**Disk Sander**

The disk sander is used to smooth edges, round corners or remove small amounts of material.

If you’re used to a handheld random orbital (vibrating) sander, you may be surprised as how aggressively the stationary disk sander removes material.

Do not attempt to hold the work against the spinning disk freehand – it should be supported on the tool’s table.

Remember the left side of the spinning disk pushes the work down into firm contact with the table. The right side of the spinning disk wants to pick up the work and throw it into the air.

Be careful not to catch your finger between the spinning disk and the work, or between the disk and the table. Beware of dangling hair and clothing.

If you are contemplating sanding a very small workpiece, consider sanding it when it’s still part of a large piece, then cutting it off.

**Jointer**

The jointer is used to make a flat surface across the face of a board, or establish a surface at a precise right angle to its fence. It’s mostly used for preparing rough cut lumber.

***Safe use of a jointer requires hands-on instruction and experience.*** Here are a couple of reminders for experienced users:

Jointing a workpiece with knots is very dangerous. The lumber we’re using is cheap, so it is not worthwhile to try to salvage every little bit. Just choose a piece without knots!

Anticipate where your fingers would go if the jointer suddenly caught and ejected the workpiece. Do not press down over the blades with your bare hands.

**Generic Power Tool Safety for Robotics Field Builders:**

1. The tool does not know or care about you or the work. The tool’s only goal is to convert electrical to mechanical energy by spinning something very sharp very fast.
2. Your goal is to arrange the world so the tool’s mechanical energy serves to cut wood fibers, rather than hurl projectiles, yank your hair, grab your arm or carve your flesh.
3. Remember chronic injury – use hearing protection and respiratory dust protection.

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