

JACK HAMMERING SAFE WORK PRACTICES

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Jack hammering is the breaking up of concrete by mechanical means. This type of concrete demolition job is commonly seen on a construction site and can be electric or air driven (pneumatic).

Jack hammering safe work practices

A. Follow these safe work practices when jack hammering:

- Use approved safety equipment such as safety glasses or face shield, work gloves, and hearing protection
- Control dust levels or wear respiratory protection, such as a dust mask or respirator
- Determine the locations of any services that could be damaged from demolition
- Make sure that workers using jack hammers are fully trained to perform the operation
- Make sure the working surface is safe
- Grip handle bars securely
- Activate while pushing at 45-65 degree angle
- Work from outside of area and work towards centre
- If workers are below you, warn them of what you are doing

B. When using an electric jackhammer, do the following:

- Check extension cords, switches, and other components before use
- Use only the extension cord gauges that suit the tool amperage and cord length
- Use power feed cords that are three-wire cords with three-prong plugs and use grounded three-pole receptacles
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) in wet areas

C. When using air powered, do the following:

- Tie air hoses together
- Secure quick-couplers with wire to prevent disconnecting
- Always shut off the air supply and release the air in the lines before disconnecting fittings