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Hand Tools

Screwdrivers

List jobs requiring screwdrivers

- You should only need enough force to keep the screwdriver in contact with the screw. With a properly sized and drilled hole, the screw will draw itself into the material with minimum pressure and guidance.
- Don't hold the material in one hand and use the screwdriver with the other. The screwdriver can slip and cut your hand.
- Discard screwdrivers with chipped handles, bent shanks, and twisted or excessively rounded tips.
- Don't use bench grinders to restore tips. The excessive heat can destroy temper and reduce the hardness of shank and tip. Filing should be done by hand.
- Use screwdrivers with large handles for better grip.
- Don't use pliers on the handle of a screwdriver for more power. To remove stubborn screws, use a screwdriver with a square shank designed for use with a wrench.

Identify

- existing & potential hazards

People use screwdrivers for chipping, chiselling, scraping, prying, digging, gouging, testing circuits, making holes, stirring paint, propping doors open, and taking the lids off cans.

Workers have suffered eye injuries from flying fragments of screwdrivers struck with a hammer.

Even then, the most common abuse of the screwdriver is using one that doesn't fit or match the screw. That means using a screwdriver too big or small for the screw or not matched to the screw head. The results are cuts and puncture wounds from slipping screwdrivers.

Communicate & Control

- tell others about the hazards and control the risks

- Use the right screwdriver for the job. This means the right kind of tip – slot, Robertson, Phillips, whatever. It also means the right size. A screwdriver too big or small for the screw can only lead to trouble. You'll chew up the screw head, damage the screwdriver, gouge the material, or scrape your knuckles.
- Drill a pilot hole before driving a screw into wood.
- Make sure that the screwdriver handle is intact, free of splits or cracks, and clean of grease and oil.

Lead by Example

- example is not the main thing in influencing others, it is the only thing

- Review types of screwdrivers used by your crew. Inspect a few for evidence of wear, damage, or misuse.