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# Construction For SAFETY TALKS

### Using portable electric-powered tools safely

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## Portable power tools: useful but dangerous

Injuries range from cuts to amputation Keys to preventing injuries are:

- Understanding each power tool you use
- Identifying potential hazards of each tool
- Taking appropriate precautions

## Understand the tool and its intended use

Know the tool's limitations and hazards

Follow manufacturer's instructions

Ensure tools are electrically certified

#### **Inspect tools**

Look for frayed cords

Check for broken or loose switches

Remove damaged tools from work area

Ensure plugs are properly grounded

Wear appropriate safety gear **Consider wearing ear plugs Use gloves and safety footwear** if needed Wear face shield and safety glasses if appropriate **Never wear loose clothing or** jewelry

Never remove guards from power tools

**Examine guards before work begins** 

Keep finger off the switch when carrying tools

Place tools on an elevated area while working

Keep cords from dangling and tripping others

Work in a clean clutter-free area Ensure the work area is well lit **Choose the work area that** allows for good footing Work a safe distance from others Use a vise to hold objects while working

Never carry tools by the cord **Disconnect tools from plug; not cord** Cut power to tools when replacing guards **Disconnect tools when** changing accessories Store tools in box, rack or tray Don't store tools in overhead location Never wrap cord around tool

