



## Using portable electric-powered tools safely

## 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

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