

THE FACTS On Hand Tools



OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

Hand Tools are tools that are powered manually. These tools are used in many areas across campus. Hand tools look harmless, but they have the potential to cause serious harm if not used properly.

HAZARDS

- **Cuts, Abrasions, Amputations, and Punctures**
 - If tools are designed to cut or move metal and wood, be mindful of what the tool can do to your skin.
- **Repetitive motion injuries**
 - Using the same tool day after day, all day long can take a toll on your muscles, joints, and ligaments.
- **Eye injuries**
 - Flying chips of wood or metal are a common hazard that could cause eye damage or blindness.
- **Broken bones and Bruises**
 - Tools have the potential to slip, fall from heights, or be accidentally thrown by users.

- ### SAFETY TIPS
1. Use the right tool for the job.
 2. Use the tool for what it is intended for.
 3. Complete required tool training and demonstrate proficiency before unsupervised use.
 4. Inspect tool for cracks, breaks, or alterations before each use.
 5. Do not alter tools in any way.
 6. Do not use damaged tools. Remove them from use and replace them immediately.
 7. Wear proper personal protective equipment for the tool you are using.

Shown below are examples of damaged, unsafe tools next to undamaged tools. Using damaged or altered tools increases the risk of injury. Inspecting tools before each use decreases the risk of injury. If a tool is damaged, remove from use and replace immediately.



The most common hazards posed by hand tools are a result from misuse and improper maintenance.

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