

Risk Assessment Guidance

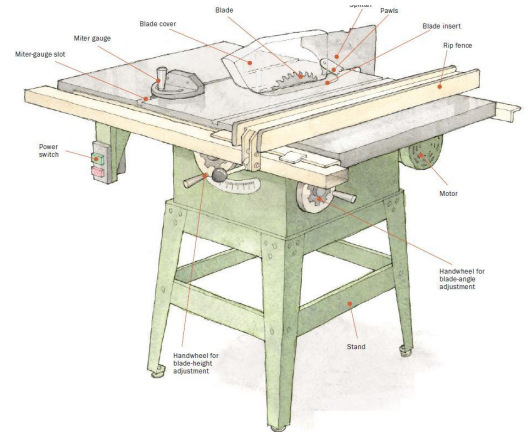
Title

Table Saw

This risk assessment guidance has been carried out for the table saw located within workshops and on stages. This document is a general risk assessment for the use of table saws.

All safety signage should be displayed in this area and only operatives who have been trained are permitted to operate this equipment.

This risk assessment should be reviewed fully by users of table saws prior to use of such equipment for the first time and in the event that it is not sufficient to control the risk posed by the model in question then the user should report this to the supervisor.



Job Sequence	Hazard Identification	Controls
Conduct pre-operational checks	<p>Poor condition of table saw.</p> <p>Damage to the machine or guards.</p>	<p>A log of use must be kept for each table saw where deemed necessary by the manufacturer's instructions. Each machine must be serviced by a competent person as per the manufacturer's suggested intervals.</p> <p>Units must be visually inspected before each use and damaged machines reported to the workshop manager / supervisor. Damaged machines must not be used until they have been examined by a competent person.</p> <p>All table saws must be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.</p> <p>A schedule should be drawn up to ensure regular maintenance.</p>
Operation of the table saw	Incorrect Use.	<p>No person may operate a table saw without first receiving instruction in the safe use of that particular model / type.</p> <p>Table saws must only be used as per the manufacturer's instructions.</p> <p>The blade and pulleys must be protected by as large a guard as is possible with the smallest opening in order to allow the desired cutting process to proceed.</p> <p>Where possible all guards should be interlocked with the blade operation.</p> <p>Material to be cut should be as dry as possible in order to prevent slippages.</p> <p>So far as is possible the material to be cut should not overhang the saw table.</p> <p>The part of the blade between the underside of the table and the lower guide should be guarded at all angles of table tilt.</p>

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		<p>For a table saw to cut accurately and efficiently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The blade type and width should be suitable for the material being cut. • The blade teeth should be sharp and properly set. • The blade should be correctly tensioned and tracked. • The maximum thickness of blade suitable for the pulley wheel diameter should not be exceeded. <p>When feeding material into the saw a push stick should be used. In the event that this is not possible then the material to be cut should be fed forward evenly (without exerting excess pressure) and held firmly on the table to ensure effective control during cutting. The hands should be kept in a safe position by keeping them as far away from the blade as possible. When hands are unavoidably near to the blade they should be placed on either side of the blade, not in line with it.</p> <p>When operating the machine the saw guides and attached adjustable guard should be adjusted as close to the workpiece as possible before machining and kept in place during machining.</p> <p>Never clean the blade or pulley with a hand-held brush or scraper while the blade is in motion. Careful adjustment and regular maintenance of blade and pulley cleaning equipment will ensure residues do not build up.</p> <p>In the event of any blockages or malfunctions, the power supply to the unit must be turned off before dealing with the issue.</p> <p>Care should be taken to avoid damaging the saw blade.</p>
Work Environment	<p>General environment, ventilation and lighting levels.</p> <p>Space to operate and handle materials safely.</p> <p>Housekeeping.</p>	<p>There must be sufficient light to see the piece being worked clearly.</p> <p>There must be sufficient desk and floor space around the unit in order to allow the operator a free range of movement.</p> <p>Ensure power cables are properly isolated from the moving blade.</p> <p>Ensure all control devices and in particular the emergency stop (if fitted) are within easy reach of the operator.</p> <p>Keep the floor around the unit free of oil and grease.</p>
Occupational Health		<p>Suitable PPE should be worn – consider hand, eye and hearing protection.</p> <p>Long hair must be tied back and lanyards / ID badges removed when operating a saw.</p> <p>Loose fitting clothing must not be worn when operating a saw.</p> <p>Never lean over the unit or leave a running saw unattended.</p>

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First Aid		<p>Make sure you are aware of the first aid provisions in place.</p> <p>All accidents & near misses must be reported to your Supervisor</p>
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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