

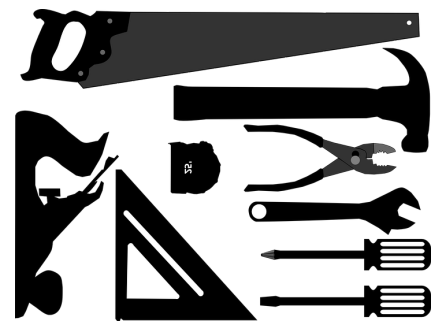
Hand Tool Safety

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Almost all of us use some sort of hand tool to perform a certain type of task everyday. However, the use of tools are a contributing factor to many injuries when used incorrectly.

The following are a few helpful tips that will allow you to perform this type of work safely:

- Use the correct tool for the job. A screw driver is not a pry bar!
- Keep tools clean and in good condition.
- Use and maintain power tools according to their instructions.
- Make sure power tools are properly grounded or are double insulated. Never cut off the ground plug.
- Switch off, unplug, and lockout power tools before servicing the tool, changing blades or switching out attachments.
- Wear tight fitting clothing - no strings or loose ends to get entangled.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Safety glasses, protective clothing, face shields, goggles, hearing protection, dust masks, etc.
- Keep bystanders at a safe distance. Do not walk up to someone without obtaining their attention from a safe distance first.
- Unplug and store tools in a safe place after use.
- Do not place any tools on top of your stepladder because it is too easy to forget they are there when moving it!



Above all else - be sure your brain is engaged before putting your body into motion!!!

Action Item:

Related Topics:

- Ladder Safety

Resources and References:

OSHA Publication 380 Hand and Power Tools
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/osh3080.pdf>

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**“Hand Tool Safety”
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