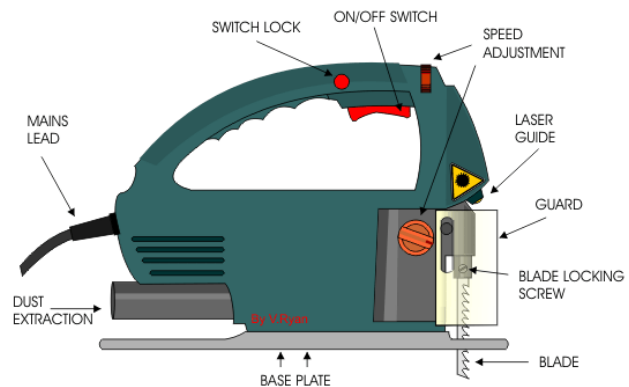


Risk Assessment Guidance

Title Jigsaw

A jigsaw is a tool used for cutting curves, such as stencilled designs or other custom shapes, into a piece of wood, metal, or other material. It can be used in a more artistic fashion than other saws, which typically only cut in straight lines. Although a jigsaw can be used to cut patterns, making a straight cut freehand is difficult even with a guide.

A jigsaw with a bevel function on the sole plate allows cutting angles of typically up to 45 degrees relative to the normal vertical stroke for cutting mitre joints.



Job Sequence	Hazard Identification	Controls
Conduct pre-operational checks	Damaged parts	Pre-inspection checks should be carried out; the jigsaw must be in good condition with guards fitted and operational. The bed should be clean to allow the jigsaw to move freely across the material being cut.
	Electric Shock	The blade must be in good condition, the correct blade for the machine and the material being cut and securely fixed. The blade should be inspected for damage prior to each use.
	Dust, which can be inhaled	All electrical tools must be PAT tested, any damage to leads, electrical plugs or case to the jigsaw must be reported to your supervisor and the jigsaw removed from use. The jigsaw must have the correct rated fuse.
	Leads and hoses which could be tripped over	When cutting certain materials that create quantities of dust and/or fumes the operator must wear a dust mask, if fumes are generated then the MSDS for the substance should be reviewed to identify specific requirements for RPE.
	Ejected particles	Power leads or air pipes present a tripping hazard and may be damaged, presenting electrical or compressed-air hazards. The area around the workspace should be kept clear of trailing leads and the electrical lead for the jigsaw should not be placed under the material being cut.
	Jamming, or kick back of the saw	There is the risk of flying off-cuts, for example breakout and metal swarf. The guard must be used along with suitable eye protection, when cutting sharp materials hand protection may also be required.
		When the material is too thick or the blade is being pushed too hard there is a risk of the jigsaw jamming or kicking back. The jigsaw should be started before being brought to the material being cut and the

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		pressure applied should be sufficient for the cutting blade to cut but not so hard as to risk breaking blades or kickback.
Work Environment	General environment	There should be suitable lighting to be able to carry out the works safely and sufficient 'clear' space for the operatives to cut the material.
	Housekeeping	Good housekeeping should be maintained including regular clearing of waste materials and avoiding trailing leads and build up of materials or waste.
Fire	Due to malfunction of electrical equipment.	All electrical equipment used within workshops or on the stages must be PAT tested.
	Burns	Tools and blades can become hot; burns from machines and blades are usually superficial.
Training	Untrained Person	If you have not used a jigsaw before, ask your supervisor to run through how to use the equipment safely.
		The Supervisor must ensure that the appointed Health and safety personnel is notified of any significant changes to these works before they commence.
Occupational Health	Dust & Fumes	Exposure to dust should always be avoided / controlled; you should always wear a dust mask when using a jigsaw.
Personal Protective Equipment	PPE	These tools must be used with the following PPE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Goggles • Dust mask • Hand protection (as required)
First Aid		Information for the appointed medical personnel is displayed within the workshop.
		Make sure you are aware of the first aid provisions in place. All accidents & near misses must be reported to your Supervisor

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All persons working with this equipment or within close vicinity must sign and show that they have read and understood the risk assessment guidance and that they will follow the above control measures set out whilst working.

Additional Guidance	COSHH Assessment	Method Statement	Other (Specify)
		N/A	Only trained persons are allowed to operate this equipment.
Name			
Signed			Date