibration of the tool. This will help to reduce the risk of tile breakage.

- **Metal:**

The very first thing to take into consideration for the metal cutting is that the clamping of the metal sheet in between the two pieces of plywood. This reduces the scrapping risk of the metal and makes the cutting job fine. As the use of plywood to aid cutting of metal is a slower process, so you have to stay patient. The best practice for this process is to use high quality blades having 21 to 24 teeth per inch. The plus points to execute the cutting of metal are orbital cutting settings, speed variations, long stroke of blade and inflated saw power.

### **In a nutshell:**

To conclude the guide, we highly recommend to take into consideration the tactics that are discussed. You will surely have a good experience in operating the jigsaw in a proper and safe way as per the guidelines given in this content.

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