

POWER TOOLS SAFE WORK PRACTICES

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OH&S CODE PART 22 SECTION 311 & PART 25

Power tools include both corded and cordless devices such as saws, drills, and vacuums. This is a general SWP & HAA which includes most power tools however for more specific tools refer to grinders, chainsaw, reciprocating saws, and circular saws. Care and caution must be exercised when they are used.

Power tools safe work practices

Follow these safe work practices when using power tools:

- Inspect power tools, power cords, and electrical fittings for damage (including broken or inoperative guards) prior to each use
- Repair or replace damaged equipment
- **Do not** use a defective power tool
- **Do not** wear gloves, loose clothing, or jewelry while using revolving power tools
- Switch power tools “off” before connecting them to a power supply
- **Do not** use electric tools in wet or damp locations unless the tool is connected to a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI)
- Ensure that power tools are properly grounded (three-prong plug) or are double insulated
- Keep power cords clear of tools during use
- When possible, suspend power cords over aisles or work areas to avert stumbling or tripping hazards
- **Do not** carry electrical tools by the power cord
- Avoid octopus connections
- Wear safety glasses or goggles when using power tools for grinding, cutting, chipping, and sanding operations
- Wear hearing protection when operating power tools.